

MARCH 2024

MUNI FACULTY OF SOCIAL STUDIES

Monthly
Newsletter for
International
Students



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WELCOME (BACK) STUDENTS!

Dear students,

We are delighted to welcome you back in the spring semester. As the weather is getting more pleasant and the days are getting longer, it is a nice time for a walk in Brno and explore its surroundings.

Easter holidays will come in the end of March and the public holidays are on 29 March (Good Friday) and 1st April (Easter Monday).

All the best
International Relations Office

PAST EVENTS AT THE FACULTY

Interviews with professors, alumni and current students

Are you curious how started FSS professors their careers?

Read our FSS pages and [read the interviews](#) with the them. You will find more information about their current projects and recommended courses.

Every professor has a message for our students therefore read the whole interview as the precious part may be in the end.



We had a unique opportunity to interview professor [Jeffrey C. Alexander](#) from Yale University. Do not miss this interview as you may read more detailed information about cultural sociology.

FSS Student Radio - English interviews and podcast team is looking for new members



Would you like to have interviews with professors, alumni, current students, fun facts or record a podcast episode?

Please contact [Michaela Nespěchalová](mailto:Michaela.Nespěchalová@uni.cz) at 63272@muni.cz



MODEL UNITED NATIONS AT FSS



We are happy to share all the key details for MUNI MUN 2024:

Dates: April 12th to 14th, 2024

Venue: Faculty of Social Studies, Masaryk University. Joštova 218/10, 602 00 Brno-střed

Registration is open until March 17th.

For more information and to register for the conference, please visit our [website Model United Nations](#) | MUNI FSS or contact directly at masarykmun@gmail.com.

FSS MATES - SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS!

Bring Czech speaker to the appointment

The Faculty of Social Studies has created a support system for students when they have appointments at governmental offices or doctors to provide translation services.

Please note, the FSS Mate is not responsible to make an appointment for students, nor to help students fill out applications (i.e. it is the students responsibility that they have all the required documentations required of the appointment).

Students can start requesting the services now, more information can be found [here](#).

Social Media

Faculty Social Media:

[fss.muni.eng](https://www.facebook.com/fss.muni.eng)

[fss_masaryk](https://www.instagram.com/fss_masaryk)

[MUFSS](https://www.youtube.com/MUFSS)

[MUNI_FSS](https://twitter.com/MUNI_FSS)

University Social Media:

[fss.muni.eng](https://www.facebook.com/fss.muni.eng)

[masaryk_university](https://www.instagram.com/masaryk_university)

[MasarykUniversity](https://www.youtube.com/MasarykUniversity)

[MasarykUni](https://twitter.com/MasarykUni)

RENEWING VISAS AND WORK VISAS

Be aware of the expiration

Students are responsible for ensuring their residency in the Czech Republic stays active. We urge students to look at their visa or residence permit expiration dates and plan ahead. Please book your appointment in advance via this link <https://frs.gov.cz/en>, appointments are very often taken for several weeks so it's not possible to book the appointment last minute. If you are not able to book the appointment, please go to the MOI office early in the morning (even before the opening hours) and be prepared that you'll wait for several hours.

It is necessary to submit an application before your current visa/resident permit expires, if you'll be even 1 day late, there is nothing to do and you'll have to leave the country and start the process from the beginning at the Czech embassy in your home country.

Once an appointment is scheduled, students can use our new FSS Mates program to attend the appointment and help with any translation problems.

Renewing your student visa/residence permit

As a reminder, you cannot submit the application to renew your study visa until 120 days before the expiration date (i.e. if it is for September 4, you earliest you can apply is May 4), however, it is always good to review what you will need for the application (proof of funds, health insurance, etc.) so you can plan ahead. The required amount of funds has now increased to 115,810 CZK. However, due to current inflation, we recommend having at least 120,000 CZK. Please remember that all documents are accepted only as original with stamp and signature and in the Czech language.

- For information about applying for a Long Term Residence Permit for the first time, please go to the MOI website [here](#). It is necessary to submit the application personally.
- For information about applying for extending a Long Term Residence Permit, please go to the MOI website [here](#).

