The University of Quebec at Chicoutimi
Chicoutimi, Quebec

The city: A modern, dynamic city of about 70,000 inhabitants three hours north of Quebec City, Chicoutimi is situated on the bluffs of the Saguenay River and at the entrance of a spectacular, 100-mile long fjord. It boasts a beautiful park along its riverfront, a scenic downtown with historic landmarks, soaring cathedral spires, and both traditional shops and modern shopping centers. The surrounding Saguenay Valley, stretching west to east from the Lac Saint-Jean to the Saint-Lawrence River, offers students many tourist sites and a stunning natural environment ideal for sporting activities, such as boating, white-water rafting, hiking and cycling.

Established in 1676 by the Jesuits as a mission and a trading post, Chicoutimi owed its rapid development after 1850 to the lumber industry. Chicoutimi was incorporated as a city in 1930 and steadily extended its size by annexing the surrounding towns. In 2002 it merged with nearby Jonquière into the larger municipality of Saguenay. Associated with the hydroelectric development of the Saguenay River which powers the region’s aluminum foundries, Chicoutimi is a rail hub and an administrative, commercial, and industrial center. Its chief economic sectors include pulp, paper, furniture, leather goods, and textiles.

The university: Founded in 1969, the University of Quebec at Chicoutimi (UQAC) is one of ten campuses in the province of Quebec’s higher educational system. It is a comprehensive university of approximately 7,000 students which offers over forty undergraduate and graduate degree programs. It is especially well-known for its programs in forestry, geology, regional population studies, and aluminum. It supports two research centers on the aluminum industry which are overseen by the Canadian National Research Center. UT Martin has had relations with UQAC since 1998 and several delegations of faculty and administrators from both have visited each other’s campuses.

Programs available to UTM students: UTM students may enroll in summer immersion programs (3 and 5 weeks) in French language and Quebec culture (earning 4 and 6 credits respectively) or may spend fall and/or winter semesters at UQAC as part of our official student-exchange program. During the academic year, UTM students also take primarily language and culture courses but, if their background in French is sufficient, they can enroll in courses in other disciplines, depending on their needs and interests. For more information on studying at UQAC, please contact Dr. Robert Peckham, Professor, Modern Foreign Languages, 427E Humanities, ext. 7368 [bobp@utm.edu] or The Center for Global Studies, 124 Gooch Hall, ext. 1023.