



Universitat de Lleida

# University of Lleida

Monday, May 30, 2011

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## RECTOR'S WELCOME

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On behalf of the whole university community, I would like to welcome all of you who have chosen the University of Lleida as your destination to complete your training. The University makes every endeavour to offer the very best of its qualities to newcomers, which is why it combines scientific and academic excellence inherent to teaching and research with a warm and friendly atmosphere. Ultimately, this makes full integration into university life much easier.

Apart from conducting research, the main aim of the University of Lleida is to offer students comprehensive training and quality services. This means that as well as scientific training, we offer a wide range of opportunities for students to complement their studies with other learning, cultural or leisure activities. This is possible because we have the services and personnel available who year on year strive to meet the demands and needs of a rapidly changing society.

The close relationship between students and lecturers, the convenient layout of the various campuses and the modern facilities at the service of our community are some of the distinctive features that will contribute to making your stay with us successful.

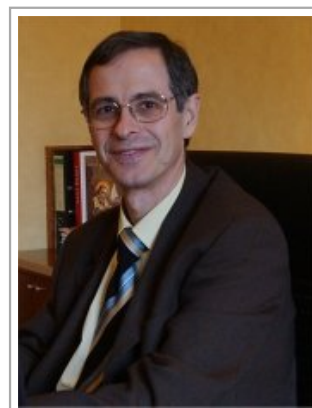
Faithful to its centenary tradition, though recently restored, our university is open to the changes and transformations that are continuously modifying our social fabric. Looking to the future, the University of Lleida accepts the challenging task of training competent open-minded citizens who are sensitive to other cultures and to the peculiarities inherent to these cultures.

We are aware that the knowledge society has had an effect on the relationships between countries. They are now much more fluid and diverse. In this context, Catalonia and Lleida in particular as the capital of an inland area, have become privileged places. The region is a crossroads that can be proud its long history whose different peoples have lived peacefully together, shown mutual respect and acted sensitivity towards other less privileged groups. As a land of contrast, you will be able to appreciate its geographical diversity, its rich artistic heritage and its ancient language, which like many other Romance languages in this corner of the Mediterranean coast reflects the hospitable nature of its speakers.

You will be made to feel welcome in this region as it is a window open to the rest of the world. Here you will leave your mark through the friends you make, the questions you raise and the points of view you express. This joint venture will no doubt enable us to improve our training capacity and at the same time it will help us face the new challenges of the 21st century.

We hope your stay at our university and in our country will be enjoyable and satisfactory and that this mutual cooperation will enable us to guarantee progress in our respective societies.

Joan Viñas  
Rector



## A UNIVERSITY OF HIGH QUALITY

The main aim of the University of Lleida is the education of its students. We provide high standards of teaching with quality services throughout the university community that reach society beyond the campus gates. Students make up most of the UdL community, and our objective is to ensure that they enjoy the teaching and learning processes involved. They will thus be able to develop both at a professional and personal level by following other educational, cultural or leisure activities, and by participating in the UdL to keep it a lively, ever-improving educational institution.



We offer a wide range of services in order to help students in their academic life and extra-curricula activities. This guide will provide a summary of the services available to them.

Within the academic environment, the practical training session programme, the Employment Service (*Borsa de Treball*) and our Psychological Care Service form a major part of our services. The UdL has libraries on each of its campuses, which offer lending services, inter-library document loans, reprography services, distance resources through the use of the virtual library and study rooms. The UdL is an enthusiastic promoter of new technological innovations; all students are provided with a personal e-mail address and are able to access our virtual campus. They can access these facilities through our computer rooms and via the Wi-Fi technology available throughout our campuses, with free access for all members of the university community. Our Cultural Services organise cultural activities, and students who enjoy sport can become members of the clubs run through the Sports Service, which provides free access to competition sports and recreational activities. Our International Relations Office (ORI) and Academic Mobility Programme can facilitate transfers to other universities, not only in Catalonia and Spain, but also throughout Europe and America.

Other university initiatives include the UdL for Everyone (*UdL per a Tothom*), the Sustainable Transport System and the Campus Improvement Programme.

In the guide, students will also find information about the university halls of residence on the Capponet Campus, the university bars and dining rooms, and the photocopying services to help make their stay at the UdL easier. The Student Council (*Consell de l'Estudiantat*) runs the University Accommodation Service (*Servei d'Allotjament Universitari*), as well as the Tutoring Exchange (*Borsa de Repassos*) and the ExamService (*Servei d'Exàmens*), both of which focus on examination and study services.

In order to enjoy these services, students must use their UdL Student Card, which the university will provide. The card is proof of their status as UdL students, and will entitle them to discounts in shops, among many other advantages.

The UdL of the 21st Century is an entrepreneurial university that promotes a comprehensive educational model. It caters for the requirements of different educational contexts through its involvement in the development of initiatives to ensure all students have the basic skills, the ability to think for themselves and the tools needed to deal with life as citizens in an ever-changing social arena.

The University is working along these lines by using innovative methodologies and a course structure that is coherent with the parameters of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA).



## STUDIES

At present, UdL degrees and certificates are divided into cycles. The short-cycle degrees, which last three years, are awarded a diploma or technical engineering certificate; and the long-cycle degrees consist of two cycles (first and second cycles) and conclude with the granting of a university degree or a degree in advanced engineering.