Renewing your student visa/residence permit

Students who are renewing a residence permit (the plastic card) are able to submit the [documents](#) via registered mail (in Czech „doporučeně“)- during these times we urge you to use this option. Please send them also „žádost o sdělení čísla jednacího“ (to get your application number) and don't forget you need to send also the stamp to pay it (in Czech „kolek“, you can buy it at the post office). If you have questions about this process, you can write to Klára Němečková at 217236@muni.cz and she will help advise you.

Are you graduating? 'Purpose of seeking employment' visas allows you to stay in the Czech Republic for up to 9 months to find a job and transition to a work visa.

Foreign nationals who are residing in the territory of the Czech Republic with a long-term residence permit for the purpose of studies and who successfully completed their university education are eligible to file an application for a long-term residence permit for the purpose of seeking employment or, as the case may be, an application for a long-term residence permit for the purpose of starting a business. For more information on the requirements for obtaining a visa for the 'purposes of seeking employment, please visit the MOI [website](#).

Last year we organized a presentation to discuss this visa with the Brno Expat Centre, you can see it [here](#). We may offer it again and if so will inform you.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS AT FSS

This month we will be starting our social events for International Students. In April and May, we will be offering different events. We hope to have you join us!

- International lunch - Friday 5th April 2024 - 12:00 -14:00- Atrium. Students will cook and bring their national dishes. Please register [here](#) as we get enough tables.
- April - hike - 27th April 2024- place and more details will be announced in April
- May - BBQ at Špilberk park- more details will be announced in April



GRADUATION CEREMONY

Bachelor's and Master's graduations will take place on March 21 and 22, 2024. Feel free to join your fellow International Students graduate in the audience.



Student menu in the canteen



The unified offer of five meals a day and improved premises, along with a new name and logo for the canteen at Moravské náměstí, awaits diners at Masaryk University's canteens from March 1. Every day they will prepare two discounted menus (soup included), one meat and the other vegetarian or vegan, for 85 CZK for students. Come and taste. You can also use the ordering system to ensure that you get your food even after opening hours. Check [this website](#) for more information.

EASTER TRADITIONS

29 March-1 April

The Czech Republic has some pretty unique traditions typically, Easter weekend starts with Zelený čtvrtek (Green Thursday) with the monuments lit up green...and green beer is on tap. For those of you who are familiar with Christian holidays, Good Friday, White Saturday and Easter Sunday are for Christians the most important holidays.

However, Easter Monday is one of the more unique aspects of Czech (and Slovak) culture. This time of year you would see pomlázka (whips) sold throughout the city. Feelings on this tradition are very mixed, as it originated during pagan times when boys would whip girls lightly on the legs to chase away illness, bad spirits and to bring about health and youth for the next year. This tradition is still kept in villages around the country, though fewer people believe the tradition should remain. Although some boys and men strive to keep the skills of creating the pomlázka - maybe the whipping part can be left behind. :)



Czech Easter recipes

Try to cook or bake some traditional Czech recipes

- Easter sweet bread (mazanec)
- Easter sweet lamb (beránek)
- Czech Easter stuffing (nádivka).

For the recipes check this [link](#) or that [link](#).



EVENTS IN BRNO

Mint market 16-17 March 2024



After a winter break, Mint Market returns to Tržnice Brno on the weekend of March 16th and 17th. All three floors will be filled with fresh fashion, jewelry, design, delicacies, natural cosmetics, and other meticulously crafted products. The event will be open on both Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 to 17:00. Admission is, as always, free and without barriers.

Theatre night - 23 March 2024

Theatre night will enable the visitors to see open theatres in the whole Czech Republic. You can visit a new theatre Mikro-teatro which has opened its new permanent stage in the premises of the former monastery on Josefská Street. For the details of the program [check this website](#).



Water tanks - Žlutý kopec

Brno's "must see" is located under the unassuming grassy area of the revitalized park on Žlutý kopec and offers an experience like from another world of long-lost civilizations. Check the opening hours and [more information here](#).



EVENTS IN BRNO

Easter market on Náměstí svobody 22-31 March

Náměstí Svobody will come alive from March 22nd to 31st with Easter festivities. They will offer craft products, refreshments, and a musical program.

This year's spring markets will feature forty stalls offering crafts and handmade products, as well as treats and refreshments. The space will also be dedicated to the non-profit sector and live musical performances. The stalls will be open every day from 10:00 to 22:00, and simultaneously, there will be daily accompanying programs on stage from 16:00 to 19:00, consisting mainly of performances by folk and ethnographic ensembles

