



The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice

Jihočeská univerzita v Českých Budějovicích

Abbreviation in Czech: JU

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- History** ■ The University of South Bohemia in Ceske Budejovice was established by an Act of Parliament in 1991, when two unrelated and independent institutions - the College of Education and the Faculty of Agronomy (at that time a branch of the Agricultural University in Prague) - were merged. The Faculty of Biological Sciences (now the Faculty of Science), the Faculty of Theology, and the Faculty of Health and Social Studies were founded in November 1991 following a decision of the University Academic Senate. In 1996 the University structure was further extended by the Research Institute of Fish Culture and Hydrobiology and, 6 years later in 2002, by the Institute of Physical Biology. Two more faculties have been formed in the last two years; the Faculty of Philosophy was established January 1, 2006 and the Faculty of Economics was established January 1, 2007. In August, 2007, the Faculty of Biological Sciences extended its educational programmes and changed into the Faculty of Science.

The newly established faculties have a traditional and natural background in their respective areas. The origins of biological sciences in South Bohemia go back to 1985, when a regional centre of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences was established here to pursue research stimulated by the local environment. The roots of theological education can be traced back to the beginning of the nineteenth century. Theology was taught here until 1950, when it was forcibly interrupted by the communist regime. With these educational traditions, the University did not have to start from scratch, and the new faculties were able to recruit their staff primarily from the Academy of Sciences, local hospitals and religious institutions.

Structure of the Institution

- **The University comprises the following faculties, institutes and other units:**

Faculties:

- Faculty of Agriculture
- Faculty of Economics
- Faculty of Health and Social Studies
- Faculty of Theology
- Pedagogical Faculty
- Faculty of Philosophy
- Faculty of Science

Research Institutes:

- Institute of Physical Biology in Nové Hradý
- Research Institute of Fish Culture and Hydrobiology in Vodňany

In addition, the University structure also includes the following units:

Language Centre, European Information Centre, The British Centre, Goethe Zentrum, Libraries (about 437 000 books and about 920 journal titles), Centre of Information Technologies, Halls of Residence and Student Canteen, University Training farm.

Basic statistical data for the academic year 2007/2008:

- Total number of BSc., MSc. and Ph.D. programmes of studies: 145
- Total number of students: 11 120
- Number of students in bachelor study programmes: 6 149
- Number of students in master study programmes: 4 430
- Number of students in doctoral study programmes: 541
- Number of foreign students: 151
- Total number of graduates in 2007: 2 080
- Total number of academic staff: 813

Organization of Studies

- Students who have completed their secondary studies at a grammar school or at another secondary school, and who have passed their secondary school leaving examination (and hold the relevant "maturita" certificate) are eligible to apply for studies at the University. The credit system (European Credit Transfer and accumulation System) offers every student the opportunity to study on an interdisciplinary basis and to implement the learning process according to his/her individual interests, abilities and goals. Some of the study programmes allow for inter-faculty mobility of students.

The University offers a wide range of academic curricula leading to the following academic degrees:

- "Bakalář" - Bachelor (equivalent to Bachelor of Arts and/or Bachelor of Science); the overall duration of these programmes is three years and some programmes of this type of study are professionally oriented. Some bachelor studies are designed as the first stage leading to a Master Degree programmes.
- "Magistr" - (equivalent to Master of Arts and/or Master of Sciences, according to the programme)
- "Inženýr" - Engineer (equivalent to Master of Science)
- "Doktor" - (equivalent to Ph.D.)

Some faculties also provide continuing education, which may involve retraining courses, innovative courses and studies for seniors.

The studies are organised in two semesters within one academic year: the winter semester (September - January, with examinations in January and February); and the summer semester (February - May, with examinations in June - August).

Student Services

Accommodation for students is automatically provided at five halls of residence. The rooms have access to the academic computer network and to the Internet. The Student canteen at USB provides barrier-free access and in cooperation with dieticians it extends the choice of four meals by three kinds of dietary meals. The campus includes a Students' club, a University computer Laboratory, sporting facilities and an urban nature area. The sports facilities include gymnasiums, an athletics stadium, tennis courts, and volleyball and basketball facilities.

Students may use the services of libraries - each faculty has its own library. The library of the institutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences, including its electronic information system, is also available. A new central library building is under construction and will be open in 2010.

Information for Foreign Students

Foreigners seeking to join programmes taught in Czech may study under the same terms as those applicable to citizens of the Czech Republic. Foreigners who wish to join programmes taught in English and/or in German may study as fee-paying students. Those students apply directly to the faculty in which they are interested. Fees differ depending on the faculty and form of study. Besides full study programmes leading to a diploma, the Faculties organize numerous Summer Courses (e.g. in Bohemian Studies and Czech language for foreigners, Biophysics, Parasitology, Molecular Biology, etc.). Full information can be found on the www pages of the Univerzity.

Basic Statistical Data in Academic Year 2007/2008

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Total number of students	11 120
Number of students in bachelor study programmes	6 149
Number of students in master study programmes	4 430
Number of students in doctoral study programmes	541
Number of foreign students	151
Total number of graduates in 2007	2 080
Total number of academic staff	813