The best and largest higher education institution in Poland and a dynamic research centre.

200 years of tradition

21 faculties & 30 research and educational units

44 400 students

3 200 doctoral students

7 250 employees

Education and research in the fields of humanities, social and natural sciences, as well as numerous interdisciplinary projects, including subjects in medical or technical sciences.
Poland’s academic tradition goes back 650 years, to the “studium generale”, the first Polish university, established in the mid-14th century. The emergence of modern universities in the 19th century brought a breakthrough in the model of higher education in Europe; the University of Warsaw was instituted at that time, in 1816.

Poland is a member of the European Union, Schengen Area and one of 47 states constituting the European Higher Education Area, which reaches beyond the borders of the European Union. For foreigners, Poland’s participation in the EHEA means:

• ease of access to academic exchange programmes (due to the ECTS system and mobility support programmes such as Erasmus+),
• the possibility of continuing a course of study initiated abroad in Poland, or continuing in Poland a course of study initiated abroad (due to the three-cycle division of courses),
• the certainty that education and qualifications gained in Poland will be fully recognised elsewhere, which facilitates employment or continuation of academic career (due to the European qualification framework and diploma supplements),
• certainty as to the quality of education offered by Polish academies (due to the development of systems guaranteeing the quality of education).

Poland has 118 university-type Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), which offer a wide choice of programmes of 1st, 2nd, 3rd cycle studies and long cycle (uniform) Master’s studies, in full-time and part-time systems. 1.4 million students per year receive their education in Poland. This makes our country one of Europe’s leaders, surpassed only by the UK, Germany and France.

Currently, Polish academies are hosts to 65,800 international students from over 150 countries. Warsaw and the Mazovia region are most readily chosen by foreign students coming to Poland: 30% of all foreigners coming to Polish academies study here. Study programmes at the faculties of Medicine, Management, Foreign Relations and Economics are the most popular among foreign students.
Polish academies are hosts to 65,800 international students from over 150 countries.
Warsaw is the country's main research hub and is becoming a hub of globally competitive science.

*NATURE,* “Poland: Into the light”, 2017

Warsaw took 15th place among the most sociable and friendly cities in the world.

*BUSINESS INSIDER,* “The 19 most sociable and friendly cities in the world”, 2017
The University of Warsaw has its seat in the capital of Poland, one of the most dynamically developing cities in Europe. Warsaw is steadily climbing the international rankings of the world’s most attractive urban areas.

Not only is Warsaw a political, economic, social and cultural centre, it is also an undisputed leader in Polish higher education and science. Warsaw is one of the largest academic cities in our region of Europe. With 240,000 people per year receiving their academic education here, the capital of Poland has more students than Berlin in Germany or Prague in the Czech Republic.

Warsaw has 15 public Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The academies provide a focus for creativity, bring together talented specialists and attract foreigners. They create a climate favourable to innovation. Initiatives originating in the academic world enhance the city’s social and cultural life.

According to QS Best Student Cities 2017, Warsaw is the 52nd best city in the world. It receives a very high score in the affordability category – within the top five of the entire index – thanks to its combination of low living costs and reasonable tuition fees.

Warsaw is the best place for Erasmus students – according to a poll prepared by the international student portal Uniplaces and published in 2017 by the Italian newspaper La Repubblica.
FACTS AND FIGURES

44,400 students
3,200 doctoral students
4,400 international students and doctoral students from over 100 countries
3,000 postgraduate students
10,000 graduates per year
7,250 employees
800 international partners
100 international societies and research networks with UW as a member
3,350 research topics
1,500 research projects financed by national or international research programmes
8,700 publications per year
1.4 billion PLN (ca. 330 million euro) budget
STUDY OFFER

A wide range of degree programmes of 1st, 2nd and long cycle (uniform) Master’s studies in humanities, social, exact and natural sciences

25 ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES:

• American studies (1st, 2nd cycle)
• Applied Petroleum Geosciences (2nd cycle)
• Archaeology (1st, 2nd cycle)
• Chemistry (2nd cycle)
• Economics (2nd cycle)
• English Philology (1st, 2nd cycle)
• Environmental Management (2nd cycle)
• European Administration (2nd cycle)
• Finance, Investments and Accounting (1st cycle)
• Humanitarian Action (2nd cycle)
• Informatics and econometrics – Data Science (2nd cycle)
• International Business Program (2nd cycle)
• International relations (1st, 2nd cycle)
• Internal Security (1st, 2nd cycle)
• Philosophy (1st cycle)
• Political Science (1st, 2nd cycle)
• Psychology (uniform Master’s cycle)
• Quantitative Finance (2nd cycle)
• Teaching English to Young Learners (2nd cycle)
• 24 double degree programmes run by UW and international partners (students can complete the two programmes in the standard time period and graduate with a degree from both of the programmes)
35 DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

