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Bordeaux Montaigne University, true to the spirit of its tutelary figure, French philosopher Michel de Montaigne, has always been an ambassador of humanist thought. Its aim is to contribute to the renewal of such thinking in the 21st century by grasping the new tools and knowledge at its disposal to foster a greater transmission of our sense of citizenship.

Bordeaux Montaigne University has always defended the originality of stance born from the wealth of interrelated disciplines in which it excels. The human and social sciences, languages, literature and the arts play a vital role in our understanding of contemporary issues, and as such, Bordeaux Montaigne University contributes meaningfully to academic debate and intervenes on the local, regional and national scale, offering informed expertise and paving the way for new perspectives within its specialist fields.

As a laboratory for ideas and an intellectual hotbed, the university is a fertile hub for the production of knowledge and education and through this promotes freedom of thought.

Equal opportunity is one of its top priorities. In their daily activities, our staff defend the values of public service, meaning that Bordeaux Montaigne University is, and always will be, open to all, without exception.
Bordeaux Montaigne University actively protects its traditional discipline base, but also fosters the advent of teaching in new fields. The University delivers 138 national diplomas via its three Faculties - Humanities, Languages and Civilisations, Territorial and Communication Sciences - and two University Institutes - the Bordeaux Montaigne University Institute of Technology (IUT) and Bordeaux Aquitaine Institute of Journalism (IJBA). The particularly wide range of courses on offer has been developed in resonance with the important question of knowledge sharing and is a response to the prerequisites of professions of both today and tomorrow, in close connection with cutting-edge fields of research. The University works in close collaboration with the teacher training college of the Aquitaine Region (ESPE) to provide professional training for future school-teachers.
Courses Open to All

Undergraduate and Graduate Courses, Continuing Education, Apprenticeships, Distance Learning

The University is committed to the principle of lifelong learning, and actively responds to modern day requirements in terms of career perspectives. It caters for those who wish to continue or return to education, redirect their career or complete their initial training. The entire range of courses on offer, from DAEU (school leaver’s certificate) to PhD level, is open to adults wishing to resume their studies.

The University also offers a growing number of MOOCs, providing top level teaching open to all and entirely free, enabling the institution to reach out well beyond its traditional target public.

From Education to Employment

The range of courses available at all levels is designed as a response to socio-economic demand, creating meaningful bonds between academic knowledge and professional know-how through solid partnerships.

Preparing the Ground for Employability and Monitoring Results

Each student is offered individual careers advice by our specialist team throughout their time as an undergraduate. 3,000 students carry out work placements each year. 78% of students who graduated with a Professional Master’s degree and 82% of those awarded PhDs in 2010 were in permanent employment within two and a half years of obtaining their qualification.

Source: Observatoire des Etudiants, survey conducted between December 2013 and April 2014 with graduates from 2011. Employment surveys are conducted 30 months after students have obtained their diplomas.

Professional Partners Involved in Course Design

Each course receives vital input from professional partners, in terms of strategy and course design, via the Conseil de Perfectionnement. More than 900 professionals teach at the University. Each year, a careers fair brings students into contact with professionals from the world of the performing arts, theatre, cinema, town planning, territorial development, communication, international trade and humanitarian aid.

STRATEJIC - Promoting Junior Enterprise

STRATEJIC provides students with a stepping-stone to the world of business, thereby promoting the University, its courses and graduates, through the high quality level of service offered to clients and partner institutions alike.

In the field of communication and territorial development, STRATEJIC offers consultancy services, helping students apply theoretical knowledge to concrete projects.

ESSOR - Networking with the World of Work

ESSOR is a collaborative web platform, fostering bonds between the University and socio-economic partners. It provides the technical means of administrating and monitoring student work placements, of managing relations between the different players involved, publicising placement and job offers, defining and promoting the skills and know-how of Bordeaux Montaigne students or graduates and running alumni networks.

