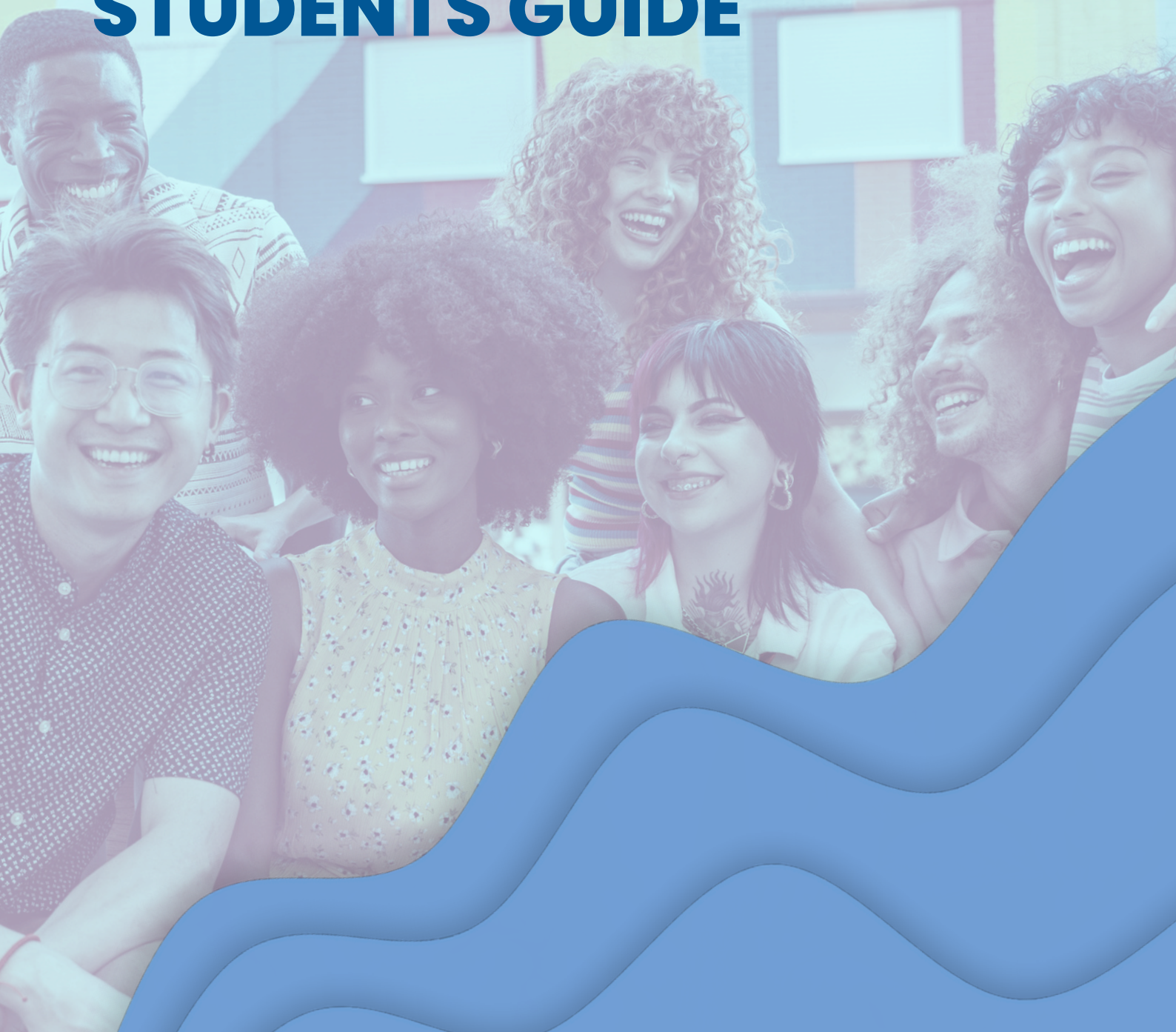




Direction des Relations
Internationales

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS GUIDE



WELCOME TO ULCO

BOULOGNE SUR MER – CALAIS – DUNKERQUE – SAINT OMER

+33(0)3 28 23 74 54
international@univ-littoral.fr
www.univ-littoral.fr/international



Dear students



Edmond ABI-AAD

President
president@univ-littoral.fr



Rachid AMARA

Vice-president for international relations
rachid.amara@univ-littoral.fr

Welcome to l'ULCO !

We're delighted to have you with us and to welcome you as one of the 1,500 international students from over 75 countries who've chosen ULCO for their academic journey.

