INTERNATIONAL STUDENT & SCHOLAR GUIDE
Masaryk University was founded in 1919 in Brno – one year after the foundation of Czechoslovakia – with the support of the first president Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk.

Its mission is to create and disseminate knowledge, thus enhancing the quality of life and fostering cultural growth in the community.

Today Masaryk University is the second-largest public university in the Czech Republic with over 35,000 students in nine faculties: Arts, Economics and Administration, Education, Informatics, Law, Medicine, Science, Social Studies, and Sports Studies. Masaryk University uses ECTS system of credits. In the last few years a new campus was built in order to enhance research and teaching capacity of the university which is scattered in historical buildings over the city center. The new international research center CEITEC (Central European Institute of Technology) facilitates the development of tools for knowledge transfer and innovation. The university participates in a wide range of international research collaborations, mobility activities and international teaching programs all over the world. In 2012 Masaryk University was awarded the EAIE (European Association of International Education) Institutional Award for innovation in internationalization.
Internationalization of the Faculty of Education is not only a key goal of the institution, but an opportunity for our institution to improve the quality of the curriculum and to do internationally acclaimed research. The process of internationalizing the university enriches us through personal and professional development, and offers us opportunities to perceive ourselves differently and to expand our horizons. The faculty members and I hope to build international relationships by engaging local people of our community, as well as people, partners and friends of diverse backgrounds in opportunities and experiences provided by Masaryk University.
The Faculty of Education was established in 1946 as the fifth faculty of Masaryk University. Its mission is to prepare teachers for kindergartens, primary schools, lower secondary and upper secondary schools. Apart from teacher training programs, the faculty focuses on inclusive education, social education and multicultural education. The institution offers a wide range of lifelong learning programs and short-term courses specifically tailored for current needs of teachers and schools. It educates more than 4,500 students both in full-time and part-time study programs. Graduates are successful educators – teachers, teacher assistants, school psychologists, special education teachers, adult trainers, mentors and community workers, and internationally recognized researchers.

The Faculty of Education research centers and departments collaborate with international university partners, Czech governmental bodies, international institutions such as UNHCR and local Roma NGOs, leisure time centers, eco-friendly organizations, galleries, etc. The Faculty of Education reaches out to the community through a number of community-oriented projects such as empowering of minority children at schools, supporting disadvantaged groups through art and drama therapy. The faculty currently helps communities in Africa and Ukraine through its developmental projects.

The Faculty of Education at Masaryk University is an up and coming faculty at the university. It has recently focused on internationalizing the curriculum and has started to reach out to other universities across the globe to organize exciting exchange/partnership possibilities that the faculty and students can take advantage of.
The Faculty of Education provides a high-quality curriculum based on applied research and designed for international participants. The curriculum includes undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate degree programs as well as individual courses in English.

- **International Courses**
  - Core Courses in Education and Psychology
  - Other Elective Courses

- **Bachelor’s Degree Program**
  - English Language Teacher Education

- **Master’s Degree Programs**
  - English Language Teacher Education
  - Special Education

- **Doctoral Degree Programs**
  - Art Education
  - Education
  - Special Education
  - Social Education
The **Institute for Research in School Education** (IRSE) was established at the Masaryk University’s Faculty of Education in 2003. It focuses on educational learning environments and processes, curricula at primary and secondary school levels, and further investigates the processes of design, implementation, realisation, evaluation and revision of curricular documents and textbooks.

The team of researchers also develops methodological frameworks and research designs in mixed method analysis, video-based approaches, and comparative methodology. Overall, the institute supports innovations in teacher education in the Czech Republic with data based recommendations. Besides research activities, the IRSE participates in doctoral study programs by supervising doctoral students in their research.

Key projects at the national level include: *Teacher’s perceptions of curricular changes*, *Professional socialization of novice teachers*, *Producing pedagogical knowledge for improvement: altering teaching situations for the better*, *Classroom interaction in English language and teaching in higher education*.

