

University of Porto
Digital University Department

Praça Gomes Teixeira
4099-002 Porto PORTUGAL
Phone. +351 220 408 030
Fax. +351 220 408 184
E-mail: dud@reit.up.pt

Faculty of Architecture
www.fa.up.pt
Faculty of Fine Arts
www.fba.up.pt
Faculty of Sciences
www.fc.up.pt
Faculty of Nutrition and Food Sciences
www.fcna.up.pt
Faculty of Sport
www.fade.up.pt
Faculty of law
www.fd.up.pt
Faculty of Economics
www.fep.up.pt
Faculty of Engineering
www.fe.up.pt
Faculty of Pharmacy
www.ff.up.pt
Faculty of Arts
www.fl.up.pt
Faculty of Medicine
www.fm.up.pt
Faculty of Dental Medicine
www.fmd.up.pt
Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences
www.fpce.up.pt
Abel Salazar Biomedical Sciences Institute
www.icbas.up.pt
EGP - University of Porto Business School
www.egp-upbs.up.pt
Student Support Services
www.sas.up.pt

www.up.pt



INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

University of Porto

ICT

U.PORTO

The University of Porto (U.PORTO) offers its academic community, and particularly its students, an extremely rich state-of-the-art technological environment, where the various resources and services available are combined to provide a set of powerful tools for the support of the daily activities of end-users.

This brief guide contains the resources and services available in the Information and Communication Technologies area (ICT) to students enrolling at U.PORTO for the first time.

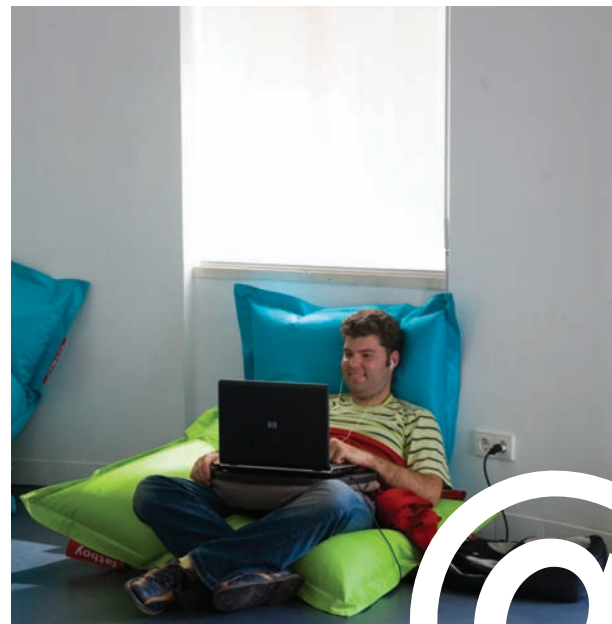
The ITC resources and services are regularly updated, so it is essential to check the University's web pages (www.up.pt > Resources and Services) and your faculty website for more information.

This guide contains several useful web addresses. For further information, you can access the Computing Services web pages of your faculty, with the respective contacts.

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Students can also see the current regulations in force in the University and Faculty web pages (See Students section). Ignoring them does not constitute grounds for incorrect procedures. Please take time to read them carefully prior to using the resources and services offered by the University.



Internet
Connectivity



All U.Porto faculties are connected through a high speed connection network (using optic fibres), at a rate of 1 Gbit/s. This network, the netUP, is connected to the national network, the Rede de Ciência Tecnologia e Sociedade (RCTS), at a rate of 2 Gbit/s. For further information on the netUP and RCTS, go to http://sigarra.up.pt/up/web_base.gera_pagina?p_pagina=18364 and www.fccn.pt, respectively.

The management of the interconnection network of the institutions at the U.PORTO and its connection to the RCTS is a responsibility of the Digital University Department

(http://sigarra.up.pt/reitoria/unidades_geral.visualizar?p_unidade=5). Each faculty has local networks, managed by the specific Computing Services, that provide fixed connections (for example, those normally used to connect the work stations in the various computer rooms),

and wireless connections, available through the e-U network, which is part of the eduroam European network. For further information on the wireless network, go to

http://sigarra.up.pt/up/WEB_BASE.GERA_PAGINA?P_pagina=122444. The residence halls, managed by the Student Support Services of the University of Porto (SASUP) also provide the e-U wireless network.

For further information on how to access the wireless network offered by each faculty, visit the website mentioned above.

The communication network at the U.PORTO also supports VoIP services, which will be used by all Organic Units of the University from 2008 on.

The U.PORTO network is technologically advanced and constantly updated.

Further to its performance, robustness, scalability and flexibility features, it supports the following state-of-the-art services: the new generation of the Internet Protocol, IPv6, VoIP, video over IP, special E2E connectivity (end-to-end) situations, among others.