At ULCO, we pride ourselves on being a student-friendly, human-scale university that values openness to the world and is deeply committed to sharing knowledge, fostering curiosity, and promoting humanistic values.

By choosing ULCO, you're joining a dynamic, multidisciplinary university that's firmly rooted in its region and open to international perspectives. We are continuously working to improve the experience and support we offer to international students throughout their time with us.

This guide is here to help you settle in, both at the university and in the wider region. Inside, you'll find practical advice, tips, and key information to help make your arrival and integration as smooth as possible.

And remember — the International Relations Office is always here for you. Our doors are open if you need help, advice, or just a friendly face.

We wish you a wonderful stay in our beautiful region and a rich, successful academic experience at ULCO.

Edmond ABI AAD
President

Rachid AMARA
Vice-president for international Office

1

YOU'VE BEEN ADMITTED

- Finalize your admission
- Apply for your visa
- Plan your budget
- Start looking for housing
- Learn about health insurance coverage

2

JUST ARRIVED

- Find the best ways to travel to the university
- Get to know your new city and how to get around

3

MAIN ADMINISTRATIVE STEPS

- Pay the CVEC (Student Life and Campus Contribution)
- Validate your long-stay visa
- Open a bank account
- Get connected: access the internet and digital tools

4

DISCOVER ULCO

- Key facts & figures – Get to know your new university
- Support from the International Relations Office
- Campus life
- Digital tools & online services
- Improve your French – Language support
- Career support & entrepreneurship
- What's next? – Stay connected after your studies

A large group of diverse people, including men and women of various ages and ethnicities, are gathered outdoors for a group photo. They are all smiling and many have their hands raised in celebration. They are dressed in casual to semi-formal attire, including jackets, sweaters, and trousers. In the background, several tall sailboats with complex rigging are visible against a clear sky. The overall scene conveys a sense of achievement and community.

CONGRATULATIONS!

1 YOU'VE BEEN
ADMITTED



1. YOU'VE BEEN ADMITTED



ULCO is located along the English Channel and North Sea coast, right in the heart of three vibrant port cities: Boulogne-sur-Mer, Calais, and Dunkirk, as well as in Saint-Omer, further inland.

Situated in the Hauts-de-France region, at the gateway to Northern Europe and just 200 kilometers from Paris, Brussels, and London, ULCO benefits from a prime geographical location.

It's important to carefully prepare your documents before arriving in France and to complete your university registration.



**Documents to Include with
Your Registration Application**



Applying for a Visa

Except for residents of the European Economic Area, Monaco, Andorra, and Switzerland, you will need a visa to enter and study in France.

If you come from a country where the “Études en France” procedure does not exist, please check the website of the French embassy in your country of residence to follow the student visa application process.

The processing time varies depending on the country and the time of year, but usually takes several weeks. It is therefore important to start your application well in advance.

If you come from a country where the “Études en France” procedure does exist, please consult the Campus France website for guidance on your application process.



1. YOU'VE BEEN ADMITTED

Budget Planning

To help you prepare your budget, here is an estimated average monthly budget you will need (for guidance only):

Housing: 500€

Meals: 300€

Transportation: 50€ (in Dunkirk and Calais, buses are free)

Personal expenses / Leisure: €100

Keep in mind that there are additional initial costs to consider, such as university registration fees, the CVEC contribution, rental deposits, etc.

Also, be sure to check the tuition fees for your specific program, as these can vary depending on several factors. You can find this information on the university's website.

[LEARN MORE +](#)



Student Life and Campus Contribution (CVEC)



Every student enrolling in initial higher education studies must provide proof of payment or exemption for the Student Life and Campus Contribution (CVEC) before registering. The CVEC helps fund a wide range of initiatives aimed at improving student life on campus.

How to Know If You're Eligible for a Scholarship to Help Fund Your Studies in France?

Check the directories of available scholarship programs.

1. YOU'VE BEEN ADMITTED

Finding Accommodation

It's a good idea to start looking for housing well in advance. We recommend exploring the different accommodation options available to you. Here are some useful resources to help with your search.



étudiant.gouv.fr

Votre vie étudiante au quotidien

With Visale, rent with peace of mind

If you're between 18 and 30 years old, Visale can act as a guarantor for your rental – a helpful solution if you don't have a guarantor in France. Learn more and apply online through the official Visale platform.



