

THE UNIVERSITÉ CATHOLIQUE DE LILLE IN BRIEF



Founded in 1875, the *Université Catholique de Lille* is a federation of 5 faculties, 20 schools, Grandes Écoles, and institutes, along with medical and social institutions.

Working in close cooperation with its local and international partners, the university is an active participant in the social transitions of the contemporary world, taking an integrated ecological approach to research and entrepreneurial projects, with creativity and innovation as common threads.

The *Université Catholique de Lille* prides itself on its openness to others and to the world with 38,500 students, 6,000 of whom are international. The university partners with more than 500 universities around the world and offers a number of customised international programmes known as the LILLE Programs.

Three hundred areas of study are covered by six distinct areas of research and training. These are Law, Economics, Management, & Administration; Political Science & International Relations; Literature & Human Sciences, Theology, Ethics, & Pedagogy; Health & Social Sciences; Science & Digital Technologies; and Innovation & Design Thinking.

Life experience is very much at the heart of the curriculum. Human training modules are included in all programmes while special attention is paid to students' personal and spiritual development. Students experience a very active community life with more than 1,000 student associations and spaces dedicated to co-design and artistic creation, exhibitions, performances, and workshops offered through Creative Campus.

The *Université Catholique de Lille* is also proud of its caring tradition: hospitals, homes for the elderly and for people experiencing disabilities are also part of the university group.

The university is focused on climate change and the transition to a low carbon future and has designated 2022 as a year of mobilisation for climate. With 15 different research chairs addressing various aspects of the transition, 5,000 m² of different experimental city districts and demonstrators, the university's low carbon strategy includes the conduct of "life-sized" experiments on campus in areas such as energy efficiency, urban agriculture, alternative transportation, social participation, and new economic models.

ECOPOSS: “dare to praise the future”

Over the past 10 years, the Université Catholique de Lille has undertaken radical change to become an exemplary “third place” of reinvention for a more sustainable, more ethical future.

This transformation, carried out by the schools and partner institutions of the Université Catholique de Lille, is visible in the dynamic ECOPASS project which will open up to new regional, national, and international participants through a major event to be held 26-30 October 2022 on the university campus: the ECOPOSS Biennale.

The ECOPOSS Biennale is a festival, a forum, and a factory of desirable futures. Participants will be able to enjoy the "ECOPOSS by Imagine" Film Festival, a book salon, exhibitions, competitions, performances, and more. Also included will be four international scientific colloquia; international foresight meetings; an interdisciplinary colloquium on "Sensibility, interpretation, and appropriation of digital data"; a conference on “Smart and Sustainable Cities”; a colloquium on “Big Data, influence & surveillance”; conferences, forums, meetings and debates concerning major social issues; and four “villages” hosting more than 200 activities planned by students from our faculties and schools, businesses, and associations.

The ECOPOSS Biennale invites all of society to imagine, to find inspiration, and to debate a wide range of themes, including food and agriculture, health and caring, parenting, communication and ethics, Europe and the reinvention of democracies, finance, business and economy for a more sustainable world, and technology and engineering at the heart of transition.

