Create your moment.

Odisee University Prepares Students for Jobs, Today and Tomorrow

Serving a Diverse Student Body

When you walk into the Brussels campus of Odisee University College, the first thing you see is a banner that says, "A story that you write yourself." That says it all. Odisee is all about empowering students with great educational opportunities—and producing a steady stream of talent for global businesses. Cisco Networking Academy is the IT partner that helps make it happen.

With six campuses and 10,000 students across Belgium, Odisee University offers state-of-the-art education focusing on talent, diversity and a strong bond with employers. Together, Networking Academy and the Odisee University offer advanced education offerings and exchange programs for students from more than100 nationalities.

Preparing Students for the Digital Economy

Technology is driving fast changes in business, and Odisee and Networking Academy have stepped up to tackle the challenge. "According to the latest reports, there is a shortage of 800,000 to one million IT professionals," says Karsten Simons, Regional Manager, Cisco Corporate Affairs, Europe. "Networking Academy provides high quality courses which equip students to be more qualified for the job market."

Cisco Networking Academy is the largest, longest-running educational program of its kind offering courses and resources for the technologies that matter most, including networking, programmable infrastructure, and cybersecurity. Students can choose from self-paced online courses, as well as in-person classes.

Networking Academy provides the courses and the tools, but it's the dedicated instructors at Odisee that really bring the program to life for students. "It's always about people," says Rik Bleeker, Networking Academy Country Engagement Manager, Benelux. "As you know, people make or break the process, and we have a number of people at Odisee who are passionate about bringing IT skills to students."

"Since I started using Networking Academy courses, I found they are more practice-oriented, more hands on, and more related to the real jobs that our students will do in the future," says Yvan Rooseleer, Director/Instructor Trainer, at Odisee University College. The practice-oriented approach brings together the science of learning, backed by global and local education standards. Students are encouraged to take advantage of hands-on learning experiences in labs and exploratory opportunities. And instructors get access to plenty of support resources, including training, accreditation, assessment tools, and collaborative digital communities.

Instructors at Networking Academy found that the program positions them to help students excel. The results speak for themselves: 94% of Odisee students found a job within three months.

Keeping Ahead of the Curve

Odisee instructors are impressed not only with the practical, real-world skills that Networking Academy offers, but also its forward-looking approach. "What I like from the program is that we have built upon world standardization, so students from our school can show that they have been trained using the Cisco material," says Ernst Mak, Visiting Instructor at Odisee University College Instructor, from Utrecht University for Applied Sciences. "That close connection with the latest developments that are worked on by Cisco helps ensure that we will always be able to teach our students the knowledge they need not only for today, but for tomorrow."

To keep pace with the future, Networking Academy delivers courses, teaching resources, and assessments on its custom cloud-based education platform, NetAcad.com. Learning requirements are always in motion, so the education platform is designed and build so new features and enhancements can be delivered quickly.

For students, it all adds up to a rich experience that prepares them for the jobs that help them make a difference in their communities and in the digital economy.

 "I began my studies here at Odisee University, and after my first year, I saw that I liked it," says Diana Radueva, Odisee University College Student. "The program offers coding, networking, and many other options, so you can decide for yourself what you like most."

"A story that you write yourself." The banner that welcomes Odisee University College students is certainly true.

Americas Headquarters
Cisco Systems, Inc.
San Jose, CA

Asia Pacific Headquarters
Cisco Systems (USA) Pte. Ltd.
Singapore

Europe Headquarters
Cisco Systems International BV Amsterdam,
The Netherlands

Cisco has more than 200 offices worldwide. Addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers are listed on the Cisco Website at www.cisco.com/go/offices.