The platform is managed by the careers and work placements department.
The University is convinced that technological and educational innovation plays a key role in student success. As part of its prospective digital strategy, it offers a wide range of tools for accessing information and sharing knowledge, including a number of platforms for teaching, e-learning and peer production, a 3D printer, web sites, digital language labs, web TV and on-line documentation resources.
Bordeaux Montaigne University was among the first of 25 higher education institutions across France to launch a MOOC on the platform opened by the Ministry in 2013. The University’s first MOOC was dedicated to Transmedia Storytelling and over 6,500 people signed up. In light of this success, the MOOC is to be reopened, as a key building block in the University’s fundamental desire to make knowledge freely accessible to society as a whole, thereby thanking the community for its investment in higher education. A second MOOC on the Occitan poetry of the Troubadours is to open in March 2015.

**A Network of 16 Libraries, Resource Centres and Map Collections**

Access to information concerning the contents of all of Bordeaux’s universities can be accessed on-line via a single catalogue, awarded the 2011 prize for digital innovation in libraries.

**A Network for Digital Humanities in Bordeaux**

Launched in 2009, this multi-disciplinary network of researchers focuses on the use of digital resources in the field of human and social sciences. Its ambition is twofold - federating academic initiatives whose aim it is to share inter-disciplinary expertise within this innovative field and encouraging cooperation and collaboration between Bordeaux Montaigne University and society at large, with a view to initiating joint study ventures in response to the societal challenges linked with the development of digital technology.

11,000 m² of library floor-space

Collections totalling more than 700,000 printed documents concerning literature, languages, human sciences and the arts

More than 5,000 DVDs of films and documentaries which may be borrowed for home viewing

More than 1000 seated places in reading rooms

More than 47,000 journals and specialist on-line digital resource databases (JSTOR, Cairn, Project MUSE, OpenEditions, etc.)

Almost 300,000 e-books

Bordeaux Montaigne University encourages cooperation not only within its walls, but also in the form of partnerships with national and international institutions (CNRS, MSH, etc.). It cultivates expert knowledge within each individual discipline, but also encourages inter-disciplinary exchange. The fundamental role played by research within the University is eloquently conveyed by the high level of publication among its researchers, reaching 88%.
Research within the University is bolstered by a desire to provide food for thought in a range of disciplines, instigating inter-disciplinary discussion and offering a firm basis for emerging transversal research projects. The four themes defining the cultural framework for research across the University are:

- **The City, Nature, Democracy**
- **Writing, Translating, Representing**
- **Gender, Body, Norms**
- **Classical Humanities and Digital Humanities**

These themes provide a backdrop for exchange between different research teams and offer a meaningful reappraisal of the common ground between the Humanities in the Classical sense of the term and the Social Sciences, or between Literature and Science. They are also an effective means of promoting the renewed knowledge emerging from contemporary fields of research such as gender studies and digital humanities.

The 4 themes are developed through *Nouvelles Transverses*, a research seminar and inter-disciplinary study day tackling such essential questions as ‘Educating the Citizens of the 21st Century’ or ‘The Tyranny of Our Emotions’.

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Each year, almost 650 doctoral students benefit from the diverse academic (conferences, seminars, reading workshops, etc.) and professional training (foreign languages, documentary research, careers advice, etc.) designed by the University’s inter-disciplinary Doctoral School.

The Montaigne-Humanités Doctoral School is a place where projects piloted by young researchers are brought out into the open, where first forays into the world of research are made and where research skills are promoted and honed.
Collective and Inter-disciplinary Projects

Each year, over one hundred research programmes are led by the University’s lecturer-researchers, of which four examples, significant for the inter-disciplinary nature of the thinking they encourage, are presented below.

LaScArBx is a ‘laboratory of excellence’ leading research into ‘understanding the world through the eyes of ancient societies.’ It brings together specialist competences from the field of archaeology and covers a timescale stretching from Pre-history to the Middle Ages and, as such, occupies a unique position on the national and international stage. Endorsed by the Ministry for Higher Education and Research.

