



FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University in Prague





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Charles University in Prague

Charles University in Prague was founded in 1348 by Charles IV, the King of Bohemia and future Holy Roman Emperor.

When founded, the university had four faculties: arts, medicine, law and theology. Seven centuries later it consists of 17 faculties. Faculty of Social Sciences is its second youngest component.

The oldest university in Eastern Europe has almost 52,000 students studying in more than 300 accredited degree programmes. There are over 6,000 foreign students studying at the Charles University in Prague.

“The number one university in Eastern Europe”
The Webometrics Ranking of World Universities

“Ranked 2nd in Central and Eastern Europe”
The Academic Ranking of World Universities



About the Faculty of Social Sciences

The university's second youngest faculty was founded in 1990, shortly after the Velvet Revolution. It soon became a regional centre of teaching and research in economics, sociology, political science, international relations, area studies, media studies and journalism.

The Faculty offers a full range of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programmes in area studies, economy, political science and international relations, sociology and social policy. While the language of instruction is Czech and English, students can choose from classes in a wide range of other languages, namely German, Russian, Spanish and French.

Currently, the Faculty of Social Sciences has more than 3,000 full-time students. Around 300 foreign students spend part of their studies here. It is fair to say we have students from literally all over the world.

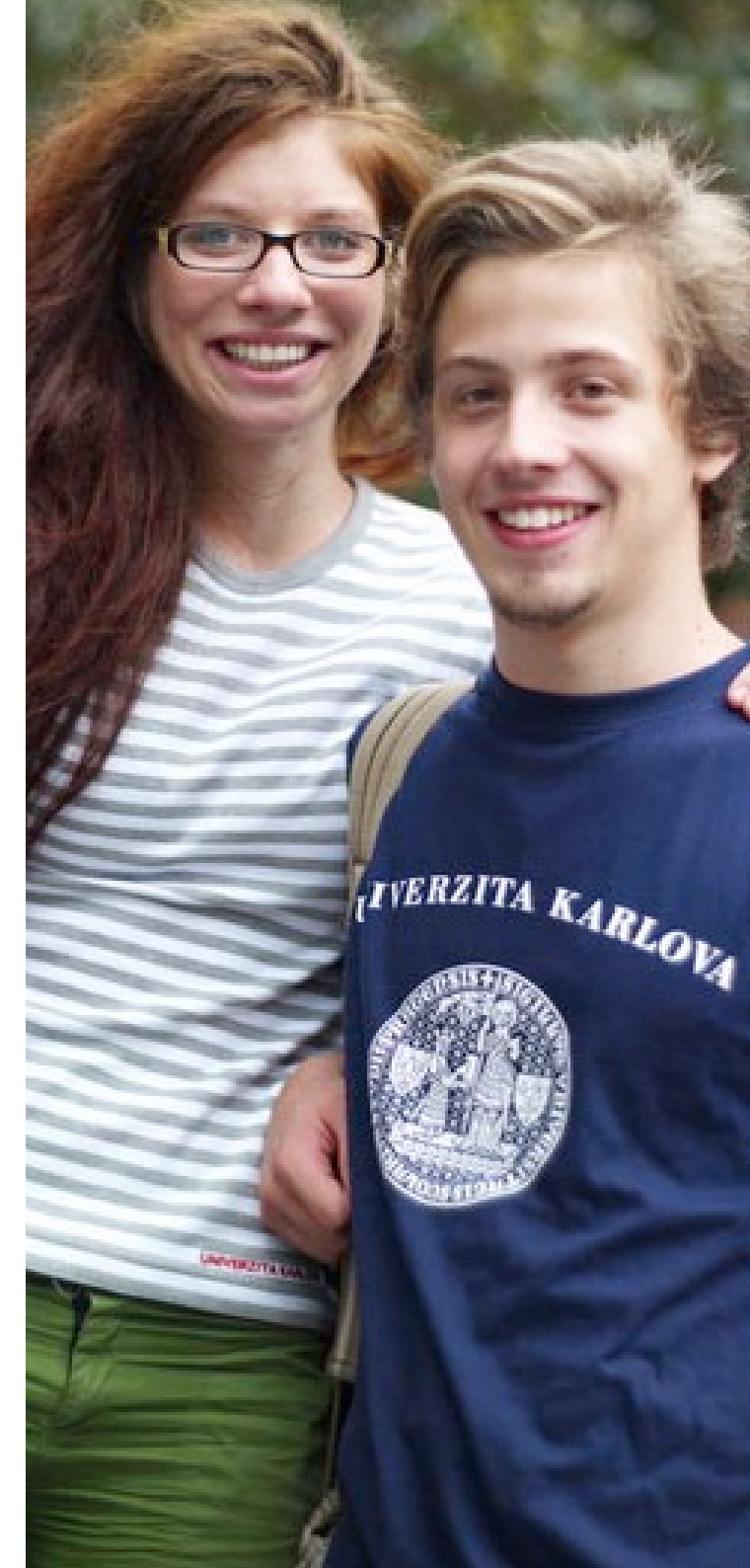


One of the many leading figures of Czech political, economical and cultural life who taught at the Faculty was **Václav Havel**, the first post-communist president of Czechoslovakia and the first president of the Czech Republic.

Why...

Why the Faculty of Social Sciences?

- **Academic excellence.** Charles University in Prague is the only Czech university in the Academic Ranking of World Universities.
- **Top lecturers.** Members of our Faculty include distinguished academics as well as leading figures in policy making, economics and social life of region.
- **Talents.** We seek for the best in students and develop their potential. Every year, students of our faculty are among those granted competitive awards and scholarships.
- **Hands-on experience.** Our graduates receive not only a firm ground in theory but have numerous opportunities to get involved in various practical projects as well.
- **Family-size.** The Faculty of Social Sciences is place where students and faculty members meet and interact. Moreover, students benefit from the young, dynamic and interdisciplinary environment of the Faculty.





Zdeněk Tůma,