The institute currently cooperates with the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, the University of Augsburg (Germany), the University of Agder (Norway), Alpen-Adria University Klagenfurt, and the University of Vienna (Austria).

**Website:** [http://www.ped.muni.cz/weduresearch/](http://www.ped.muni.cz/weduresearch/)
The Institute for Research in Inclusive Education (IRIE) was established at the Masaryk University’s Faculty of Education in 2010. It focuses on research on a wide variety of aspects of inclusion in education as well as social inclusion. The multidisciplinary team of the institute is composed of professionals from the fields of special education, adult education, sociology, psychology and ophthalmology. The main research areas are: inclusion in primary and secondary education, social inclusion and participation of persons with SEN, employment of people with SEN, and counseling for families at risk of social exclusion. The IRIE provides courses for the M.A. study program of Education and Counseling for Adults with SEN as well as a platform for the professional development of Ph.D. students.

The Institute is actively involved in several national and European projects that promote and encourage improvement of services, counseling, and raising awareness in inclusive education such as: Towards Inclusive Learning Environments in Vocational Education, Supporting Employment of Young People with SEN, Segregation of Roma and Disabled Children, Active Citizenship and Decent Work, Access of Disadvantaged Groups to Higher Education.

The Institute has extensive experience in international teacher exchanges, on-line student conferences, and joint research activities with the following long-term partners: University of Northampton and University of Lincoln (United Kingdom), Jyväskylä University of Applied Sciences (Finland), University of Haifa (Israel), University of Tartu (Estonia), Queen’s University (Ireland), Julius-Maximillian’s University (Germany), and the Finnish Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

Website: http://katedry.ped.muni.cz/iviv
Core Courses in Education and Psychology

Bachelor's and Master's Level

Core courses in Bachelor's and Master's studies in education are delivered by the Department of Education and the Department of Psychology. Our interdisciplinary team of academics prepare all students of the faculty to pursue educational professions as teachers, tutors, special education teachers, leisure time teachers, teaching assistants, or mentors by balancing the pedagogical and psychological components in the curriculum. The departments aim to provide students with international and intercultural competences molding them into future educators that will take a leadership role in the globalized world.

All core courses are taught in both Czech and in English language and provide an environment where Czech and international students meet, share knowledge and enrich each other. Students will learn how to thoroughly understand the learning processes and apply theoretical knowledge and learn how to work, respond to the different individual needs of children. In practice-oriented courses students will gain professional skills such as self-reflection, collegial mentoring experience and leadership skills.

The Department of Education and the Department of Psychology function as key innovators of the teacher training curriculum at the university as well as in the Czech Republic. They provide consulting and research services to governmental bodies and other stakeholders involved in the education system. Both departments cooperate with university partners abroad in the field of curriculum innovation and school research exploring topics such as motivating learning experience, transparent flexible assessments strategies, and positive relationships with learners. They have introduced the concept of “clean language” into our teacher training curriculum in cooperation with international colleagues. The scholars meet regularly with the international research community at conferences all around the world (e.g. EARLI, ECER, ISAD) and cooperate with the European Agency for Special Needs and Inclusive Education of European Commission on developmental and evaluation research projects that focus on raising achievement for all learners in inclusive settings. Other research projects include classroom management, power, and tacit knowledge. These projects are supported by the prestigious Czech Science foundation.

Other Elective Courses

Bachelor’s and Master’s Level

Additional courses offered at the Faculty of Education taught in English are wide and interdisciplinary. Among the most popular courses with international students are Intercultural Communication, Czech Life and Culture. These provide students with Czech cultural immersion experience and help to enrich their studies as well as time in the Czech Republic. The course topics include: cultural studies, curriculum and instruction, and diversity issues. Students will gain academic skills, empowering research skills and all kinds of sport competencies during semester long courses. Students can also partake in intensive ski trainings or rafting lessons.

List of Courses:
Bachelor's Degree Program

English Language Teacher Education

The objective of the Teacher Training in Foreign Languages – English Language study program is to provide education for teachers of the English language. The students will gain knowledge and thorough understanding in various areas of linguistics, literature, culture and history of English-speaking countries, and the basics of ELT methodology. An integral part of the curriculum is teaching practice. Native speakers and international faculty teach a number of courses.

