

THE FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES



The Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava is one of the largest educational providers of study programmes in Slovakia, offering a wide range of courses in the field of social sciences focused on the development of scientific knowledge and practical skills of students and employees working in national and global environment.

The faculty offers full-time and part-time bachelor courses in: public administration, European studies, political science, social services and counselling, management in social services, management in public administration and master courses in public administration, European Studies, political science, social services and counselling and PhD courses in European studies, public policy and public administration, social policy. The faculty is also accredited to hold habilitation and inauguration acts in public policy and public administration.

The faculty comprises specialized scientific-research departments which actively assist students and representatives of Slovak municipalities to overcome difficulties in administering public affairs.

The Faculty of Social Sciences of UCM in Trnava is fully equipped with modern technology providing students with comfort while studying at the faculty. A library, multi-media room, congress centre, students' halls are available. Each classroom is equipped with a data-projector and other technology. Meeting rooms serve as meeting points on various occasions

DEPARTMENTS AND CENTRES



The Faculty of Social Sciences comprises three departments and three centres. Both departments and centres work on national and international projects and cooperate with other scientific and professional institutions.

Department of political science and European studies

Students can sign up for bachelor, master and in the programme European studies also doctoral courses offered by the department. The department aims at research in politics, political system, international relations and European issues. The department is responsible for editing and issuing the peer- reviewed scientific journal “Slovak Journal of Political Sciences”.

Department of public policy and public administration

The department offers bachelor, master and doctoral courses in public policy and public administration. Tutors at the department aim at teaching and training students so that they can find jobs in central government, self- government and public policy. The department edits also a peer- reviewed scientific journal the Slovak Journal of Public Policy and Public Administration.

Department of social services and counselling

The department offers bachelor, master and doctoral courses. The aim of the department is to prepare specialists qualified for professions focused on knowledge and skills in order to improve the quality of social life of citizens.

Centre for research projects

The centre coordinates activities of scientific workers and teachers so that the content of the projects is in accordance with study programmes and their development.

Centre of the European Studies

The interdisciplinary nature of the centre enables the faculty to cooperate with national and international academic and research institutions and specialists in the field of politics, legislation, economics, history, culture, philosophy, international relations, international law, social services and public administration.

Centre for research in regional and community policy

Its activities are aimed at research carried out in regional and community policy. It prepares professional statements and different activities for self-governments in many areas.

STUDY PROGRAMMES AT FSS UCM IN TRNAVA

Students who completed their secondary education can opt for one of the accredited full-time and part-time programmes.

Public administration

Students are able to orientate in public administration on the basis of theoretical knowledge achieved in the field of political science, sociology, law and economics. Graduates are aware of the role and importance of public policy and public administration in a democratic state and are able to apply their practical skills concerning the position of Slovakia in the political and administrative area of the EU. Graduates will be able to realize the performance of different bodies in public administration.

Public Policy

The programme offers students lectures and workshops on theory and public policy methodology including social research methodology. Graduates are able to manage analytical methods in the governmental agenda, to do research and implement cross-sectional political decisions. They can reflect the notions, facts and theories applied in the field of public policy, in designing it and benchmarking policies in an international context, especially in EU countries.

Public Administration Management

The programme offers students a large variety of lectures and workshops preparing them for managing public institutions, non-governmental organisations, for corporate communication in institutions operating in public administration. Graduates are prepared for setting the agenda in national and international projects and for managing personnel agenda. Furthermore, they are prepared for communication with clients, for launching innovation technology in public administration, and for promoting quality management in institutions in central and regional self-government.

Political Science

Students are trained in political science disciplines in order to achieve theoretical knowledge and practical skills in the field of research, election management, political communication and political marketing. They are able to work independently and in team as well. They have appropriate language skills and can find a job in different sectors, e.g. in political management and counselling, in local, regional, national and European politics, in state and self-administration, in EU structures, media, education, science and research.

European Studies

Students are offered a programme aimed at political science, economics, international and European law, international relations, European integration and Slovak internal and foreign affairs in the EU. They achieve appropriate language competence to be able to communicate on an international level.

Social Services and Counselling

The programme prepares students for practice in order to be able to employ their knowledge in institutions administered by regional and local governments, legal entities and persons and non-governmental organisations.

Social Policy

The programme offers students a profound theory and information which is applicable in practice. Students are trained to think critically and evaluate situations in the fields of social and employment policy, labour law, and health care policy. They learn how to evaluate situations in the field of social work, European social systems, quality of life, methodology of designing projects and regional policy. Graduates can work in social and health insurance, in public institutions and in central and self-government.

Social Services Management

The programme offers training in activities coordinating social services, social aid, social counselling and prevention. Students are trained to be able to work in managerial positions of social institutions.

SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

The faculty participates in Slovak national and international research projects and projects funded by the European Commission.

My Place - the European Commission project MY PLACE “Democracy and the shadows of totalitarianism and populism: the European experience” was financed by FP7 within the call for Social sciences and humanities and realized in 2011 – 2015.

My Web - The project is a successor of MY PLACE. The main aim of the project is the completion and evaluation of existing and new data on the main priorities in the field of youth and children policy within the context of “well-being” realized in 2013 -2016.

Jean Monnet Chair is a unique centralized EU grant project focused on training and as the only one directly supports and promotes the idea of the European Commission in the field of education. The project will be realized through formal and informal education in the years 2016-2019 within the theme “Migration: the challenge of European countries“.

The scientific peer-reviewed journal Slovak Journal of Political Science published in the English language contains papers and contributions written by scientists discussing the Slovak national and international political issues. The journal offers also sociological studies written on social, economic, political and cultural themes.

The scientific peer-reviewed journal Slovak Revue for Public Policy and Public Administration publishes scientific studies, specialised articles, reviews and information on Slovak situation. The journal has an ambition to create space where polemic is published and opinions and information on current trends in scientific research in public policy are exchanged.

For more information go to: http://www.fsvucm.sk/files/O%20fakulte/web_aj_promo.pdf

Slovak Society for Public Administration at the Slovak Academy of Sciences

The Slovak Society for Public Administration at the Slovak Academy of Sciences was founded in 2014. It is a voluntary association of scholars in the field of public policy, public administration and related disciplines.

The mission of the Society is to:

- spread knowledge acquired in the field of scientific research of public policy and public administration and involve scholars in active cooperation for the development of this field
- create conditions for the development of theory, basic and applied research of public policy and public administration and their public social contribution
- contribute to academic improvement of its members with a particular emphasis on young members and doctoral students
- promote scientific results about public policy and public administration at national and international forums
- organize lectures of experts in the field of public policy and public administration from Slovakia and abroad
- establish contacts with scientific societies in abroad

- provide help to its members in their scholarly work
- organize domestic and international conferences, seminars, workshops, symposiums, lectures, discussions, field trips and other events
- develop its own editorial and publication activities
- cooperate with other departments of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, universities, research institutions, organizations of public policy and public administration on all levels

Doctor Honoris Causa

The scientific board of UCM in Trnava awarded the degree “doctor honoris causa” to his Excellence former President of Poland Mr. Alexander Kwasniewski on December 1st, 2014. The degree was awarded “for the contribution to the development of Slovak-Polish relations, for an active assistance in the process of the European Union and NATO Accession of the Slovak Republic and for the development of cooperation in the Central European Region”.

The proposal for awarding the honorary doctorate to the former president of Poland was submitted by the Scientific Board of the Faculty of Social Sciences. It originated from the existence of excellent relations between the faculty and the Embassy of the Polish Republic in Slovakia as well as between the faculty and numerous partners from Poland, for example the Faculty of Management and Administration of the Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce.



On 15 November 2016 the Scientific board of UCM awarded an honorary degree Doctor honoris causa two outstanding personalities who had significantly contributed to the development of political science in the Slovak and Czech Republic - Professor PhDr. Marcela Gbúrová, CSc. and Professor PhDr. Blanka Říhová, CSc.



INTERNATONAL COOPERATION

The Faculty of Social Sciences annually organizes a number of international conferences, lectures, seminars and workshops which are participated by outstanding personalities from abroad.

The Faculty of Social Sciences has bilateral agreements with more than 40 universities and cooperates with them within Erasmus+ Programme.

More information and contacts can be found on our faculty's website www.fsvucm.sk.

Partners regularly exchange material on methodology and science. Conditions for students' exchanges as well as for exchange of skills and information with regard to the development of methodology and conditions for cooperation in the area of distance learning have been created,

Students at the Faculty of Social Sciences also participate in the events organized by the faculty, among them Faculty Day, Faculty Sports Day, A Drop of Blood, Gala Night and Faculty Students Ball, immatriculation, Debate club or film projections in the Faculty Film Club. They can participate at lectures, seminars, workshops, conferences and field trips.

The faculty has also deepened cooperation with F.M. Dostoyevsky University in the Russian Federation.

The Vice-Dean for foreign relations annually organizes field trips to companies in Slovakia for MBA students of Westsächsische Universität in Zwickau. Based on good relations and satisfaction, a student of this university began studying in the Doctoral degree of Public Administration.

The faculty has the Erasmus+ Programme coordinator who coordinates foreign exchanges of both students and employees of the faculty.

Every academic year various lectures, workshops and field trips are organized which are attended by both domestic and foreign students.