former Governor of the Czech National Bank, has been teaching at the Institute of Economic Studies for several years.



Miroslav Novák,

Institute of Political Studies, is one of the founders of political science in the Czech Republic and a key figure in the field.



Lenka Rovná

from the Institute of International Studies is a recipient of the title Jean Monnet Chair Ad Personam, established by the European Commission to award top professors in European Studies.



Václav Moravec,

Institute of Communication Studies and Journalism, is a one of the most popular and influential Czech journalists. His Sunday political talk show, Otázky Václava Moravce, draws nearly 750,000 viewers each week.



Miloslav Petrušek,

Institute of Sociological Studies, is a former Dean of the Faculty and a doyen of Czech sociology.

Studies

Studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences are intended primarily to prepare students for a professional career in private sector, public administration, national governments, European institutions, academic research or the media. They are divided into three individual cycles:

- **A bachelor degree cycle** (3 years), which leads to a Bachelor degree (Bc., equivalent to a BA)
- **A master's degree cycle** (2 years), which leads to a Master's degree (Mgr., equivalent to an MA)
- **Doctoral studies** (4 years), which lead to the awarding of a Doctorate (Ph.D.)

The Faculty offers a full range of degree programmes at all levels in all its subject specializations in both Czech and English. This not only gives classes a cosmopolitan character but also enables international and Czech students to get to know each other and benefit from mutual interaction.

"When studying there, I loved it. The school taught me how to dislearn, how to think alone and critically and not buy into mainstream propaganda called education."

Tomáš Sedláček
Alumni, Chief Macroeconomic Strategist at ČSOB, the biggest Czech bank

"... The quality of teachers and their individual approach to students, a great selection of German-language lectures and the possibility of studying abroad, linking study to practice and the standard of other students, which I continue to meet frequently in my job – all this, along with an interesting study, provided me with invaluable qualifications for my professional life."

Tomáš Jelínek
Alumni, Director of the Czech-German Fund for the Future

"I think the Institute of Economic Studies provides its students with a useful and comprehensive curriculum. It has an appropriate emphasis on modern economics and quantitative techniques, which I found essential in my subsequent career ..."

Martin Čihák
Alumni, International Monetary Fund, Washington, D.C.

Research

As well as educating future social scientists, the Faculty of Social Sciences also encourages and promotes advanced research in social sciences. The research activities of the Faculty are very diverse.