The department offers a whole array of both compulsory and optional courses in the areas of practical language, linguistics, literature and culture, ELT methodology, and academic skills. Graduates of the bachelor’s program are equipped with the necessary competences that enable them to work successfully as pedagogical assistants at lower secondary schools or as English language teachers at language schools and in out-of-school institutions (e.g. leisure time centers).

Graduates will be able to:

\- Speak and write in English at level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.
\- Demonstrate their understanding of linguistic disciplines including phonetics and phonology, morphology, syntax and lexicology.
\- Develop intercultural competences and identify cultural values and interpret their meaning in the process of fostering respect for cultural and linguistic diversity.
\- Describe the main literary movements of Anglo-American literature and of the representatives and their important works and contributions; define basic literary terms and analyze and interpret literary texts.
\- Understand the principles, methods and techniques of teaching the English language to various age groups and levels; collect and creatively utilize the appropriate teaching materials for different groups of students; plan, implement and evaluate language instruction in individual and group courses; respond positively to constructive feedback from colleagues and qualified teachers.
The Department of English Language and Literature aims to provide high quality, liberal education for future teachers of English in an inspiring, challenging, and productive environment. Emphasis is equally placed on: the development of professional competences and appropriate subject and pedagogical content knowledge, the application of the information provided in diverse settings, and the adoption of values essential for becoming an active, responsible, and independent member of the community. To achieve these goals, the department strives to encourage critical thinking, stress an integrated approach to learning, encourage self-evaluation and reflection, and support lifelong dedication to learning.

The study program of Lower Secondary School and Language School Teacher Training in English Language is designed to prepare teachers in an inspiring stimulating and creative environment. The master’s program focuses primarily on forming relationships between the particular linguistic, cultural, and literary disciplines through the study of ELT methodology. Emphasis is put on the methodological implications of all the disciplines and the practical application of all the knowledge to teaching practice at lower secondary schools.

The department offers a whole array of both compulsory and optional courses in the areas of practical language, linguistics, literature and culture, and ELT methodology.

Graduates of the master’s program are equipped with the necessary competences to enable them to work as lower secondary English teachers or English teachers at language schools. They are also qualified for work in out-of-school institutions (e.g. leisure time centres). They can also be employed in non-teaching positions requiring an excellent knowledge of English (e.g. in public administration).

Graduates will be able to:

- Use spoken and written English language at C1+ level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages and be able to apply the acquired knowledge in the language in their own teaching.
- Understand the essentials of basic linguistic fields.
- Analyze authentic texts and use them creatively for practical purposes in their own teaching and be able to interpret specific relations between culture and language.
- Choose and critically evaluate relevant teaching materials for lower secondary schools and be able to process methodological materials creatively.
- Plan lessons, and use combinations of various methods and forms of teaching including current approaches (project teaching, e-learning), and assess them critically.
The Master's Degree Program of Special Education is an interdisciplinary program taught by education professionals from different scientific fields with experience from local primary and secondary schools in the Czech Republic as well as from abroad. The program is based on the combination of the current international research and hands-on experience. The tradition of special education and education of children with special needs dates back some hundred years (the first Czech schools for children with intellectual disabilities were established in the beginning of 19th century). The program provides students with a broad and in-depth understanding of special education as a discipline and research field, which gives students a unique blend of knowledge and experience that they can apply in their own teaching careers with children with SEN worldwide.

During the first year students can attend courses in special education and research methods. The second year is dedicated to intensive teaching practice and allows students to follow their academic interests (teaching students with different types of disabilities or special needs). The key topics covered by the program are: Issues of inclusive and special education, education and support of children and students with special educational needs/disability, Educational work with heterogeneous groups of pupils at school and in free-time activities, assessment and collaboration in multidisciplinary teams.

Graduates of the program are successful and quality special education teachers in different types of school settings, counselling institutions, and organizations that provide social services and NGOs. They may work as free time activity teachers, kindergarten teachers and many more.

