

OCTOBER 2020

# MUNI FACULTY OF SOCIAL STUDIES

monthly  
newsletter for  
International  
Students



## IN THIS NEWSLETTER

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### Information on:

- **Enrolment**
  - **Covid testing and entry requirements**
  - **Things to do in Brno**
  - **General Academic information**
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## START OF A SEMESTER

by **ErinAnna Smith**

Coordinator for PR of Mobility and English Study Programs

Dear Students,

I hope this finds you well as we start the new semester. This year will no doubt be different but know that the University and Faculty are doing their best to make sure all students have a successful semester.

If you have any questions regarding the online learning please reach out to your the study advisors for your program if you are in a full degree student, or for our visiting students on Erasmus, the [Erasmus Coordinators](#) for the department.

For those of you in Brno, we hope you enjoy exploring the city, particularly while the weather is still nice. For those of you joining us from home, we look forward to welcoming you in Brno soon.

All the best,  
Erin

# EXPLORE BRNO

## Recommended trails

Fall is officially here and a number of recommended hiking trails have been highlighted by CZS around Brno. You can find the different trail routes at mapy.cz here:

[bit.ly/BrnoNature](https://bit.ly/BrnoNature). If you feel like you do not have warm enough clothes, you can get fairly cheap second hand clothes at the Genesis stores you see around the city. Otherwise there are many outdoor shops around Brno such as Rock Point, HUDYsport, A3 Sport, and Sport Direct.



# THRIFT STORES AROUND BRNO

## A wide range of second hand stores

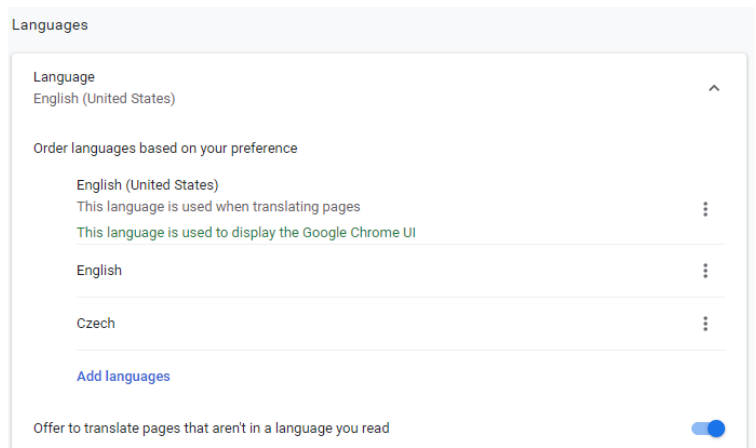
Below is a list of recommended second hand/thrift stores to check out in Brno recommended by some locals. Most of the places will not speak English, just to be prepared.

- [Textile House on Poštovská](#)
- [Charley](#) on Pionyrská tram stop, also a bit pricier because it focuses on higher-end brands.
- From Pionyrská tram stop up to the north in the direction to Kralovo Pole, on the Stefanikova street, cca 20 metres from Charley there is this second hand shop called just "**Sekáč**". This is probably one of the very few second hand shops of "old" style in Brno - prices are generally low, a lot of stuff to go through but sometimes you get a very good find.... however, the lady probably does not speak English.
- [Retro Komnata](#)
- Online platform - <https://www.vinted.cz/> you can browse clothes online, then if you like something, send the seller a message - if you need to know the measurements etc., you can also do a personal meeting where she will give the thing to you and you pay in cash.
- [Veronica shops](#) - it's basically a charity shop, they sell all kinds of stuff including clothes and use the revenue to support environmental projects in South Moravia
- Regular second hand markets called [Hadrarna](#) on Facebook.

# GOOGLE CHROME

## translator plugin - for easy translations on websites

If you do not use google chrome, we would suggest you use chrome and turn on the option in settings to offer to translate pages. This will be very helpful (particularly for many of the websites mentioned above) to translate the pages. The translations are not perfect, however, it will help understand the general information.



