

University Centres

with a co-op focused orientation

This document consists of a chart listing all well-known co-op-oriented University Centres in North America and Internationally that host useful resources on their websites. This chart lists the name of the university and its location, the name of the centre or co-op-oriented department, the URL, a description the centre or program, and a description of the features of the website or the resources hosted within it. It is organized alphabetically.

Note: This does not showcase *all* co-op-oriented University Centres but focuses on those that have a substantial number of open-sourced resources available for public use.

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April 2018

<u>University & Location</u>	<u>Centre/ Department</u>	<u>URL</u>	<u>Description of Centre or Program</u>	<u>Website Features and Resources</u>
Brandon University Brandon, Manitoba, Canada	Rural Development Institute (RDI)	https://www.bran donu.ca/rdi/about -rdi/	RDI has 5 strategic research directions: rural immigration, regional economic development, governance and capacity building, rural infrastructure and services, and rural innovation.	Strong descriptions of its five areas of research and a strong publications page - organized by either Research Interest or Publication Type. Archived Newsletters, Factsheets, Posters, Publications for sale, Workshops/webinars, Books, Other reports, and Presentations.
Cornell University Ithaca, New York, United States of America	Cooperative Enterprise Program	http://cooperative s.dyson.cornell.edu/cooperative/index.php	The program focuses on agriculture, food systems, and rural-based businesses and associations. The program is a resource for people desiring to form a cooperative or learn more about the unique nature of a cooperative-structured business, and for cooperative leaders as they govern and manage these unique member-owned companies.	Offers resources for “Starting a Coop” (particularly in New York State). Papers of various co-op themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management & Organization - Membership & Governance - Legal & Taxation - Finance & Equity - Strategic Planning & Decision Making - Marketing. Economic Development resources related to agribusiness and food systems. Resources related to “Building Successful Food Hubs”
Kansas State University Manhattan, Kansas, United	The Arthur Capper Cooperative Centre	http://acc.c.k-state.edu/index.html	Nested in the Department of Agricultural Economics, the Arthur Capper Cooperatives Centre has a strong slant towards agricultural co-ops, but still hosts a comprehensive	Features a very in-depth “Co-ops 101” - offering several PDFs focusing on a sequence of topics across all basic themes. <i>Highly recommended as a first stop for good 101 type materials.</i>

States of America			list of general co-op related resources.	Featured research in Agricultural Finance and Agribusiness & Cooperative Management (limited). Also links to relevant regional and state resources.
Open University at Milton Keynes Milton Keynes, United Kingdom	Co-operatives Research Unit (CRU)	http://cru.open.ac.uk/	CRU has nearly 30 years of experience in research, training, consultancy and publications related to co-operatives, social enterprise and other organisations in the social economy. It has three main aims: to encourage and develop thinking and research on issues of importance to the social economy sector; to support the development of co-operatives and other organisations trading for social or ethical purposes; to work with practitioners, policy makers and researchers at European, national and local levels to develop comparative analyses of issues for improving policy, development and management.	The main feature is 31 Publications from the CRU discussing both co-operatives and the social economy, written between 1988-2012. Most content is UK or European-based.
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey 21 locations, New Jersey, United States of America	Center for the Study of Collaboration in Work & Society; Center for Innovation in Worker Organization (CIWO) at Rutgers School of Management and Labor Relations	https://smlr.rutgers.edu/content/center-study-collaboration-work-and-society	The Center for the Study of Collaboration in Work and Society develops the understanding of effective collaboration, both as theory and as practice. CIWO's mission is to promote strong workers' organizations and shift the balance of power towards greater equity in our economy and society.	Some useful publications and conference materials. As well as "CLEO" – Curriculum Library for Employee Ownership.

<p>Saint Mary's University</p> <p>Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada</p>	<p>Cooperative Management Education</p>	<p>http://www.smu.ca/academics/sobey/sobey-cooperative-management-education.html</p>	<p>Co-operative Management Education (CME) offers rigorous and dynamic programs for co-operative management professionals. The programs cultivate a deep understanding of co-operatives, credit unions and mutuals, within a globalized curriculum (with on-line and in-person options).</p>	<p>Located in right sidebar under "Research and Resources", offers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Graduate and Faculty Papers coming out of CME program - Presentations and Papers from past symposia
<p>Saint Mary's University</p> <p>Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada</p>	<p>Centre of Excellence in Accounting and Reporting for Cooperatives (CEARC)</p>	<p>http://www.smu.ca/academics/sobey/research-cearc.html</p>	<p>The Centre of Excellence in Accounting and Reporting for Co-operatives (CEARC) was created based on the understanding that the co-operative business model, with its unique business purpose, values and principles, is not adequately served by the same approach to accounting used by investor-driven firms.</p>	<p>Offers links to published papers, conference presentations, research fellows and grants in the field of Co-operative Accounting.</p> <p>It also offers information about the "Co-operative Performance Index", a non-financial impact assessment for cooperatives.</p>
<p>St. Francis Xavier</p> <p>Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada</p>	<p>Coady Institute</p>	<p>http://www.coady.stfx.ca/knowledge/</p>	<p>The Coady International Institute ignites leadership that inspires collaborative effort to address challenges, discover opportunities and create sustainable development at the community level. In collaboration with partners in Canada and the global south, the Institute is committed to reducing poverty and transforming societies by strengthening local economies, by building resilient communities, and by promoting social accountability and good governance.</p>	<p>Excellent comprehensive database with links through the Marie Michael Library to a catalogue of resources.</p> <p><i>Incredibly useful:</i> "Course links" - a bibliography with links to all suggested readings for each course and certificate program offered at St. FX.</p>

