

MUNI FACULTY OF SOCIAL STUDIES

Monthly
Newsletter for
International
Students



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A QUICK MESSAGE...

Tempus fugit. A while ago we welcomed you at the beginning of the new academic year and in a couple of weeks, we will celebrate Christmas and will enter the new year 2023.

Let me wish you Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May it be nice, peaceful, and full of love. I wish you all the best in all endeavors ahead.

I would also like to use this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to Erin A. Smith who is leaving our team. I want to thank her for her spirit and unlimited energy invested into many activities we organized for you and for all her contribution to the further internationalization of the environment of the Faculty of Social Studies. While I am sad, she is leaving the FSS, I look forward to our continuing cooperation in her new position at CZS. Dear Erin, thank you!

Petr Suchý
Vice-Dean for Internationalization & Student Affairs

FSS CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



9 December 12:00

Join us to celebrate the end the semester for a small Christmas celebration. Homemade cookies made by FSS staff members will be shared as we all take a break before the exam period begins with a small arts and crafts opportunity.

Please let us know if you plan to attend so we can ensure to bake enough cookies by filling out this [form](#) by 5 December

OPEN CALL: NEW AMBASSADOR POSITIONS

Apply by 10 December

There are three FSS student ambassador positions open this semester for the programmes of [Conflict and Democracy Studies](#), [Global Challenges: Society, Politics, Environment](#), and [Politics, Media, and Communication](#).

If you are a current student of one of these programmes we invite you to apply. Ambassadors assist in the promotion of the faculty, answer questions from prospective students, and participate in events organized by the university. Ambassadors receive a stipend each semester.

To apply:

- Send a cover letter (reason why you think you would be a good ambassador), and CV to Erin Anna Smith at smith@czs.muni.cz.
- Select students will be asked to an interview and will be confirmed by the programme guarantors.

GOODBYE FROM ERIN

I will be leaving the Faculty of Social Studies at the end of December. I want to wish all of the students and staff continued success in their studies and time at the faculty. Thank you to those who have participated in the various events over the years that I have helped organize. It has been great talking to you on the hikes, BBQs, academic discussions, and especially at the orientation week tour when I got to see you experience the faculty for the first time.

I am not leaving Brno - so if you see me around please feel free to say hi - and if you come to our Christmas Cookie Celebration on 9 December, I look forward to talking with you.

Best wishes to all!

Erin

AUTUMN 2022 EXAM PERIOD

2 January - 12 February

Make sure you follow the instructions from your teachers of how to sign up for your exams. If you have signed up for an exam date and decide to take the exam a different day, be sure to cancel the original date. If you do not, you will be listed as not attending and your final grade for the course may be effected.

SPRING 2022 SEMESTER

Important dates

Apply for being Enrolled in the term: 2 January - 20 February 2023

Term Enrolment: 1- 20 February 2023

Registration for courses: 2 January (17:00 CEST) - 31 January 2023

(please note registration opens by seniority, you may not be able to register the first day.)

Course enrolment period: 1 February (17:00 CEST) - 12 February 2023

Enrolment for seminar groups: 1 February (17:00 CEST) - 26 February 2023

Course Enrolment changes: 13-26 February 2023

Timetable released: 24 January 2023

Teaching: 13 February - 14 May 2023

Examination period: 15 May - 25 June 2023

BA and MA state examination period: 22 May - 23 June 2023

FINISHING YOUR STUDIES?

Make sure you know the deadlines!

In order to sit for your final state exam all classes must have their grades *at least* 3 working days prior to the state exam or thesis defense date (whichever is earlier).

	IREP (BA)	CDS	EPS	IREP (MA)	PSPHR	CSOC	ESOC
Apply for State exam	6. 11. 2022	1. 10. - 30. 11. 2022	6. 11. 2022	6. 11. 2022	15. 11. 2022	11. 12. 2022	11. 12. 2022
submission of the final thesis to the IS archive	11. 12. 2022	3. 1. 2022	2. 1. 2023	18. 12. 2022	13. 12. 2022	2. 1. 2023	2. 1. 2023
Defense of the final thesis	12. - 13. 1. 2023	25. 1. 2023	25. - 26. 1. 2023	16. 1. 2023	25. 1. 2023	18. 1. 2023	18. 1. 2023
Dates of state exam	20. 1. 2023	25. 1. 2023	25. - 26. 1. 2023	16. 1. 2023	27. 1. 2023	18. 1. 2023	18. 1. 2023

OPENING HOURS IN DECEMBER

Study Department, International Office, Library

Study Department: Closed 18 December to January 2

International Office: Closed 22 December to January 2 - available via email 28-30 December

Library:

- until 17 December: regular opening hours
- 19 - 22 December: open 10:00-16:00
- 23 December – 1 January 2023: closed

GRADUATION

dates to save

Graduation ceremony traditionally takes place about 2 months after the state exams. An email will come from the study Department to sign up for graduation. The graduation dates are as follows

- January state exams: March 23-24
- May/June state exams: 1st week in September

VISA UPDATES

Proof of funds to increase

We have been informed that the amount required for the proof of funds will increase in January, however at this time we do not know how much it will be. We will put an update on our website when we have the information.

MUNI
FSS



Model United Nations

Join the Model United Nations as a Delegate!

Please apply by January 30

MUN is a simulation of the United Nation's different committees. Our club hosts conferences that debate on real-world issues and create aware global citizens.

- Improve your organization skills and help us prepare a United Nations simulation
- Improve your English debating and research skills
- Practice public speaking, teamwork, negotiation, research, and writing skills in a safe and structured environment

DECEMBER HOLIDAYS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

5 December is St. Nicholas Day (Mikuláš). On this day you will typically see people dressed up as one of three characters: St. Nicholas (Mikuláš), the Angel (anděl) who represents the Good, and the Devil (čert) representing the Evil and will visit children. The characters will ask children if they will be good, and children should say yes and sing a song to get sweets.

The Christmas holiday season is very important to the Czech Republic. The Christmas days last 3 days, 24-26 December. Christmas Eve in the Czech Republic is the most celebrated day. The typical day will be spent decorating the tree, baking vánočka (Christmas bread) and eating the traditional meal of Carp and Potato Salad. After dinner, many families will sing Christmas carols and open presents.

There are a series of Christmas traditions and superstitions that are followed throughout the years which can be found [here](#).

25-26 December are typically spent now a days relaxing with family.

HOLIDAY GIFTS

Bring a bit of Brno back

Not sure what counts as a "traditional Czech gift" a great starting place is the Christmas markets for your friends and family back home, otherwise you can always check out these suggestions from Brno Daily:

- Krteček – Little Mole (books as well as stuffed animals and figurines)
- Bohemian crystal glass
- Alphonse Mucha themed souvenirs
- Czech literature (English translations are available)
- Kometa merchandise

WHO IS JEŽÍŠEK?

Czech Christmas Traditions

In the Czech Republic it is Ježíšek (baby Jesus) who brings children their presents, not Santa Claus. In some families it is believed that Ježíšek decorates the tree and leaves the presents while the children are eating dinner or playing outside. A ringing of the bell will tell him that he can come, which is why you see so many bells being sold in the Christmas markets. You can write your letter to Ježíšek and see if he will come and visit you :)

