

The University of the Philippines

Established on June 18, 1908, by Act No. 1870 of the First Philippine Legislature, UP was formally declared the national university in 2009, during its centennial year, through RA No. 9500 or the UP Charter of 2008.

From a small campus in Manila with only seven colleges, UP is now a university system of eight constituent universities located on 18 campuses throughout the country. The development of five new campuses is underway.

UP Diliman
UP Open University

UP Visayas

UP Manila

UP Los Baños

UP Mindanao





University of the Philippines

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Mandate of the National University

Under RA 9500, UP is mandated to perform its unique and distinctive leadership in higher education and development.

UP shall:

Lead in setting academic standards and initiating innovations in teaching, research, and faculty development; and maintain centers of excellence in various disciplines and professions.

Serve as a graduate university by providing advanced studies and specialization for scholars, professionals, and others, especially faculty of state and private colleges and universities; serve as a research university in various fields and professions.

Lead as a public service university by providing various forms of community, public, and volunteer service, as well as scholarly and technical assistance to the government, the private sector, and civil society;

Protect and promote the professional and economic rights and welfare of its academic and non-academic personnel.

Provide opportunities for training and learning in leadership, responsible citizenship, and the development of democratic values, institutions, and practice through academic and non-academic programs, including sports and enhancement of nationalism and national identity.

Serve as a regional and global university in cooperation with international and scientific unions, networks of universities, and scholarly and professional associations in the Asia Pacific region and around the world.

Provide democratic governance based on collegiality, representation, accountability, transparency, and active participation of its constituents.



UP as Academic Leader

UP offers 190 undergraduate and 373 graduate programs, more than any other university in the country. It has more than 54,000 enrolled students as of 2020, who are provided the broadest range of offerings that embraces almost all interests and inclinations in the thriving liberal atmosphere that is the hallmark of a UP education.

UP's Contributions to Society

UP alumni have become the country's leaders in education, health professions, politics and governance, business, law, sciences, the arts, and other disciplines.

7 of 17 Philippine Presidents

15 of 27 Supreme Court Chief Justices

13 of 24 Senate Presidents

11 of 26 Speakers of the House of Representatives

39 of 42 National Scientists

50 of 81 National Artists

9 of 9 National Social Scientists

UP as a Global University

Internationally recognized as the leading educational institution in the country, UP is the only Philippine university in the Association of Pacific Rim Universities, whose membership is comprised of top universities from 19 economies known worldwide for their academic and research excellence.

UP is the only Philippine university in the ASEAN-European University Network, a network of universities that aim to promote the continuous internationalization of education and research. It is a founding member and one of only three Philippine universities in the ASEAN University Network. As of April 2022, UP has international linkages with 350 higher education and research institutions in 43 countries.