# TECHNOLOGY

## Successfully learn online

### WIFI

Students who are in University residence halls, or university facilities will be able to access the University internet by using either Eduroam or the MUNI network. For information on how to connect, please follow this [website](#).

### Remote Access

Students who wish to access the University network remotely i.e. not from University premises will need to use VPN, EZproxy, or Shibboleth to sign onto the network. To understand the pros and cons from each method and to download the software, please visit the [IT website](#).

### Computers

Due to University regulations regarding Coronavirus, the University computer rooms have been closed. Students who therefore experience technological difficulties are expected to communicate and problems they have regarding technology in a timely manner to their department and/or [vice-dean Suchý](#). The Faculty may be able to find solutions for students, however resources may be limited, and we can only provide support if we hear directly from students.

# ZOOM RECAP

## Summary from Wednesday, September 23

All full degree students were invited to a Zoom call on Wednesday, September 23 to talk about the policies enacted at the faculty for the fall semester. Over 50 students attended the call and many topics were discussed including expectations for online teaching and resources for students.

Questions were raised by students regarding scholarships, access to technology, and tuition. Information on scholarships for full degree students can be found [here](#), additionally all students (including exchange) whose permanent residence is outside of Brno can apply for an accommodation scholarship each semester. Students will be notified in the IS. Students who are experiencing technological difficulties with online teaching should be in contact with their study coordinators so appropriate support can be given, if possible. Lastly, questions regarding tuition were raised. The faculty will not be providing discounts due to the switch to online teaching. This has been discussed both at the faculty and university leadership and is a University wide decision.

Teachers have been working since the summer to put classes online and to have successful courses, if any of the classes are not meeting your expectations, please write [vice-dean Suchý](#) and he will be in touch with the necessary departments.

Please look for an email in a few weeks inviting you to the next Zoom call in November.

# LIBRARY

[library.fss.muni.cz/](http://library.fss.muni.cz/)

The FSS library is open Monday-Thursday from 9am-5pm and on Fridays from 9am-2pm. Students can use the study rooms in the library, sit at the desks, or take out books as normal, however the computers cannot be used. Students can access e-resources on through the library [website](#). For any questions regarding the library, drop by during their open hours, or you can email them at: [library@fss.muni.cz](mailto:library@fss.muni.cz).

# ISIC CARDS

## Renewing and purchasing

**Returning students** MUST renew their ISIC cards by purchasing a new sticker for their card. Without a revalidation sticker to 12/2021, the ISIC school card is invalid for the upcoming year! Students can purchase the sticker for FSS in the IS system, it is called "Revalidační přelepka ISIC". It costs 180CZK.

**New students** will take their photo during orientation week, however they would have needed to purchase the ISIC card. Full degree students: for 180CZK, it is called "Průkaz ISIC – první průkaz (prezenční studium) na Fakultě sociálních studií"

Erasmus students: exchange students pay 380 CZK and they should follow instructions from their coordinator regarding payment.



# REGISTRATION AND ENROLMENT

## Enrolment in classes is still possible.

**Term Enrolment:** August 1-October 12

**Enrolment in Courses:** September 1-October 4

**Course enrolment changes:** October 5-18

A full look at the courses offered at FSS can be found [here](#), however full degree students should consult with their study plan.

## LANGUAGE AND SPORTS CLASSES

### Open to FSS Full degree and exchange students

Students can enrol in the Physical Education courses offered by University Sports Centre and take classes such as Zumba, Table Tennis, Football, etc. To see the full list of courses, visit the FSpS [website](#). Many will still be offered in person this term. If they are full, check back until the enrolment period ends to see if any spots open.

Full degree students are also able to enrol in introductory language classes taught in English at the Faculty in French and Spanish for free. Other [language courses](#) are offered at the Language Centre in Italian, Chinese, Swahili, German, and Czech, however there is a fee for these courses.

