



University of Ostrava

Ostravská univerzita

Abbreviation in Czech: UO

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History

- The University of Ostrava was established on 28 September, 1991. The foundations of the University were laid as far back as 1953, with the opening of the Higher Pedagogical College in Opava, an institution training teachers for the second level of primary schools. When Ostrava's teacher training college (for future primary school teachers) was closed down, training was concentrated at a single workplace – the Pedagogical Institute in Ostrava, established in 1959. In 1964 the Institute gained the status of an independent Faculty of Education, which offered four-year teacher training degrees for the first and second levels of primary schools. With this step, Ostrava acquired a higher educational institution whose staff began to participate in academic and cultural life not only regionally, but nationwide. Later, the Faculty was strengthened by the introduction of a five-year degree training teachers for the third level of the education system. The establishment of the University of Ostrava represented an organic continuation of this tradition, and marked the culmination of long-lasting efforts to create a university with a strong humanities base to serve a densely populated region experiencing the wide-ranging consequences of its long-term focus on heavy industry.

Structure of the Institution

- **Faculties and Institutes of the University of Ostrava**
 - Faculty of Fine Arts
 - Faculty of Social Studies
 - Faculty of Health Studies

- Faculty of Arts
 - Pedagogical Faculty
 - Faculty of Science
- Institute for Research and Application of Fuzzy Modeling
 - European Social Work Research Institute

University Library

The University Library has made an important contribution to improvements in the quality of services for research. It is a public library holding specialized stocks and offering information resources tailored to the specialist profile of each Faculty. The Library provides services to the general public as well as to University staff and students. The portfolio of services includes inter-library loans and circulation services, document searches, reference and consultancy services, information training, and reprographic services. Many of these services are available on-line.

Centre for Information Technology

The CIT is a specialist workplace responsible for the operation and administration of information and telecommunication technologies and systems throughout the University. The Centre's key activities are connected with the telephone network, internet and e-mail, the University's website, the Editorial Centre and the Video Centre.

Partnership and Cooperation

The University of Ostrava cooperates with a wide range of institutions and universities in Ostrava, the region, the Czech Republic and abroad – including 37 prestigious contractual agreements on cooperation with universities in Europe, Asia and America. The University is a member of the Conference of Rectors of the Silesian Universities, which also includes the Silesian University in Opava, the University of Wrocław, the University of Silesia in Katowice, the Karol Adamiecki University of Economics in Katowice, and the University of Opole. Thanks to its regional dimension, this is a very active area of cross-university cooperation.

Development at the University

A total of 26 project applications have been submitted as part of the University's portfolio of development projects. 10 of these projects were successful, attracting CZK 20,377,000 of funds. The largest volume of funding was targeted at projects supporting the development of the University's degree programmes.

Support Centre for Students with Specific Needs

The Support Centre for Students with Specific Needs – known as the Pyramid Centre – was set up to help disadvantaged students at the University of Ostrava. Information on Pyramid services can be found on the website.

Organization of Studies

- Since 2006 the University has held the Diploma Supplement Label certificate.

In 2007, the University offered a full range of restructured degree programmes and courses in line with its accreditation for Bachelor and 2-year Master's degrees (following on from the Bachelor qualification). Students enrolled in the old-style Master's programmes (4 or 5 years, without a prior Bachelor degree), are able to complete their studies in their chosen degree subjects provided that they do not exceed the standard length of studies.

2007 has brought a period of stabilization in the University's accredited degree programmes and courses. There has been a rise mainly in the number of part-time (combined-form) Bachelor degree programmes. The highest numbers of degree programmes are in fields related to natural sciences and social sciences. The third most numerous group of degree programmes are in pedagogy, teaching and social work.

Basic Statistical Data in Academic Year 2007/2008

■ Total number of students	9 480
Total number of Bachelor students	5 885
Total number of 5-year Master's students	2 224
Total number of 2-year (follow-on) Master's students	1 111
Total number of doctoral students	260
Total number of foreign citizens studying at the University	236
Total number of graduates (2007)	1 951
Total number of academic staff	593