The netUP uses the Porto city's network partially, which was built within the Porto Digital project. The fibre optic interconnection of the three U.PORTO campuses, enabled by the city's network, represents a significant step forward and has opened great prospects for the future of communications at the University. The creation of the city network was coordinated by the Department for the Digital University and was acknowledged at international level, as seen in some documents available online

(http://www.lightreading.com/document.asp?doc_id=128646 and <http://www.edubourse.com/finance/actualites.php?actu=30613>).



The SIGARRA Information System

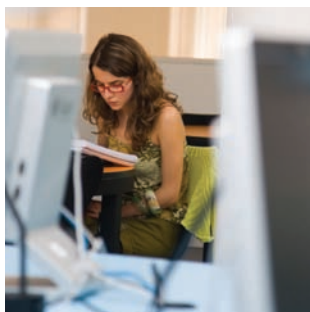


All students of the U.PORTO receive, at the time of registration, the credentials for access to the information system of their faculty, known by the acronym SIGARRA (Sistema de Informação para a Gestão Agregada de Recursos e Registos Académicos – Information System for the Aggregated Management of Resources and Academic Records). These credentials consist of:

Username (login) – example larq08000

Password

With this information, you can access restricted areas in your faculty website (the homepage is the SIGARRA homepage), such as your institutional personal page (by selecting your name) where your student file is lodged, and access information on timetables, classes, classrooms and wireless coverage. You can also access the discussion areas (forums), e-mailing, online learning areas (e-learning), the Library online catalogue, virtual service desk functions - - for e.g., request online certificates or sending application Forms. You have administration permission to change your SIGARRA access password (and eventually also the password for other services such as the e-U and VPN services) and some of your personal data. For security reasons, you should change your given password the first time you log on to SIGARRA. You can then change it as often as you like during your study period at U.PORTO. But remember to not reveal your password to anyone else. You are the sole responsibility for the actions made with your credentials.



The SIGARRA system was developed by the University of Porto with the help of specialists from the faculties of Engineering and Sciences, as well as the Department for the Digital University. The system has received many awards both at national and international level (the Descartes award and the EUNIS Elite Award respectively).

For further information, visit http://sigarra.up.pt/up/web_base.gera_pagina?P_pagina=2418.



In addition to the information mentioned previously, you can also find in the SIGARRA pages information on the different learning and research activities currently in progress, and have access to the course syllabus, the class summaries, the documents provided by the teachers (e.g. slides and previous assessment tests), the results of pedagogic surveys done in each semester, etc.

The SIGARRA pages also provide contextual help - select the “?” icon in the top bar in the system’s pages.

Each faculty is responsible for managing the contents in SIGARRA. Despite being the same system, there may be differences from faculty to faculty as some functions might not be active in a given faculty.

The University Web pages, in www.up.pt, and those of the Student Support Services (SASUP), in www.sas.up.pt, are also based on the SIGARRA system. You have access to restricted areas in these pages, using the same information (username and password) as in the faculty’s SIGARRA system, provided that the username contains both the login (e.g. lced08032) and the domain of the faculty (e.g. lced08032@fpce.up.pt). If the information is valid for accessing the SIGARRA system of your faculty, it will also be valid for accessing the SIGARRA systems of U.PORTO and SASUP, provided that it includes the institution’s domain in the username.

In the U.PORTO SIGARRA system, after permission has been given students can access various types of documents, including legislation and those provided by the University’s governing bodies, tutorials, software, etc. In the SASUP SIGARRA system, students can apply to scholarships and/or accommodation.



e-Learning 



Many course units of the U.PORTO offer online resources to support learning, through e-learning platforms. You will find detailed information in the University e-learning portal: <http://elearning.up.pt>.

You can access these resources through your institutional personal page in the SIGARRA system of your faculty. Your teachers will give you the additional information required.

If you need extra help, contact the e-Learning Support Offices (http://sigarra.up.pt/up/web_base.gera_pagina?P_pagina=18377).

In the U.PORTO e-learning portal, there are over 50 courses available online, related to ICT, within the “SUN Academic Initiative” program (http://sigarra.up.pt/up/web_base.gera_pagina?P_pagina=18376), and online training on the SIGARRA system

(http://sigarra.up.pt/up/web_base.gera_pagina?P_pagina=122204#SIGARRA).

All U.PORTO students have an institutional e-mail account. The specific address is shown in the institutional personal page of the SIGARRA system. Students can choose to make this address public or not in the page setup option.

At U.PORTO, the e-mail is widely used to send information to students, using their institutional e-mail addresses.

To access your e-mail, you will need permission which will be given to you at your faculty. If necessary, contact the Computing Services.

e-Mail Services



In addition to the ICT resources and services already mentioned, there are many others available to students in their faculties, for e.g. computer rooms, disk space for personal work, document printing and scanning facilities, remote access to local networks (VPN – Virtual Private Network), etc.

For further information on the existing ICT services, visit the Web pages of your faculty. Alternatively, you can go to the U.PORTO SIGARRA system (www.up.pt) and select the Search option in the menu on the left, and enter “computing services” in the global search box. You can select a specific faculty or obtain information for the entire campus.