RAUDIN (Research in the Aquitaine Region into Uses for the Development of Digital Tools) is the culmination of a combined movement involving researchers in both the human and social sciences across Bordeaux’s universities, with an aim to implementing research initiatives into developing uses for digital tools in the Aquitaine region. Jointly funded by the European Union, the Aquitaine Region and Bordeaux Montaigne University.

The Bordeaux Universities Artistic Heritage Programme involves locating, documenting and promoting an inventory of the artistic, architectural and furnishing heritage of Bordeaux’s universities, from the period when the Faculties came into being, in the second half of the 19th century, to the 1960s, when they moved to the Pessac-Talence university campus. Programme run by the art historians of Bordeaux Montaigne University, with the support of the Aquitaine Region.

The Gilles Deleuze Chair for the City, Nature and Democracy aims to produce and disseminate original thinking on the interactions between the city, political participation and the environment. It has two guiding principles – contributing positively to collective thinking on the life and future of the city and creating meaningful bonds between academics and civil society, experts, novices and all those who design our cities and play a role in their existence (institutions, businesses, citizens). Partners and donors – Bordeaux Montaigne University, Bordeaux University Foundation, the Bordeaux Urban Community, EDF, Systra.

Over and above the production of erudition, the academic expertise of Bordeaux Montaigne University is an effective means of

Research Facts and Figures

- 10 research groups with Ministry endorsement, with as many associated research centers
- 5 mixed research units affiliated to the CNRS
- 1 mixed service research unit affiliated to the CNRS
- 13 research teams graded A or A+ in the latest phase of AERES evaluation
- 100 research programmes in progress each year (ANR convention, regional programmes, LABEX programmes, research contracts)
- 200 events showcasing academic research each year
- 1 Doctoral School
- 100 training sessions and seminars organised for doctoral students each year
- 650 doctoral students per year
- 90 thesis defences per year
- 26 doctoral dissertations awarded honours
The Bordeaux University Press is the city’s only university-based publishing house and its aim is to promote academic research through an ambitious co-publication policy involving both French and foreign publishers. Its catalogue includes some 700 works, divided into 37 collections reflecting the University’s fields of predilection - the arts, literature, languages, human and social sciences - not forgetting a number of additional scientific disciplines, such as law, economics, wine, ethnology and anthropology.

Essais is a genuine endeavour to disseminate research produced by the Doctoral School and is overseen in partnership with the Bordeaux University Press. Its aim is to promote the work of an up and coming generation of young researchers and its focus is resolutely interdisciplinary. All contributions are examined by an editorial review committee and an academic committee prior to publication, as a means of guaranteeing the journal’s quality.

Embracing the international dimension of education and research has long been an important feature of the University’s activities. Each year, some 450 students come to study at Bordeaux Montaigne as part of international co-operation and exchange agreements, arriving from across Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas, and some 300 home students go off to study abroad. The University is immensely proud of this strong international network, the development and promotion of which figures high on the list of strategic challenges to be addressed over the coming years. Pride of place is given to our visiting professor programme, to dispensing teaching in a foreign language and to playing an active role in international networks.
Bordeaux Montaigne has always been a destination of choice for students from France’s overseas territories, and this tradition has now been extended to overseas students of all origins. Approximately 120 different nationalities figure each year among the students enrolled at the University.

Bordeaux Montaigne University is keen to widen its international horizons, not only by nurturing a large number of cooperation initiatives designed to enrich its degree courses and research partnerships, but also by providing concrete opportunities for lecturer-researchers and students alike to work and study abroad, as illustrated in the map.

**Vietnam**
Bordeaux Montaigne University dispenses courses in French, tourism and land planning and development to professionals from the Lào Cai province, renowned for its natural park.

**South Korea**
Bordeaux Montaigne University is a pioneer in the teaching of Korean, through a university diploma delivered up to degree level.