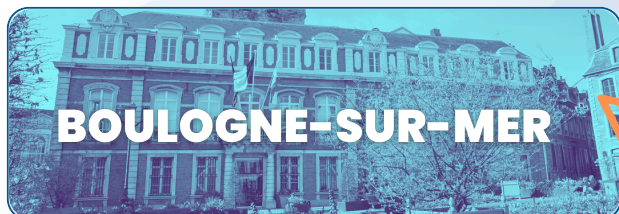
Caisse d'Allocation Familiale (CAF)

You may be eligible for housing support through the Caisse d'Allocations Familiales (CAF).

To qualify, you must meet certain conditions – for example, holding a Long-Stay Visa (VLS-TS) or a Residence Permit.

Important: It may take several months to receive the first payments. You will need to pay your full rent during the waiting period while your visa is validated and your application is processed.

few suggestions and resources to help you find accommodation



BOULOGNE-SUR-MER



CALAIS



DUNKERQUE



SAINT-OMER

1. YOU'VE BEEN ADMITTED

Understanding Health Coverage in France

Health insurance is mandatory for any stay in France lasting more than 3 months.

Students from the EU, EEA or Switzerland

Before arriving in France, request your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC).

It must be valid for the entire duration of your stay.

This card is required and ensures you are covered by your home country's health insurance during your studies.

Students from Québec

You must obtain a certificate from the Régie de l'Assurance Maladie du Québec (RAMQ) before coming to France.

This is the only recognized process to benefit from health coverage as a Quebec student.

Students from Other Countries

After enrolling at ULCO, you'll need to register for the French national health insurance (Sécurité Sociale).

This step is essential to access healthcare services during your stay.

Registration is done online via the official platform: <https://etudiant-etranger.ameli.fr>



Student Health Services at ULCO

All students have access to free on-campus health services in:
Boulogne-sur-Mer · Calais · Dunkerque · Saint-Omer

What's available:

- Preventive health consultations and nurse appointments
- Emergency contraception
- Support for students with disabilities (accommodations for exams or courses)
- Health check-ups, vaccinations, and assistance for international students



CONTACT

Secrétariat du SSE

+33(0)3 28 23 71 61

santecampus@univ-littoral.fr



2

JUST ARRIVED

2 . J U S T A R R I V E D

How to Get to ULCO and Get Around

Located in a strategic region of northern France, ULCO is easily accessible from major cities in France and abroad.



Getting to ULCO by Train

From Paris–Orly Airport : Take the Orlyval shuttle to Antony station, then transfer to RER B towards Gare du Nord (~35 min).

From Paris–CDG Airport (Roissy) : Take the shuttle to the RER B station (Charles de Gaulle 2 TGV), direction Gare du Nord (~€15). Note: Some TGV trains depart directly from CDG Airport to ULCO cities via Lille.

From Gare du Nord (Paris) : Take the TGV to Lille, then a regional train to your campus. (~1h30/2h)

From Brussels Airport : Regular shuttles connect the airport to Brussels Central Station. From there, take a train to Lille.

From London : Take the Eurostar to Lille. Budget around €160 one-way or €300 return.

From Lille Station (regional train fares) :

- Lille → Dunkerque: ~€15
- Lille → Calais: ~€20
- Lille → Boulogne-sur-Mer: ~€25
- Lille → Saint-Omer: ~€15

Getting to ULCO by Car

Paris → Dunkerque: ~300 km via A1 and A25 (Toll: ~€20)

Paris → Calais: ~295 km via A1 and A26 (Toll: ~€20)

Paris → Saint-Omer: ~260 km via A1 and A26 (Toll: ~€18)

Paris → Boulogne-sur-Mer: ~280 km via A1, A26, and A16 (Toll: ~€21)

Getting Around Locally



2. J U S T A R R I V E D

Finding Your Way Around the City



Train Station: 3 Boulevard Voltaire, 62200 Boulogner-sur-mer

University Library (BULCO): Place Henri Heine, 62200

CAF (Family Allowance Office): 84 Boulevard Chanzy, Building A, 62200

Health Insurance Office (CPAM): 47 Boulevard Auguste Mariette, 62200

City Hall: 7 Place Godefroy de Bouillon, 62200

Sub-prefecture: 131 Grande Rue, 62200

Train Station: 46, avenue Wilson 62100
BULCO: Centre Universitaire Mi-Voix 190, rue Ferdinand Buisson 62100
CAF: 6 D Quai de la Gendarmerie, 62100
CPAM: 33 Rue Descartes, 62100
City Hall: Pl. du Soldat Inconnu, 62100
Sub-prefecture: 9 Esp. Jacques Vendroux, 62100