The University of Lleida is also currently implementing new degrees and certificates that are comply with the guidelines of the European Space for Higher Education.

### Other degrees and certificates

Official master's degrees: The UdL's official master's degrees provide students with the opportunity to acquire advanced specialised, multidisciplinary training that will prepare



them for an academic or professional specialisation, or that focus on improving learners' core research skills.

Master's degrees are awarded credits through the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). The number of credits required to pass a master's degree at the UdL ranges from between 60 and 120 ECTS. The ECTS grade academic performance based on the estimated time the average student devotes to face-to-face and distance learning activities in order to obtain one or more educational objectives, which are grouped together as subjects or modules. In all cases, the subject matter taught must be related to the different course descriptions. At the UdL, an ECTS credit is calculated on the basis of 25 hours' work by the average student.

Doctoral degrees: Doctoral courses at the UdL aim to provide training in advanced research procedures and techniques. All courses require students to write and submit a doctoral thesis that is related to a piece of scientific work with original research results.

Lifelong learning: this option consists of all those courses that together with officially recognised courses are designed to update personal and professional skills. The UdL has set up high quality courses that can be taken as postgraduate courses, specialisation courses, university master's degrees, university extension courses, etc.



## **CAMPUS AND UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS AND FACULTIES**

The UdL's four campuses are made up of schools and faculties, which teach one or more subject areas.

The schools and faculties run a number of courses, which are awarded an official university certificate or qualification on completion. The UdL has seven of its own schools and three UdL-affiliated schools.

The UdL's twenty-six departments are staffed by the lecturers who teach the subjects assigned to each course. The teaching staff devises the course content that counts towards the credits awarded by the University's schools and faculties. Each department has a physical location on one of the campuses.



## TUITION LANGUAGES

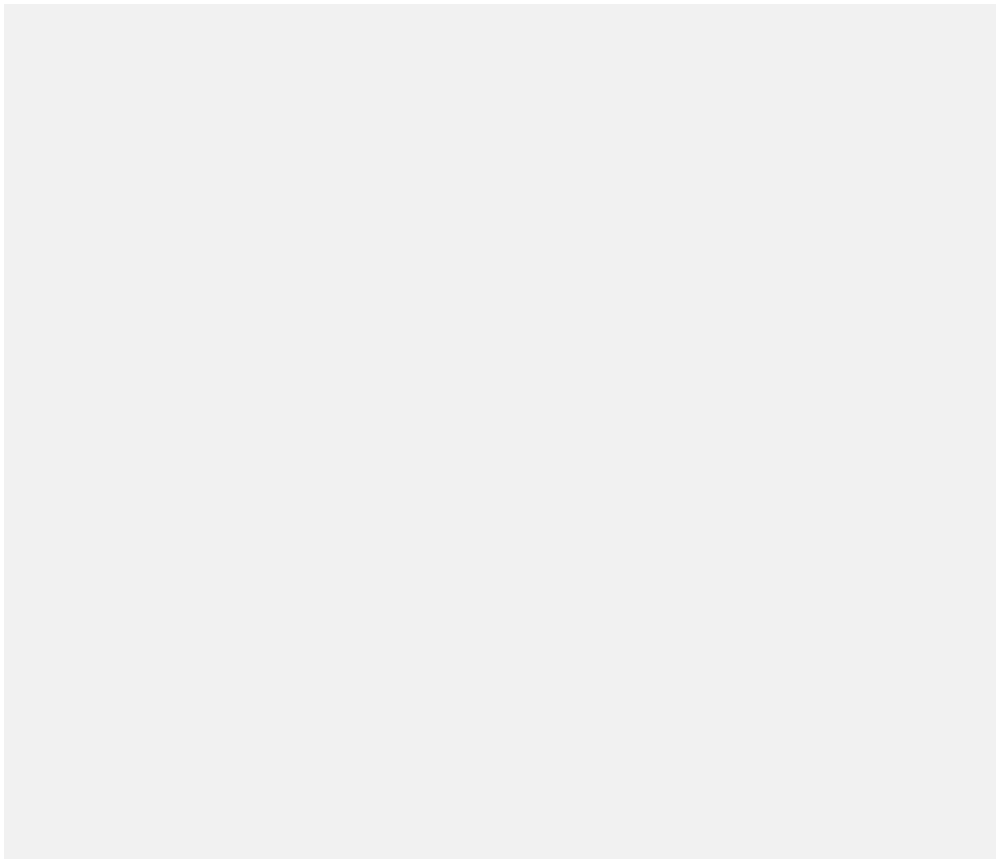
The two official languages in Catalonia are Catalan and Spanish (also known as Castilian). The latter is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world. Catalan belongs to the same language family as Spanish, Italian, French and Portuguese. In Catalonia, Catalan is widely used in public life, the mass media, trade and business. Most Catalan people can speak both Catalan and Spanish. Both official languages are respected at the universities in Catalonia.

Teaching staff and students have the right to express themselves in the official language that they prefer. Lectures are taught in Catalan or in Spanish, depending on the lecturer, and students have the right to use the language they prefer.

To find out the tuition language of particular courses, contact the Academic Coordinator in each faculty/school.

In general, someone who speaks Spanish will not take long to understand Catalan. Therefore, students who spend several months in Lleida can improve their Spanish and at the same time, if they wish to do so, learn another European language such as Catalan. The Language Service tries to help students with their linguistic integration into the university community.





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