Graduates of the program will:

- Develop skills in teaching and counselling students with special needs and their families.
- Learn how to use new technology (including alternative and augmentative communication) to enhance the learning process of children with SEN.
- Acquire communication and collaboration skills to work in multidisciplinary teams supporting teaching and learning opportunities for students with disabilities.
Doctoral Degree Program

Art Education

The Art Education program focuses on socialization of fine arts. Students have the chance to develop their interpretive competences and to enhance their creativity. They explore the use of various information media, benefits of art therapy, the aesthetics and theory of art education and learn to create connections between philosophy of the 20th century and psychology with art. Students will learn how to communicate the art to the international public and develop their professional competences such as organization skills by designing and organizing events. Students are encouraged to do both theoretical and applied research in the Central European art context.

Graduates are successful researchers at universities, managers of exhibition institutions and in different educational settings and communicate art to different social groups.

Some examples of research topics are:
- The creative aspect in art of young people with SEN
- Personality and professional competences of gallery educators
- The role of electronic media in marketing art gallery activities
- Gallery activities in Central Europe
- Symbols in the artistic expression of children
- Visual communication and postmodernism
- The importance and position of the moving image in teaching of art
The Department of Art Education offers Bachelor’s and Master’s degree study programs of Teacher Training for Primary and Secondary Schools including Art Education and Gallery Education and Mediation of Art. It also offers a doctoral degree study program in Art Education in English.

The department is very active and successful in organizing art exhibitions. Since 2010 the Department of Art Education has been in charge of an ambitious artistic and art-education project called Brno Art Weeks in cooperation with all important galleries and museums in the city of Brno. There are many exhibitions, openings, lectures, workshops gallery animations and other creative events for the public and students during the whole week. The members of the department cooperate on international projects with Friedrich Alexander University Erlangen-Nürnberg in Germany and Strzemiński Academy of Fine Arts Łódź.
Doctoral Degree Program

Education

The doctoral study program is a joint program between the Institute for Research in School Education and the Department of Education. The program aims to prepare students for high-quality research in the field of education. The curriculum is based on the great tradition of both educational research in the Czech Republic as well as current international research accomplishments. The primary focus is placed on methodology of educational research, especially the relations between theory and practice, general didactics and subject-based didactics, and curriculum assessment. Students will learn how to use mix methods, video-based methodology, comparative methodology and interdisciplinary approaches to research of teacher education. International students are welcome and local students are highly encouraged to gain international experience through Erasmus+ and other scholarship opportunities in and outside of Europe.

Graduates are successful researchers and scholars qualified to teach at the university level. They hold managerial positions at secondary and primary schools, and some have become policy makers at the local, national and international level.

Graduates will gain:

- Deep knowledge of both general and specific educational disciplines.
- Deep knowledge and skills of methodology and research design in education.
- Project management skills to initiate, design and implement research and all kinds of assessment in educational settings.
- Skills to present and communicate their research results to experts and the general public.
- Intercultural and interpersonal skills to cooperate with educators at home and abroad.

The Department of Education and the Institute for Research in School Education provide highly acclaimed research in the Czech Republic as well as internationally investigating curriculum, teaching and learning, teacher education. Partner institutions include: Institute of Education, University of London and The School of Psychology at the IDC, Herzliya (Israel), Centre for Teacher Education at the University of Vienna (Austria), University of Erlangen-Nuremburg (Germany), University of Agder (Norway), and many others.
Doctoral Degree Program

Special Education

The aim of the program is to prepare professionals for research and teaching at institutions of higher education in the field of Special Education with a focus on speech therapy, deaf education, education of students with physical, intellectual or visual impairments, severe and multiple disabilities. Students can also specialize in adult special education or prevention of substance abuse. The program aims to prepare highly qualified specialists who will be able to conduct independent research aimed at improving the lives of people with special needs. The doctoral study program of Special Education is an interdisciplinary one and is provided in cooperation with other departments. The courses include philosophy of education, research methodology, pathopsychology, and inclusive education.

