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**History** ■ Work on the academic bachelor study project started in 2000. The project was submitted in 2003 for approval by the accreditation committee. Accreditation and approbation was received in 2003 for a regular full-time study programme in Physical Education and Sport, which consists of two fields of study: Sport and Fitness Specialist, and Sport and Leisure Time Tutor, under identification number Č.j. 33103/2003-30 issued on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2003. Classes began on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

The history of the present-day Palestra educational facility dates back to 1990, when an educational centre was established to provide retraining courses in physical education and sport. Based on the experience gained, and in response to the increasing demand for study programmes in this area, a project for a one-year study programme, and later for a two-year post-graduate study programme, was prepared and submitted for approval. This project received accreditation on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1992, and classes were launched on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1992 for a one-year study programme, and on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1993 for a two-year study programme.

In 1995 we submitted the College project for approval. Of the newly established private colleges, ours was the only one focusing on sport. Following accreditation on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1996, the Academy of Physical Education and Sport Palestra, College Ltd, offering the Sport Manager study programme, was included in the educational network of schools. Classes began on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1996.

On September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1999 tuition in the four-year part-time study programme was also launched.

The range of fields of study offered was extended in 2000, when the programme in Pedagogy of Leisure Time was approved for full-time and part-time study. Classes began on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001.

Throughout its existence, as an integral part of its lifelong training programme Palestra has organised training and re-training courses accredited by the Ministry of Education. The total number continues to increase in accordance with the demands of the labour market. At present we provide 18 accredited courses and 8 seminars.

In accordance with its principal focus, Palestra cooperates with numerous institutions in managing major sports events, e.g., Jizerská padesátka and the Prague International Marathon.

The college aims to keep and develop this tradition, in order to meet the modern demands placed on university education.

## Organisation of Studies

- VŠTVS PALESTRA is a private, recently accredited, non-university college, which enriches the range of educational opportunities to achieve a bachelor degree focusing on the area of physical education, sport and leisure time management. It follows up the tradition and experience gained in its nine-year existence as a College with a similar specialization. The curriculum is comparable with university education systems abroad. It is implemented in a credit form that is compatible with the European Credit Transfer System. It covers the following fields of study: Sport and Fitness Specialist, Sport and Leisure Time Management Educator, which are carried out in the form of a three-year bachelor study programme. The tuition in the first two semesters is unified and integral for both fields of study.

The aim and focus of the specialisation modules enables students, based on their own interest, to specialise in one of the two key fields of study, Sport and Fitness Specialist and Sport and Leisure Time Management Educationist.

With a view to the future careers of the graduates, substantial stress is put on the interaction between the theoretical aspect of specific courses and practical experience. For this reason, these modules include a substantial component of practical tuition and practical work.

The courses are split into three basic categories: compulsory, optional and elective, from which the student can select according to his/her interest and professional specialisation. A grade is awarded for the courses on the basis of an assessment, a classified assessment, an examination or a consolidated examination.

Credits are awarded for the courses taken. The current form of evaluation, including credits, is shown in the curriculum and in the thematic courses plan.

The graduates become specialists in a broad range of leisure time activities, organisers and managers of physical education and sport. The sport and fitness specialists can make a career in sports and training clubs, sport associations, regeneration centres and fitness centres, in the travel trade, or as specialist advisors in the field of health protection, hygiene and injury prevention in a wide range of institutions focusing on sports activities.

The graduates in Sport and Leisure Time Management become specialists in clubs for children, clubs for young tourists and technicians, and find work in after-school centres, school clubs, cultural and educational institutions for adults, in summer camps for children and in recreational facilities for adults, in nursery schools, charity organisations, social welfare facilities, humanitarian centres and refugee camps, in social organisations and in the travel trade and spa facilities, as consultants involved in free time activities, culture and physical education, as municipal or state employees.

**Conditions of admission to the College:**

- Secondary school graduation examination
- Oral interview about the selected field of study
- In the entrance examination, practical experience in sport and in teaching will be taken into consideration.
- Applicants are required present a medical fitness certificate and an affirmation that they have never been prosecuted for an immoral offence

The study programme is concluded by the state bachelor examination. Students can enrol for this examination after being awarded at least 190 credits. 15 credits for the presentation and defence of a bachelor project are included in the total amount. The detailed conditions of study are shown in the Study and Examination Codex.

Basic Statistical  
Data in Academic  
Year 2007/2008

■ <b>Total numer of students</b>	<b>207</b>
Total numer of graduates in 2008	52
Total numer of academic staff	13