Train Station: Place de la Gare, 59140

BULCO: 55 Av. de l'Université, 59140

CAF: 12 Rue de Paris, 59140

CPAM: 2 Rue de la Batellerie, 59140

City Hall: Place Charles-Valentin, 59140

Sub-prefecture: 27 Rue Thiers, 59140



Train Station: Pl 8 Mai 1945 62500 Saint-Omer

BULCO: Avenue Descartes, 62219

CAF: 7-11 Rue Saint-Sépulcre, 62500

CPAM: 3 Passage du Château, 62500

City Hall: 16 Rue Saint-Sépulcre, 62500

Sub-prefecture: 41 Rue Saint-Bertin, 62500



A photograph of two young men standing outdoors, looking at a laptop. The man on the left is wearing a light-colored jacket over a dark t-shirt and has large headphones on his head. The man on the right is wearing a dark jacket over a light-colored polo shirt. They are both looking at the laptop screen. The background is a blurred urban setting.

3 MAIN ADMINISTRATIVE STEPS

3 . M A I N A D M I N I S T R A T I V E S T E P S

Fulfilling the CVEC Requirement

Before completing your university enrollment, you must provide proof of payment for the CVEC.

The Contribution to Student and Campus Life (CVEC) helps fund student services such as healthcare, sports, cultural activities, and student initiatives.



Validating Your Long-Stay Visa

You must validate your long-stay visa online within three months of your arrival in France.

If you hold a "minor enrolled in school" visa, please contact ULCO's International Relations Office to find out the specific procedure to follow.

Important: If you plan to renew your residence permit, you must submit your request online within the two months prior to its expiration



Note: Algerian students must follow a specific procedure to obtain a residence permit.

Opening a Bank Account

Opening a bank account in France is highly recommended, as it will simplify many administrative and financial tasks during your stay.

Typically, you'll need the following documents:

- A valid ID (identity card or passport)
- Proof of address in your name (such as a rental contract, university residence certificate, utility bill, etc.)
- A student card (optional, but may give access to student discounts)

Please note: A temporary housing agreement is not usually accepted. In most cases, the rental contract must include your name.

Getting Internet Access

Once you have signed your rental agreement and opened a bank account, you can subscribe to a monthly internet plan from one of the service providers in France.

The university also offers free Wi-Fi access on campus. You can log in using your ULCO student credentials.



4 DISCOVER ULCO



4 . D I S C O V E R U L C O

Chiffres

STUDENTS 10400	INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS 1200	ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS 12	RESEARCH CENTERS & INSTITUTES 3
RESEARCH UNITS 14	DOCTORAL SCHOOLS 2	RESEARCHERS 325	CAMPUSES 4
PHD STUDENTS 196	FACULTY MEMBERS 540	STAFF MEMBERS 500	

The International Relations Office – Here to Support You

RACHID AMARAVice President for International Relations
rachid.amara@univ-littoral.frDirector – Erasmus+ Administrative Coordinator
myriam.lemaire@univ-littoral.fr**MYRIAM COURCO****NAÏMA CHIQUI**Reception Desk & International Student Support – Dunkirk
incoming.dk@univ-littoral.frEvents & International Student Support – Boulogne-sur-Mer & Calais
incoming.bl@univ-littoral.fr / incoming.cl@univ-littoral.fr**CELIA DOMAIN****CAROLE HAYNAU**International Agreements & Staff Mobility
mobility.staff-phd@univ-littoral.fr
international.agreements@univ-littoral.frOutgoing Student Mobility – Administrative Coordinator
outgoing.studies@univ-littoral.fr**HÉLÈNE PIHEN****HOLLMAN ROJAS**Move On Technician, Communications
hollman.rojas@univ-littoral.frFunding Management for Study & Internship Mobility Abroad
bourseetudes.inter@univ-littoral.fr
boursestage.inter@univ-littoral.fr**SOPHIE TERRIER**

+33(0)3 28 23 74 54

international@univ-littoral.fr

1 place de l'Yser, BP 71022
59375 Dunkerque Cedex 1



4 . D I S C O V E R U L C O

Administrative Office Hours – Dunkirk

Public reception hours:

Monday and Wednesday : 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Thursday: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Service Centraux – Bâtiment Jules Roy
1, Place de l'Yser – BP 71022
59375 DUNKERQUE Cedex 01

Tél : +33 (0)3 28 23 73 28

Administrative Office Hours – Boulogne-sur-Mer

Public reception hours:

Monday to Friday: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM / 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
(Closed on Friday afternoons)

Centre Universitaire Saint-Louis 2
21 rue Saint-Louis – BP 774
62321 BOULOGNE-SUR-MER

Tél : +33 (0)3 21 99 41 40
+33 (0)3 21 99 41 29

Administrative Office Hours – Calais

Public reception hours:

Monday: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM / 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Tuesday: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM / 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

50 rue Ferdinand Buisson – BP 699
Bureau 001 – Rez-de-chaussée
62228 CALAIS Cedex

Become an International Relations Contact

More information coming soon...