Most of incoming students within the Erasmus+ Programme are from Turkey and Poland.

For incoming foreign students the following courses in English language are offered:

- Elections and Electoral Systems
- Political System of the Slovak Republic
- Political Transformation of Central Europe
- European Electoral Studies
- Challenges for the EU
- Academic English
- Slovak Language for Beginners
- Law of the European Union
- Comparative Public Policy in the EU
- Slovakia in the Context of European Culture
- EU in the Process of Globalization
- Common Foreign and Security Policy

For more detailed information go to – www.fsv.ucm - Catalogue of Courses

Our students mostly study in Turkey, Germany (Bremen and Ingolstadt), Poland (Krakow), Spain (Seville), Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Croatia (Zadar), the Czech Republic (Prague), but also in Portugal, Romania, Finland, Belgium and other countries.

In order to maintain good relations with universities abroad, the Centre for European Studies invites the representatives of selected embassies for lectures.

The Faculty of Social Sciences cooperates with international organizations such as ESN, AISEC etc.

There were many interesting events in the year

2015



A lecture of the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland Tomasz Chłoń



A lecture of the Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba Loipa Sánchez Lorenzo



A lecture of the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Pan Weifang



A lecture of the U.S. Ambassador Theodore Sedgwick



A lecture of the Ambassador of the Russian Federation J.E. Pavel Kuznetsov.

➤ **An International scientific conference “Cyril and Methodius days of social services I”**

The conference was focused on the themes of social services and counselling, management, spa treatment, and public health care in relation to social services.

➤ **A Conference in Subotica**



From right: prof. Nenad Vunjak – Dean of Faculty in Subotica, PhDr. Mária Igazová, PhD – Vice-Dean for International Cooperation, JUDr. Marcel Vysocký, PhD –UCM Vice-Rector, prof. Elena Birovljeva –Vice-Dean, PhDr. Pavol Juhás.



The representatives of the faculty participated at the conference and visited a Slovak Grammar school in Kovačica. For the students of the third and fourth grade a presentation about our faculty and study programmes was prepared.



➤ **The Olympiad about the EU**

The competition of secondary schools about the European Union



➤ **Information seminar for students „All the Foreign Opportunities under one Roof“**



➤ **Opening of the European studies centre**

The centre was opened by the Minister of foreign affairs Miroslav Lajčák, the rector of UCM Dr.h. c. doc. Ing. Jozef Matúš, CSc. and the vice-rector and director of the centre JUDr. Marcel Vysocký, PhD. The first lecture was held on the theme “*Current challenges of EU and the position of Slovakia*”.



➤ **Mini-Erasmus**



Different lectures, seminars and workshops were prepared for students of different secondary school. The aim of the event was to provide them information on education within EU.

➤ **A lecture of the deputy ambassador of the USA in Slovakia Norman Thatcher Scharpf**

The theme of the lecture was „*U.S. - EU and U.S. - Slovak relations*”.



➤ **TEACH FOR SLOVAKIA INFO MEETING**



The lecture of the Society Teach for All was about the possibilities of university graduates having a leadership potential within a two year program of this society.

➤ **A discussion on the theme „ *Be (euro)active*“**



➤ **A lecture with the ambassador of the Netherlands J.E. Richard van Rijssen**



The lecture was on the theme „*Rules and reality: on trust treatment and transparency in trade*“.

- **A Seminar of PhD students with the Ambassador of the USA J. E. Theodor Sedgwick and the deputy ambassador Norman Thatcher Scharpf**



- **Education Fair in Alma Ata in Kazakhstan**

After the fair there was held a conference on the theme „*The Cooperation in the higher-education sphere between the European Union and the Republic of Kazakhstan*“.

The representatives of UCM in Trnava, doc. Mgr. Katarína Slobodová Nováková, PhD., PhDr. Mária Igazová, PhD. a Mgr. Vladimír Novák, who realized the presentation of the university, fostered signing of a bilateral agreement on cooperation between UCM in Trnava and Al Farabi Kazakstan National University.



- A lecture of Dr. Avi Bleier, a university teacher from Tel Aviv, on the theme „*Defeating/Dealing with International Terrorism*”



- A seminar on the theme „*Migration and multiculturalism*”



The seminar dealt mainly with a current migration crisis. Among the participants were Professor Valeriu Mosneaga, Professor Richard Czarny, docent Jozef Klavec, Suzanne Taylor from Britain, Stane Ribič the chairman of the Assosiation of the Serbs in Slovakia and Agele Moses from Sudan.

- An International Scientific Conference on the theme „ *The Air Protection 2015*”

The Faculty of Social Sciences was one of the organizers of the conference. There participated many specialists from ministries of environment of the Slovak and Czech Republic, research organizations, entrepreneur subjects, academic community and non-governemnt organizations at the conference.