“The Faculty of Social Sciences and its Institute of Economic Studies provided a completely new attitude to the education of economics after 1990 as compared to the previous period. It offered standard economic lectures, renewed relationship with universities in developed countries and based grounds for research of high quality.”

Zdeněk Tůma
KPMG, Former Governor of the Czech National Bank

The **Centre for Social and Economic Strategies (CESES)** is an interdisciplinary research think-tank engaged in the development of theory, methodology and practice of exploring possible future developments, and the application of analyses and forecasts in decision making. The Faculty's other research centre, **Centre for Media Studies (CEMES)** investigates changes in Czech media structure, contemporary news-content analysis, and the influence of the media.

The Faculty of Social Sciences publishes the impacted economic magazine, **Czech Journal of Economics and Finance** and six peer-reviewed journals – **AUCO Czech Economic Review** (Institute of Economic Studies),

AUC - Studia Territorialia (Institute of International Studies), **Acta Politologica and The Annual of Language & Politics and Politics of Identity** (Institute of Political Studies), **Media Studies** (Institute of Communication Studies and Journalism) and **Central European Journal of Public Policy** (Centre for Social and Economic Strategies).

Regular Faculty conferences contribute in no small way to research integration and co-ordination efforts as well as interdisciplinary communication. A broader involvement of especially masters and doctoral students in the Faculty's scientific activities is yet another prominent objective. Such broadening of research capacities is ideally assisted above all by joint endeavours to implement the research project and by the newly-conceived Doctoral Studies Series. Masters and doctoral theses are geared towards the main research goals of the Faculty but we also support high-quality projects that transcend these objectives.

“Faculty of Social Science has been my second – and sometimes the first – home since 1989 when I was enrolled as a student of journalism. Although I stayed as a teacher and a researcher, the school inspired me never to stop being a student. Its people, inter-disciplinary perspective and focus on excellence in research is helping me to permanently re-discover media studies as the most exciting field of inquiry.”

Irena Carpentier Reifová
CEE Communication and Media Conference 2012, Chair of the Executive Board, Research Coordinator, Faculty of Social Sciences

International Cooperation

The Faculty is an active participant in many international student exchange programmes – in particular ERASMUS and CEEPUS. Some students also arrange to visit the Faculty individually, outside the framework of international agreements.

The Faculty also invites students to apply for its English-language **bachelor's** and **master's** programmes in economy, political science, media studies, sociology, public and social policy or international (area) studies.

As of 2011, more than 140 foreign students studied in one of the faculty's degree programmes. Full details of all programmes can be found on our website.

Moreover, several institutes of the Faculty also offer doctoral studies in English. It is thus not an exaggeration to say that you can now study at all levels without having any previous knowledge of the Czech language!

The Faculty's **International Office** facilitates and coordinates the international mobility of both students and teaching staff and the international activities of the Faculty at all levels. It is the Faculty's administrative centre for a whole range of international programs (undergraduate and graduate degree programmes, ERASMUS, CEEPUS, the international scholarship programme of the Czech Ministry of Education, etc.), and it also acts as a clearing-house for information about scholarships offered by independent agencies. More information about the International

Office – including contacts and office hours – can be found on our website.

Throughout the academic year, several guest lectures, seminars and workshops are organized in English, which enables international students to get involved as well!

When it comes to **extracurricular activities**, Charles University International Club organizes various social and cultural events for both international and Czech students, namely parties and trips/excursions around Prague and the Czech Republic, assists the faculties during the Orientation Week, and generally helps international students to handle their stay in Prague.



Institutes and Research Centres

The Faculty consists of five institutes, each responsible for its subject specialisations.

- **The Institute of Economic Studies (IES)**

offers a university education in Economics, Finance and Banking, and European Economic Integration and Economic Policy at all levels. Soon after its establishment in 1993, the IES has become one of the Czech Republic's most prestigious economic teaching and research centres. The IES is unique in its international character (for example, an overwhelming majority of master's courses are offered in English) and in the number of leading Czech economists and policy-makers who teach here.

- **The Institute of Communication Studies and Journalism (ICSJ)**

offers degrees at all three levels offered by the Faculty. Its research activities focus on the analysis and the history of the media, with a special emphasis on the Czech Republic, the former Czechoslovakia before 1989, and its historical neighbours. The ICSJ offers programmes in media studies and journalism. Both have been the most attractive programmes when it comes to the number of applicants.