• individual PhD programmes held in English that are aimed at foreign students
• co-tutelle agreements – a joint doctoral assessment process that enables a PhD candidate to prepare one doctoral dissertation under dual supervision and leads to the conferment of a doctoral degree at UW and an equal degree at the foreign partner institution

132 POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

• 3 MBA programmes

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)

• process for recognising knowledge, skills and competences that have come from experience or previous formal or informal learning; the recognition gained may considerably shorten the normal period of study

37 DIFFERENT LANGUAGE COURSES
Besides 21 faculties, the university also comprises 30 research and educational units, where 3,700 scholars and more than 3,200 doctoral students work. Almost one third of the university budget is devoted to research. Polish and European Union grants are the main sources of academic research funding.

Scholars from UW have received 13 prestigious European Research Council grants. In the present EU financial framework, UW scholars have won almost 50 grants from the Horizon 2020, SESAR and COSME programmes. Also, the university has received funding from the Polish-Swiss Research Programme, European Economic Area and Norway Grants, COST Programme, European Space Agency, European Molecular Biology, Chiang Chingkuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, Google and the Intel company.
UW focuses on the development of interdisciplinary global-range research projects concerning important issues for society. In many fields, UW research groups maintain a well-established position in the academic world. The university’s Astronomical Observatory is a leader of two widely recognized worldwide *large scale long-term sky surveys*: OGLE and ASAS. UW astronomers are also actively involved in many well-known astrophysical collaborations like H.E.S.S., CTA, LIGO/VIRGO and satellite missions like Planck and Gaia. Archaeologists carry out *excavations in 20 countries* on 5 continents. Physicists from UW contribute both to the experimental and theoretical parts of the *Large Hadron Collider* (CERN) and are members of the *Graphene Flagship* consortium, which is supported by the European Commission.

The following are the latest examples of major international research projects led by UW scholars that are of fundamental importance to the development of their disciplines:

UW was a member of the FoodConnects consortium which, in November 2016 won a Europe-wide competition – the Food4Future call: EIT Food, organized by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology. EIT Food consists of 50 partners from 13 countries, including universities, research institutes and business enterprises. One of the five Co-Location Centres for new technologies in Central Europe and the Nordic countries is located in Warsaw. EIT Food carries out projects in order to increase knowledge and innovation in the area of food.

The Faculty of “Artes Liberales”, in cooperation with the University of London, Leiden University, University of Groningen and Max Planck Institute in Jena, elaborates solutions for efficient language revitalization across Europe and beyond. Scientists cooperate with representatives of the linguistic minorities in Poland, Finland, Norway, Spain, Mexico and other countries. They would like to respond to key societal challenges related to *linguistic and minority groups rights*, and also help to support and promote linguistic culture diversity and good language policies.
According to the Computer Science Rankings, if we take into account scientific achievements in the last 5 years, UW occupies 1st place in the world in the field of “theory” (algorithms, cryptography, logic), ahead of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Carnegie Mellon University. The ranking identifies top computer science institutions and is based on the number of publications that have appeared at the most selective conferences. In recent years, scientists from the UW Institute of Informatics have received seven prestigious European Research Council Grants for research on mathematics and theoretical computer science. Thanks to its renown, the Institute plays hosts to many international researchers.

The University of Warsaw is a coordinator of the Polish network DARIAH-PL, which has become a member of a pan-European Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities. DARIAH-EU aims to improve and support digitally-enabled research and teaching across the humanities and arts. The Polish consortium is one of the largest European networks, consisting of 18 Polish institutions.

In May 2017, the UW Centre of New Technologies received a grant worth more than 8 million euro from the Foundation for Polish Science and will form an International Research Agenda under the name ReMedy. The research output will contribute to the development of new therapies and drugs, helping people to stay healthy or enabling the treatment of e.g. neurodegenerative and age-related diseases, as well as cancers. The research will be conducted in collaboration with the University Medical Center, Göttingen.
AUTHORITIES 2016-2020

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UW belongs to the top 3% of universities in the world according to global rankings such as THE, QS and ARWU.

The research potential of UW is reflected in the results of the 2016 Nature Index of Rising Stars. The University was ranked 3rd among the institutions of South East Europe. Globally, it occupied 96th place.

16 programmes provided by UW have been listed in QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017.

15 programmes offered by UW have been listed in Eduniversal Best Masters & MBA Ranking 2017.

According to the monitoring of UW graduate careers, 94% of former students find employment within a year of graduation.

In 2016, UW was granted the “HR Excellence in Research” award, which is given to institutions that fulfil the requirements and implement the principles underlying the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers.

In 2016, UW received a distinction for its performance in the implementation of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education, awarded by the European Commission.

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