- **An International scientific conference on the theme „*Economic, social and legal problems of the demographic development*“**

The conference at the Private University of Economic Studies in Prague was opened by the dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences.



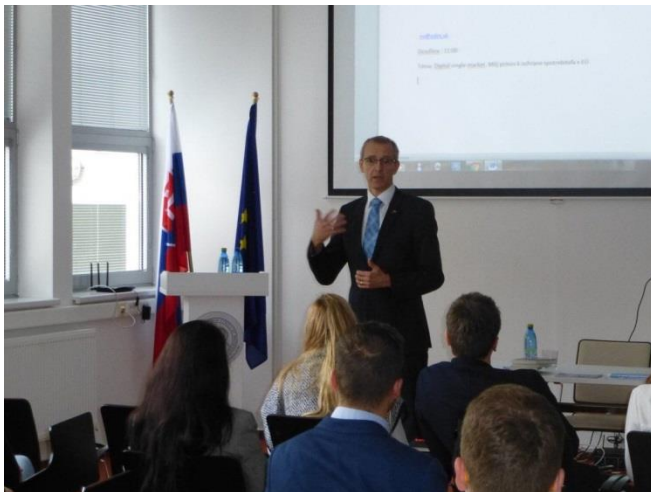
- **An International scientific workshop on the theme „*Political Leadership in 21st Century*“**



- A lecture of Charge d' affairs of US Embassy in Slovakia J. Liam Wasley on the theme „USA and Slovakia and shared security challenges“



- A Lecture of a member of the European Parliament Ivan Štefanec on the theme „ The Protection of a Consumer and the EU“



- A lecture on the theme „The position of Slovakia – current challenges“ of a member of the European Parliament Richard Sulík.



2016

- **An International Scientific Conference “Cyril and Methodius days of Social Services II. “*New Challenges for social services and counselling*”**

The conference was focused on the relationship of social sciences and counselling with management, spa treatment and public health-care.



- **An International scientific conference on the theme „*Reflection of social services and caring in practice – Work with love to a man*“**

The conference was organized in commemoration of an outstanding personality of Slovakia PhDr. Alžbeta Hanzlíková, PhD.



➤ **The 20 anniversary of the European voluntary service „Coffee to go! “**

An informal meeting of young people and youth workers, led by a French voluntary Ludivine, discussing the advantages of participating in youth exchange and European voluntary service within Erasmus+ program.



➤ **A lecture of the Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam**



The ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam J.E. Mme. Ho Dac Minh Nguyet made a speech on the theme „*Viet Nam’s development in the process of globalization and its relations with Slovakia*”.

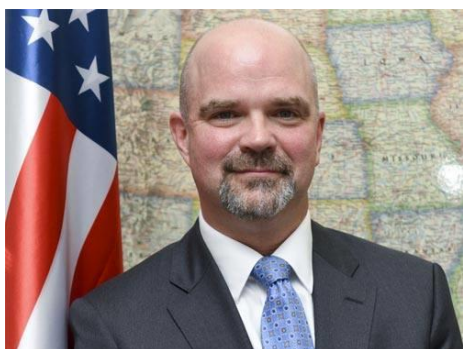
➤ **A Field trip to Romania**

The field trip for teachers and students of the faculty comprised a visit to the Parliament and Presidential palace in Bucurest and the Bran castle in Transylvania.



➤ **A lecture of Charge d' affairs – US embassy J. Liam Wasley**

The theme of the lecture was „*The U.S. approach to the Warsaw Summit, and the European Reassurance Initiative*“



➤ **A lecture of J.E. Branimir Filipovič, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and ambassador of Serbia in the UK**

The lecture was on the theme „*Foreign policy priorities and security policy of the Republic of Serbia*“.



➤ **An International Scientific Conference on the theme *Migration and its impact on V4 countries***

The conference was focused on the issues of the current migration crisis in Europe and their impact on the Visegrad countries.



➤ **An International Scientific Conference on the theme „Electoral engineering and competitiveness in Post-communist Europe“**

The conference was focused on the research of electoral competition, dynamics of a political campaign, medialization, systems and strategies of communication, political engagement and participation of voters.



➤ **A meeting of the members of NAPA organization from Kiev and NISPACee**

The meeting of the delegation of Ukrainian academic workers and the representatives of the faculty within the project Building the capacities for open public administration and self-government.



➤ **An Internet Conference on the theme *"Foreign Language In Professional Training Of Specialists: Issues and Strategies"***

The conference initiated by the Kirovograd State Pedagogical University and co-organized by the Faculty of Social Sciences invites scholars of the university to publish their articles with the aim to exchange experience in teaching English language in professional communication.