- **The Institute of International Studies (IIS)**

offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral education in modern history and area studies. In both cases, the Institute concentrates its activities on four primary regions: the countries of former Soviet Union and East-Central Europe, the German-speaking countries of Central Europe, Western Europe, and North America.

- **The Institute of Political Studies (IPS)**

offers a fully-fledged university education in political science, international relations and security studies. The institute – made up of two departments, the Department of Political Science and the Department of International Relations – takes a very active part in research and regularly organizes international conferences in its field.

- **The Institute of Sociological Studies (ISS)**

offers bachelor's, master's and doctoral programmes in both sociology and public and social policy. Moreover, on the bachelor's level it also offers a programme in social anthropology. ISS graduates are trained to perform high-level analysis of social, political, economic and cultural life, to carry out public opinion

polls, market research and anthropological research. In addition, the Faculty also has two research centres, the Centre for Media Studies and the Centre for Social and Economic Strategies.

- **The Centre for Media Studies (CEMES)**

was established in 1996. It focuses on three inter-linked issues: modern history of Czech media, the role and the status of the media under the totalitarian regimes of the 20th century and on media literacy and media occupation.

- **The Centre for Social and Economic Strategies (CESES)**

was founded in 2000. It is an interdisciplinary research and education unit engaged in the development of theory, methodology and practice of exploring possible future developments, and the application of analyses and forecasts in decision making.





Student Life

Pavlac Festival is a popular student arts festival held every year in May. Those looking for a mixture of music, stage performances and a bit of literature and some author readings (not to forget sausages and beer) should not miss this event. It is not surprising that the festival has a long tradition – the first one was held back in 1996!

Every May, the rector of the university organizes an annual **Rector's Sports Day** with each participating faculty being in charge of one sport activity. The Faculty of Social Sciences usually organizes a joint bicycle and inline ride with the management of the faculty. In 2011, approximately 50 students, including several international students, joined the dean and several vice-deans on their bikes or inline skates.

The annual Faculty Ball attracts more than thousand students each year. The combination of great music, dancing and a friendly crowd makes this event unforgettable!

A new student tradition is the annual **Faculty Steamship Sailing**. It usually takes place at the end of the summer semester – and gives students and academics an opportunity to get to know each other more on a personal level while sailing on the Vltava River!

Alumni

The Faculty graduates work in different professions.

For example, Institute of Economic Studies graduates work in great numbers for international financial, consulting or production companies. You might find IES graduates in governmental institutions (whether national, such as the Czech National Bank, for example, or international, such as the structures of the European Union) and non-governmental organizations (such as Word Bank or International Monetary Bank).

Institute of Political Studies as well as Institute of International Studies graduates typically acquire positions in public sector, non-governmental organizations and in the media.

It is not surprising that you will find our Institute of Communication Studies and Journalism graduates in all media-related fields (whether it is press, radio, television) or in Public Relations departments of commercial and non-commercial institutions.

Graduates of Institute of Sociological Studies make carrier not only in universities and research institutes but also in public opinion research agencies or as civil servants, public and policy analysts, consultants of social policy at the highest levels of public administration or various consulting, transnational companies and foreign institutions.

Besides these career opportunities, a number of Faculty graduates continue their studies abroad or undertake teaching and research work at universities.

"I am very proud to be alumni of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague. Long tradition, highest academic standards, strong commitment and discipline make it a unique school. My experience was both fun and challenging. The background I received at Charles University gives me the confidence and potential I need to go where I want to be."

Aleksey Bozhko, Uzbekistan

"What an amazing experience!"

Claire Hughes, Australia

University of the Third Age

The Faculty also offers courses as part of the University of the Third Age programme.

Each semester, students can choose from various interesting lectures and seminars – on topics ranging from introductory economics classes to those focusing on journalism, international policy or religion. Generally, these courses are taught in Czech but there are some held in English as well.



Further Information

- **Please visit:**
www.fsv.cuni.cz for more information about the Faculty of Social Sciences and all programmes offered or address your enquiries to **info@fsv.cuni.cz**.
- **Contact address:**
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