University of College Cork Cork, Ireland	Centre for Co-operative Studies	https://www.ucc.ie/en/ccs/	The mission of the Centre for Co-operative Studies is to promote, through its research, consultancy and educational activities, the continued growth of the co-operative movement, as an effective, locally-owned and democratically-controlled sector of the economy, designed to address the urgent needs and problems of the community.	Features 21 Centre publications from 1999-2009. Clear descriptions of undergraduate and post-graduate co-op programming and Credit Union Pathways Programme and Food Business and Development degree. Access to the “Journal of Co-operative Studies” and other projects & opportunities featured in “Current/Recent” Projects tabs.
University of Saskatchewan Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada	Centre for the Study of Cooperatives	Website: http://usaskstudies.coop/ Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/user/coopstudies Publications: http://usaskstudies.coop/publications/index.php	Established in 1984, the Centre's goal is to provide people with conceptual and informational tools to understand co-operatives and to develop them as solutions to economic and social needs.	<i><u>This is the top resource available in North America, containing imminent breadth and depth.</u></i> Houses blogs, publications, and a research portal covering four themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- co-operative governance- co-operative development- rural and agricultural communities- indigenous co-operation.
University of Sherbrooke Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada	Institute de recherche et d'éducation pour les coopératives et les mutuelles	http://irecus.recherche.usherbrooke.ca/	The Research and Education Institute for Cooperatives and Mutual Societies of the University of Sherbrooke (IRECUS) was created to carry out, from the cooperative paradigm (model), multidisciplinary activities of education and management research and development of cooperatives and mutuels. The Institute helps to	Thorough resource. French only.

			promote and value the cooperative and mutualist formula and other forms of co-operative organizations, both domestically and internationally.	
University of Toronto Toronto, Ontario, Canada	OISE Centre for Learning, Social Economy, & Work	http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/clsew/Home/index.html	The Centre aims to understand and enrich the often under-recognized contributions of work and learning dynamics throughout their full range of variation in Canadian society and internationally. Brings together academics, labour educators, and participants in the social economy and broader community of: non-profits, co-operatives, social enterprises, unions, and worker-and-community recuperated enterprises.	Though co-op relevant, most themes in the catalogue of 177 resources are related to the broader Social Economy. Also offers links to co-op related <i>publications</i> .
University of Winnipeg Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada	Business and Economics – Chair in Cooperative Enterprise	https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/chair-in-cooperative-enterprises/	The Chair promotes the teaching of, and research into co-operative enterprises in Canada. It interacts with both the Co-operative sector and the Provincial Government of Manitoba, as well as with the rest of Canada and other countries through public lectures, seminars, teaching and research. The chair promotes regional, national, and international research through a series of conferences, grants, and publications.	Detailed course descriptions of all 4 courses. Links to 8 publications from the centre, published from 2015-2017, written or reviewed by Simon Berge. Topics include indigenous co-op models, food co-ops, co-op networks, rural resilience and energy co-ops, and training the next generation. Very clear and easy to navigate website.

University of Wisconsin-Madison	Center for Cooperatives	http://www.uwcc.wisc.edu/	<p>The University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives seeks to increase understanding and encourage critical thinking about cooperatives by fostering scholarship and mutual learning among academics, the cooperative community, policy makers and the public. The Center benefits from an active advisory committee composed of cooperative business leaders, legal and accounting experts, public policy officials, and university scholars.</p>	<p>A very comprehensive resource offering basic information about “What is a co-op?” and business structure comparisons, to more in-depth research and publications. This is a well laid out and easy to use resource with many features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thorough history of co-operatives and their impact on the U.S. Economy - Links to national and regional cooperative organizations - Co-op Start-up resources - Overviews of the main co-op-related topics (governance; finance; benefits; legal and taxation; sector topics; cooperative conversion & employee ownership; community economic development) - Research & Publications (measuring the cooperative economy; podcasts; current research; state data summaries; selected pubs; case studies; staff papers & bulletins) - News & Events
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