Graduates of the doctoral study program in Special education are successful experts in special education at institutions of higher education, researchers in scientific institutions, and professionals in government agencies and non-governmental institutions supporting people with special education needs/disabilities.

Graduates will gain:

- Deep knowledge of Special education as a science, its development and contemporary research issues
- Deep knowledge and skills in selected research methods (both quantitative and qualitative) with application in Special education
- Deep knowledge of important theories, concepts and methods, which are crucial for education and research in the selected specialization (e.g. physical disability, deaf education, Autism spectrum disorders, etc.)
- Project management skills to propose, plan and deliver research projects and obtain funds for implementation of independent and collaborative research
- Skills to deliver presentations of research outcomes for international audiences and scientific writing skills with the aim to publish in scientific journals locally and abroad
Doctoral Degree
Program

Social Education

The doctoral study at the Department of Social Education covers a wide range of issues related to education, society and global world, namely: multicultural education, development education, community education, leisure time, social pathology, and drama education. The programme aims to provide students with competences to empower and support socially disadvantaged groups. Graduates become research-oriented experts who are able to apply their knowledge and professional skills in action research and contribute to community change on the organizational or policy level.

Students will gain a thorough knowledge as well as professional experience through participation in a wide variety of community based research projects, international research projects, and developmental projects implemented in Ukraine and Angola (e.g. constructing education centers to support local children and youth). Doctoral students learn how to use up-to-date research frameworks such as Critical discursive analysis (CDA), Constructive Grounded Theory (CGT), Meaning Constitution Analysis (MCA), and participate in the development of other research methods with the senior faculty. Students develop their teamwork and leadership skills and become acquainted with a number of teaching methods and strategies to become change agents in various school settings.

Graduates of the program will:

\ - Develop enhanced social responsibility and civic participation
\ - Gain high-quality research skills
\ - Develop critical and reflective perspectives on diversity and human rights issues
\ - Develop international, intercultural and global competencies
\ - Acquire leadership skills and personal integrity
\ - Develop creativity and social innovation
The Department of Social Education is involved in international and intercultural research and development projects such as The Transformation of Ukrainian Education System in cooperation with Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv and Ukrainian Catholic University in Lvov, Universities in Yalta and Simferopol. It is a partner institution to University of Vienna in a European project called School Where I am Human. The department focuses on fostering tolerance and anti-racism, and provides support to migrant children seeking a new or temporary home in the Czech Republic. The department has significantly contributed to the improvement education of local Roma children in Brno by training teacher assistants and developing a number of support mechanisms, such as the program of Active Tutoring – supporting children and youth in their family setting to be successful at school. Part of the department called The Institute of The Theatre of the Oppressed brings together both faculty and students in unique acting projects over topics such as gender, power, oppression, and empowerment.
For Applicants Interested in Short-term Study Abroad and Exchange

1. Students applying for exchange programs (through Erasmus+, ISEP or university-wide bilateral agreements) should contact the Centre for International Cooperation of Masaryk University (czs.muni.cz)

2. Students applying for internships (Erasmus+) or for exchange study programs via Faculty of Education agreements, Visegrad Scholarship Program, CEEPUS or as “Freemovers” should contact the International Relations Office at the Faculty of Education: internationaloffice@ped.muni.cz

All applicants need to submit an e-application with the following documents:
\ CV (resume)
\ Cover Letter
\ Transcript of Records
\ Proof of English/Czech language competence
\ Learning Agreement
\ Letter of Recommendation

Deadline for Applications: see the website

Contact:
International Office of Faculty of Education
Website: http://www.ped.muni.cz/
Email: internationaloffice@ped.muni.cz
Skype: Faculty of Education_MU
For Applicants Interested in Degree Programs

Admission Requirements:
All applicants have to submit an e-application and follow the admission requirements as it is stated on our website (http://www.ped.muni.cz/), such as:

\ Provide an officially recognized secondary school diploma by the Czech Ministry of Education for undergraduate programs (the document must have a nostrification)
\ Provide an officially recognized Bachelor’s and Master’s diploma by a Czech public university (the document must have a nostrification)
\ Transcript of Records
\ CV (resume)
\ Cover Letter
\ Letter of Recommendation
\ Proof of English Language Competence

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<th>Bachelor’s and Master’s Programs</th>
<th>Doctoral Programs</th>
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<td>Deadline for Applications</td>
<td>30th of April (for fall term)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition Fee</td>
<td>3000 EUR/academic year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application Fee</td>
<td>15 EUR</td>
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Living Brno!