4 . D I S C O V E R U L C O

Living on Campus

Student ID Card

This smart card makes daily life easier across ULCO campuses. It is shared by universities and schools throughout the region and offers several practical features:

- Pay for meals at any CROUS restaurant or cafeteria
- Borrow books and materials from university libraries
- Access certain ULCO buildings
- Pay for photocopies in the libraries

To use your card for payments in university restaurants, you first need to activate your IZLY account.



After your enrollment is complete, an activation email will be sent to your university email address only. Once your IZLY account is activated, you can top up your digital wallet online or via your smartphone using a credit card, bank account, account-to-account transfer, or even a payment from someone else through your personal IZLY space.

The Library (BULCO)

The ULCO Library Network (BULCO) offers access to more than 150,000 documents across four locations and provides a wide range of services:

- A vast collection of textbooks, reference works, journals, DVDs, maps, as well as movies, comics, and novels
- Free-access computers and tablets (available with your student ID card)
- Group study rooms and Wi-Fi access
- With your multi-service card (CMS), you can borrow up to 10 books or journals and 3 DVDs for two weeks, with one renewal possible via your online reader account on maBULCO
- Thousands of online resources are available both on campus and remotely after logging in through the BULCO website





4 . D I S C O V E R U L C O

Cultural and Sports Activities

ULCO offers a wide range of sports and physical activities for all levels—from recreational to competitive. Through SUAPS (the University Service for Physical and Sports Activities), you can integrate sports into your academic experience.



Culture

ULCO also provides a rich and diverse cultural program throughout the year, coordinated by the Cultural Affairs Office (SCC), which operates in various locations:

- La Piscine and La Chapelle
- Student Centers (Maisons de l'Étudiant – MDE)
- University Libraries



La Piscine – Dunkirk

This cultural venue hosts workshops, training sessions, and performances in the performing arts. From October to June, it offers a multidisciplinary program including theater, music, and more. An annual membership costs just €1 and gives you free access to all events.

La Chapelle – Boulogne-sur-Mer

This venue hosts concerts, Zumba classes, exhibitions, and film screenings. The SCC also organizes a live performance each trimester.

Student Centers (Maisons de l'Étudiant – MDE)

The MDEs offer a space for cultural activities, relaxation, and student engagement.

You'll find:

- Administrative services (career advising, social workers, etc.)
- Offices for student associations
- Performance spaces and student cafés



These centers are lively places where you can express yourself, meet others, and fully engage in campus life.

4 . D I S C O V E R U L C O

Student Life & Associations

Student life at ULCO is rich and diverse. Many student associations bring the campus to life by organizing concerts, performances, theater productions, and much more.



associations

Student Life & Disability Support Office (BVEH)

Because student life goes beyond the classroom, the Student Life and Disability Support Office (BVEH) is here to support you in all aspects outside of academics.



Bureau de la Vie Étudiante
et du Handicap (BVEH)

This office focuses on:

- Campus life and student engagement
- Promoting student involvement
- Support for students with disabilities (including accommodations)

You can find a list of student associations through the BVEH. Additionally, local city halls in the main towns of the Côte d'Opale also maintain directories of associations by area of interest.

BOULOGNE-SUR-MER

CALAIS

DUNKERQUE

SAINT-OMER

Student Health Services

ULCO provides free health services for all students, including:

- Preventive medical check-ups and nurse consultations
- Emergency contraception and sexual health services
- Disability support (study or exam accommodations)
- General health screenings, vaccinations
- Support specifically for international students



Book an appointment via
Doctolib

Psychological Support

You can speak with a psychologist for guidance and support—by appointment:

Boulogne-sur-Mer & Calais
✉ rdv.apsytude@gmail.com
☎ +33 6 27 86 91 83

Dunkirk & Saint-Omer
✉ psychologue-dk-so@univ-littoral.fr

Social Services

At each of ULCO's four campuses, a CROUS social services office is available to help.