Please take note of the software available for the different courses. Access to the software is provided by each faculty to its users.

The Department for the Digital University tries to negotiate the most favourable terms for the use of software by the academic community at U.PORTO. There are many agreements for the software used by the various University faculties (http://sigarra.up.pt/reitoria/web_base.gera_pagina?p_pagina=2428).

Through the U.PORTO SIGARRA system, students can access the software provided by MSDNAA (Microsoft Developer Network Academic Alliance): in http://sigarra.up.pt/up/WEB_BASE.GERA_PAGINA?P_pagina=122321, select the MSDNAA Software Centre option (you will need permission in the U.PORTO SIGARRA system).



Other resources and services



Online publications and other resources



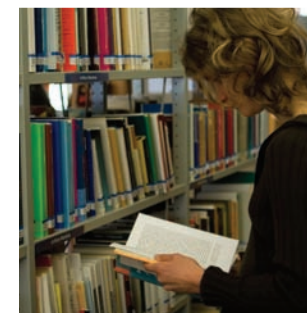
Access to online scientific publications is extremely important in education. You can access to these resources via the Publications section of the SIGARRA system of your faculty, allowing students to search scientific or technical articles and other documents published by teachers of that faculty. The Publications section of the U.PORTO SIGARRA system (www.up.pt) allows campus users to search these publications, clustering the information of the different faculties.

In the U.PORTO repository, accessible via the University Web page or directly in <http://repositorio.up.pt>, you can obtain the full text of the U.PORTO academic community scientific production, including publications in international journals, Master dissertations and PhD theses.

Other services, for example the Virtual Library and the U.PORTO Digital Archive, are also available in the University Web page, in www.up.pt. Using the Virtual Library, students can access the key sources of knowledge for the different course areas (see <http://biblioteca.up.pt>).

Students with special needs can access the online contents of the Open Library for Higher Education (BAES), with over 3,000 documents in Braille, audio sources and full texts. Access to this service is available via the U.PORTO Virtual Library (see http://sigarra.up.pt/up/web_base.gera_pagina?P_pagina=122586).

In addition to historical documents, the U.PORTO Digital Archive currently offers over 10,000 drawings and over 2,000 construction projects of the U.PORTO facilities.



e-Learning café

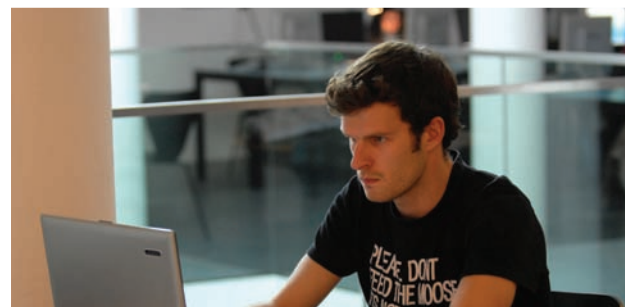


The U.PORTO is committed to offering its students new integrated environments, for leisure and learning, and aims to bring together the academic communities of the various faculties, promoting the exchange of knowledge, experience and problem solving by these various groups, stimulating interdisciplinarity and innovation. The e-learning café in the Asprela campus, the first of this nature, is already in full operation. The facility, facing the Faculty of Dental Medicine of the U.PORTO (see the tab How to get to, in <http://elearningcafe.up.pt/contactos.html>), provides access to the Internet and has 24 fixed work stations. You can also use laptops which can be requested at the help desk. The computers are adapted with specific software for students with special needs.



In addition to the ICT resources, which are supported by a group of U.PORTO students, there are other resources available. The facility also offers several initiatives such as music, cinema, sports, exhibitions, theatre, audio and video, social and cultural gatherings and workshops. You're invited to submit proposals for initiatives for this space. Use the e-mail elearningcafe@reit.up.pt to register and participate! The e-learning café is open every day, including weekends, from 8 am to 2 am.

For further information, see <http://elearningcafe.up.pt/>.





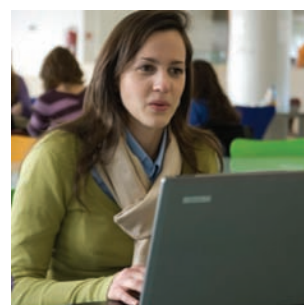
U.PORTO tries to guarantee that the online contents offered meet the accessibility criteria of the W3C (World Wide Web Consortium). SIGARRA was certified for the A level. As already mentioned, students with special needs can access specific resources. For additional information, see the Support Service to Students with Disabilities at the U.PORTO (http://sigarra.up.pt/flup/unidades_geral.vi_sualizar?p_unidade=57).



How to get help



Accessibility



If you need help in the ICT area, see the Computing Services at your faculty. Contacts are available in the faculty Web pages. To find these pages, use the U.PORTO SIGARRA system (www.up.pt) and select the Search section in the menu on the left. Write "computing services" in the global search box and click "Search". You can then select your faculty.