Brno was recently voted in the top 10 of alternative European destinations by The Guardian newspaper. The Moravian city of Brno has a lot to offer to you as an international student from bars, to clubs, to nature, to history... and so much more!

My biggest passion is travelling and meeting new people and I always take every possible opportunity to go somewhere new and exciting.

The reason why I am here at the Faculty of Education at Masaryk University is because I was presented with an extraordinary opportunity to help in the much needed internationalization of this faculty while getting on the job experience. I think Brno is a hidden gem of the Czech Republic, a great student city, with great food, drinks and music. Brno is a great starting point for exploring "Central Europe" with major cities only two hours away at the most plus there’s so much to do here too!

Mike Charles Lacey, International student intern from The Hague University
In the city of Brno there are plenty of sites to see and explore. One of the most prominent features of Brno is Spilberk Castle. Spilberk Castle lies on top of one of the highest hills in Brno which gives visitors an amazing panoramic view of the city. Another prominent feature of Brno is the baroque cathedral of St. Peters where you can climb to the top of the church to get another angle of Brno. Brno can also boast some spectacular cultural sites and events as well. Festivals happen all year round in Brno, from firework competitions, to midnight museums, to music festivals to wine festivals. There are also opportunities to watch the ballet and theatre performances at the plentiful theatre houses that are dotted around Brno.

One of the most quintessential parts of any students' time at university is spent at the bars and clubs. Brno can be considered as a hidden gem for its nightlife. The trams are frequent and always on time with tram routes covering most of the city. After the trams stop running for the day then the night buses start to operate all night. The opportunity to explore other parts of Europe couldn't be easy than Brno as a starting point. It is centrally located in close proximity to Vienna, Austria, Bratislava, Slovakia, Prague and finally, Budapest, Hungary. There is a range of possibilities for you as an international student to explore more of Central Europe. (Mike Lacey)
As an international student, it is always great if you have the chance to meet friendly Czech locals whom speak a good level of English. In conjunction with the Faculty of Education at Masaryk University, a few Czech students started an English Club where people can come, relax and practice their English. The English Club usually organizes exciting special events to make practicing English fun while being able to explore new parts of Brno.

The International Student Club (ISC) was set up to help incoming new international and exchange students settle into student life at Masaryk University with the aim of better involvement of the exchange students. The ISC organizes plenty of activities throughout the academic year such as Country Presentations, Language Courses, Trips & Excursions and much more.
Centre for International Cooperation

International students and scholars may find help with central international office of Masaryk University: The Centre for International Cooperation (CIC) which is responsible for the internationalization of the Masaryk University as a whole. It administrates all exchange programs for students, teachers, and administrative staff, prepares and runs short-term and semester-long English-language programs, and summer schools. CIC is responsible for the promotion, establishment and maintenance of bilateral links with foreign universities as well as activities carried out within the framework of international university networks.

Thanks to the joint International Volunteering project with Brno Expat Centre – a number of international expats living in Brno help the academics with their English language skills by proofreading text, teaching English etc.) providing free consultations in different fields according to their expertise. Other international student volunteers co-organize the International Student Club and contribute to a diversity friendly culture and climate of the institution.
This booklet was published thanks to the help of Mike Lacey, proofreading of Tiffany Byrd, the design touch of Studio 18D, the organization skills of Lucie Vikova and international mind of Eva Janebova.

Masaryk University, 2016

Photos: Michaela Dvořáková, Petr Kamenický and Photo archive of Faculty of Education MU