**Africa**
Long-standing partnerships exist with Algeria, notably in the field of archaeology. In 2014, an agreement was signed to ensure the continuity of student mobility programmes between Senegal and Bordeaux Montaigne. Lecturers from Bordeaux Montaigne participate in a teaching exchange programme for students studying applied foreign languages in Morocco, in cooperation with the University of Taroudant. In Madagascar, the ADESS research team continues to make important contributions to advances in geographical research.

**United States of America**
Since 1962, Bordeaux Montaigne University has played host to the University of California study centre, initiating close ties between the two universities and fostering student exchange. In 2010, a branch of Middlebury College, renowned for its language teaching expertise across the USA, opened at Bordeaux Montaigne University.

**Europe**
The University has 173 cooperation agreements with higher education institutions in 28 countries across Europe, via the Erasmus and Erasmus+ programmes, thereby providing for a particularly high level of student mobility. Each year, the University welcomes 250 young people from all over Europe. Historical partnerships have led to the creation of new joint degree programmes with the Universities of Hamburg, Saragossa, Madrid and Warsaw.

**South America**
Equality Alfa 3 is a project involving 23 universities, including 19 in South America and one in France - Bordeaux Montaigne University. Since 2012, the project has focused on gender related issues in universities.

**Canada**
Partnership agreements exist between Bordeaux Montaigne University and 15 Canadian universities.

**Japan**
Cooperation agreements exist between Bordeaux Montaigne and 9 Japanese universities.

**Russia**
The University has signed a large number of student exchange agreements with the Universities of Saint Petersburg, Moscow, Krasnodar and Yekaterinburg. Its first joint degree course is the Russo-European Master’s degree in Slavic Studies, which opened in 2010.

**Australia**
Student exchanges have always been very popular with Macquarie University in Sydney (1995), the University of Melbourne (1998) and the University of Technology in Sydney.

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The wide range of evening classes, courses and language certificates on offer are an open invitation for both students and the general public alike to broaden their horizons, prepare their international future and explore the world by studying a foreign language and its culture. These evening classes are a response to the growing demand for foreign language skills across society in general.

The DEFLE is a department of Bordeaux Montaigne University specialising in teaching French to non-French-speaking students. Teaching methods used are inspired by communicative and task-based methods, in parallel with research carried out in the field of language learning.

The DEFLE is the only higher education institution in Bordeaux where French is taught as a foreign language to students, professionals from outside the University and researchers.

Resources devoted to the teaching of 22 modern and regional languages, some more commonly spoken than others, is a strategic choice, as part of the University’s outward-looking international vision.
The University boasts some 47 student associations, organising activities for their members ranging from culture to sport, in association with their academic studies or encouraging community involvement. Student unions and federations are also part of this rich panorama, bearing eloquent witness to just how committed our students are to playing their role both in life at the University and within the wider community. The University provides financial support for student initiatives and each year a number of creative and innovative projects come into being. Students may also obtain certificates in ‘associative management’, ‘educational support’, ‘solidarity with the disabled’, ‘sustainable development’, ‘audio and radio communication’ or ‘entrepreneurship’ in complement to their academic studies as a means of highlighting their contribution to community life.

Quality of student life lies at the heart of our concerns and a number of specific areas within the University have been designated to this purpose.

**The Maison des Étudiants** is a place where students can meet, eat, chat and enjoy a range of activities in the dedicated work and relaxation areas, including an 80-seat auditorium. As a venue whose aim it is to encourage a spirit of openness and exploration, the MDE functions as an interface between life going on within the university and the city at large.

**Health and Social Services**

The health and preventive medicine service, the infirmary and social workers strive to raise awareness among students about public health issues.

**The Student Representatives’ Building** provides office space for the elected student representatives who sit on the University’s governing boards. It is a clear signal of our desire that student representatives play an integral part in deciding how the University is run.
At Bordeaux Montaigne, we educate our students in disciplines which are intimately linked to the world of creativity and critical thinking, and students are immersed in an environment in which individual talents may flourish. The University is open to society at large, a world in which cultural exchange and artistic expression may be freely voiced.