Professional social workers are available to support you confidentially with personal, medical, administrative, financial, or other concerns.

4 . D I S C O V E R U L C O

Disability Support

Students with disabilities can benefit from various academic and exam accommodations, such as:

- Access to lecture notes
- Adapted exam rooms depending on the nature of the disability
- Peer or staff assistance tailored to individual needs
- Access to specific tools and learning aids during classes and exams to help compensate for the disability
- Extended exam time

ULCO is Committed!

If you are a student and a victim of discrimination, harassment, or gender-based or sexual violence, we are here to listen and support you.



Report it –
We're here to help.

The University's Digital Environment

ULCO provides a unified digital environment where you can access all the tools and services you need in one place.



Log In

Give you access to:

- Your university email account
- Your class schedule
- The Moodle platform for collaborative work
- University documents and resources
- Wi-Fi networks such as Eduroam / Eduspot
- ...and much more

4 . D I S C O V E R U L C O

Moodle

Moodle is the platform used by ULCO to support you throughout your studies.

You'll find:

- Course materials
- Documents shared by your instructors
- Assignments to submit
- Discussion forums
- Your grades and evaluations

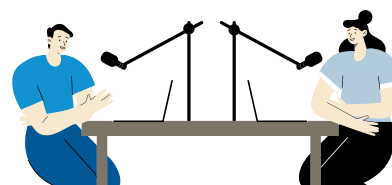


Moodle

PodULCO

PodULCO is ULCO's video platform. It gives you access to:

- Recorded lectures
- Tutorials
- Conferences
- Other video-based learning resources



PodULCO

It's a practical tool for reviewing explanations, deepening your understanding of a topic, or learning at your own pace—wherever you are



As a student at ULCO, you can connect to Wi-Fi across all campuses using your ENT login credentials. The eduroam network is also available, allowing you to stay connected when visiting partner universities in France or abroad.

Improve Your French

The Language Resource Centre (CRL) offers both on-campus and online support to help you strengthen your language skills. You'll have access to digital resources on the CALAO platform (which should be explored each semester), as well as guidance from tutors, language assistants, and instructors throughout your studies.

At ULCO, you can earn the Certificat de Compétences en Langues de l'Enseignement Supérieur (CLES) for free. This national certification validates your language proficiency in English, German, or Spanish at B1 or B2 level. It is integrated into the third year of undergraduate (L3) and second year of master's (M2) programs and is a valuable asset for your CV.

**FunMooc**

The FUN MOOC platform offers a variety of free online courses, including French language classes. These flexible courses let you learn at your own pace while exploring new topics of interest.



4 . D I S C O V E R U L C O

Support for Employment and Entrepreneurship

SUAIOIP

The University's Career and Guidance Service (SUAIOIP – Service Universitaire d'Accueil, d'Information, d'Orientation et d'Insertion Professionnelle) is here to support you with everything related to career guidance, internships, and your professional development.

The team is available to help you with:

- Academic and career orientation
- Internship opportunities
- Transition into the job market

**ULCO Career Center**

A wide range of companies and job offers are available on the ULCO Career Center platform, where the university already partners with several employers.

To access it, sign up for free using your ULCO student email address (@etu.univ-littoral.fr) and create your profile. You'll then be able to switch to a personal email address (Gmail, Yahoo, Orange, Hotmail, etc.) if you prefer. Once registered, you'll receive job and internship opportunities tailored to your profile – whether you're looking for a placement, a full-time job, a work-study program, or a student job.



Littoral Entrepreneurship
Center (CEL)

The Centre Entrepreneuriat du Littoral (CEL) supports students who are curious about entrepreneurship – whether you're just exploring, developing an idea, or ready to launch a project. CEL connects you with key players in the startup ecosystem and helps guide your career path, whether through entrepreneurship or traditional employment.



4 . D I S C O V E R U L C O

And Then What? Let's Stay Connected

France Alumni

Join France Alumni to grow your professional network, explore new career opportunities, and stay connected with fellow international graduates who studied in France.



First Job Days (JPE)

ULCO and its students host the First Job Days (Journées du Premier Emploi – JPE), a key annual event to help you prepare for your career launch. The day begins with discussions and networking with former students, followed by mock interviews with over a hundred professionals. Nearly 600 soon-to-be graduates take part each year to put their applications to the test and gain valuable feedback.

Follow all the latest news and updates from the university on our social media channels.