## PRIOR DEGREE RECOGNITION

### Required for all NEW Full Degree Students

According to Czech law, all full degree students must have their prior degrees recognized in order to study in a degree program in the Czech Republic. FSS students can submit this recognition to Klára when they arrive, however they should be sure to have all the necessary paperwork with them from their home country.

To view the required documents, please visit our [website here](#).

# TESTING FOR COVID-19

## where to go

We've been recommended that Cytogenetická laboratoř Brno at Veveří 39 is a good location to go to be tested. They may not speak English when you go there, however there is an online form you can complete to schedule an appointment. You can either go there to be tested, or they can come to your residence to perform the test (for an extra cost) if you are required to not leave. Please note that this test is only to see if you currently have Coronavirus, it DOES NOT test antibodies.

Other testing locations can be found [here](#).

# CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

## Regulations by Government and University

### Governmental Regulations

- Facemasks are required in all public transport and indoors.
- Sitting at tables inside restaurants, cafes, bars, etc. is limited to 6 people.
- Indoor events are limited to 10 people.
- Outdoor events are limited to 20 people.

### University and FSS Regulations

- The University will be using a "[traffic-light risk rating system](#)" for the semester. Currently the whole University has a 'yellow' rating, however it is possible for different faculties to have different risk ratings throughout the semester. Students will be able to view the current ratings in their IS account.
- All classes are online for the whole semester.
- Facemasks must be worn within University buildings.
- The FSS library is open, however the computers cannot be used.

# REPORTING POSITIVE TEST RESULTS

## Informing MUNI of positive coronavirus results

Anyone who tests positive for coronavirus will be contacted by the Hygienic Department with the phone number you provided. Please do not change phone numbers if you are waiting for results.

If students test positive for Coronavirus they must do the following.

1. Report your positive test in [IS System](#).
2. Contact your study department and the IRO office at FSS that you have tested positive.

If you live in the university dormitories, the dormitories will be alerted by the FSS IRO office that you have tested positive and they will contact you if new arrangements need to be made.

# MEET THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE STAFF



## LUDMILA POLÁŠKOVÁ

Study support for full degree BA and MA students.

email: lpolasko@fss.muni.cz  
room 1.16



## DAGMAR HÁBOVÁ

Erasmus Coordinator, study support for PhD students

email: habova@fss.muni.cz  
room 1.14



## ERINANNA SMITH

Non-academic support

email: smith@czs.muni.cz  
room 1.14



## KLÁRA NĚMEČKOVÁ

Assists students with degree recognition and visas

email: 217236@mail.muni.cz  
room 1.14

### Contact Hours - Ludmila

Monday: 13:00-15:00  
Tuesday: 13:00-15:00  
Wednesday: 9:00-11:00  
Thursday: 9:00-11:00

### Contact Hours - Klára & Dagmar

Monday: 13:00-15:00  
Tuesday: 13:00-15:00  
Wednesday: 9:00-11:00  
Thursday: 13:00-15:00  
Friday: 9:00-11:00

## COURSES

Don't forget to change your courses by **October 18**. After this date no changes to your course schedule (adding or dropping) can be made. If you have any questions about a course, or being enrolled, please reach out to the appropriate departmental coordinator.

## ERASMUS DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATORS

- **Environmental Studies:** Zbyněk Ulčák, Ph.D. (ulcak@fss.muni.cz)
- **Media Studies and Journalism:** Michal Tkaczyk, Ph.D. (245062@mail.muni.cz)
- **International Relations and European Studies:** Veronika Zapletalová, Ph.D. (137853@mail.muni.cz)
- **Political Science:** Michal Pink, Ph.D. (pink@fss.muni.cz)
- **Psychology:** Michal Čevelíček, Ph.D. (173055@mail.muni.cz)
- **Social Policy and Work:** Dr. Blanka Plasová (plasova@fss.muni.cz)
- **Sociology (Gender Studies and Social Anthropology):** Csaba Szaló, Ph.D. (szalo@fss.muni.cz)