**Cultural Events All Year Round**
Throughout the year, the University offers a rich and varied programme of cultural events, with music, theatre, literature or cinema. It supports and advises students and lecturers who run cultural projects and promotes artistic expression through workshops, artists in residence, performances and encounters with intellectuals.

These events and activities are not only the fruit of close partnerships between the central service promoting cultural activity and student life, the faculties, research teams and student associations, but also between the University and its institutional and cultural partners from the city of Bordeaux and wider urban area.

The University’s cultural life has a remarkable venue at its disposal - the Arts Centre, La Maison des Arts, entirely dedicated to artistic education, creation and expression.

**Much Awaited Performances**
The academic year is interspersed with a series of cultural events, from the Coupé-Court festival, to the Dealers de Science conference cycle, organised by a student association and winner of the prestigious Étudiant magazine prize in 2014, or the 1er Acte Avant Récidive theatre festival.

Not forgetting a number of musical performances organised by students from the French popular music course, the University orchestra or student creations at the yearly Allégories de Printemps festival.

Mention should also be made of the choreography research laboratory, home to the University’s contemporary dance company, and the University radio station, Radio Campus Bordeaux, founded in 1990 and which broadcasts across the Gironde department and beyond on 88.1 FM.
Bordeaux Montaigne through History

Emblematic Figures under the Aegis of Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592)

The University first adopted French philosopher Michel de Montaigne as its tutelary figure in 1990, becoming first Bordeaux Michel de Montaigne University and then Bordeaux Montaigne University. It has never ceased to proclaim its attachment to the values conveyed by this leading humanist, writer and traveller, whose ideas, philosophy and writing are universal in nature, defending the humanist ideals of the Renaissance. Michel de Montaigne was a native of the region and proud of his Gascon identity. His Essays are a keystone of philosophy the world over and deliver a message of the most profound humanity, a source of constant reference, constant reflection and constant questioning.

The University has been home to a number of leading intellectuals down the centuries

Raymond Boudon, Marcel Cachin, Georges Criot, Marie Desport, Jean de La Ville de Mirmont, Emile Durkheim, Jacques Ellul, Robert Escarpit, Robert Etienne, Francis Jeanson, Camille Jullian, Jean Lacouture, Jean Loiseau, François Mauriac, Louis Papy, Yves Renouard, Théodore Ruysen, Michel Suffran, to name but a few...

Bordeaux Montaigne University has granted honorary degrees to ardent defenders of humanist values across the globe

Carlo Ginzburg, Carlos Fuentes, Judith Butler, Mario Soares, Mario Vargas Llosa, Salah Stétié, Abdou Diouf, Ronald Langacker, Stefano Rodota, Robert Darnton, Régis Debray, Marc Ferro, Tonino Guerra, José Saramago, Elie Wiesel, Axel Honneth and Kaija Saariaho.
Bordeaux Montaigne and the Aquitaine Region

A Campus Set among the Pine Trees

The Bordeaux Montaigne University campus is situated on one of the largest campuses in Europe. The site covers some 235 hectares, half of which is dedicated to green spaces, and is linked to the city centre via the tram network. It really is an extremely pleasant environment in which to work and study.

Bordeaux Montaigne University is human in size, with some 15 000 students enrolled each year and 1 300 teaching and administrative staff. It has four sites - the university campus in Pessac, the Renaudel site in Bordeaux, the Site du Pin in Agen and a site in Bayonne.

Bordeaux, a Fantastic Place to Study

Bordeaux is a UNESCO world heritage site, listed for its outstanding architecture and setting. The city is a fantastic place to live, with countless cultural venues across the wider metropolitan area offering concerts and performances of the highest quality. The city is just three hours from Paris by TGV and lies at the heart of the stunning Aquitaine region, with its celebrated vineyards and pine forests, ocean coastline and lofty mountains.
Organisation and general contact information

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Facts and Figures 2015
1283 members of staff
677 lecturer-researchers
606 administrative staff
16 652 students enrolled
74 711 m² of buildings
235-hectare campus