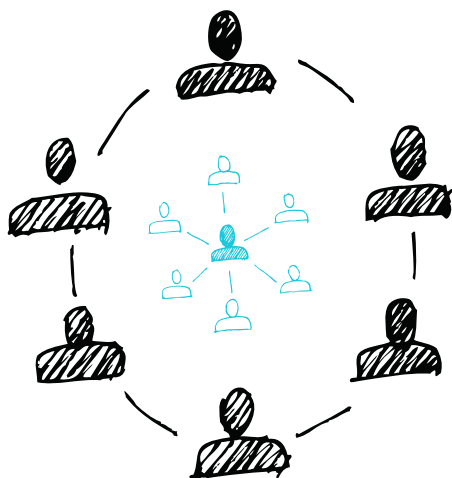


TAKE
PART IN

SOCIAL WORK IN PILSEN

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
FACULTY OF ARTS


UNIVERSITY OF WEST BOHEMIA
CZECH REPUBLIC





IMPORTANT

CONTACTS

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Pilsen is the fourth largest city in the Czech Republic. It is located in western Bohemia. It is an important industrial, commercial, cultural, and administrative centre.

The city was founded on the confluence of four rivers – the Uhlava, Uslava, Radbuza and the Mže – by the Czech King, Wenceslas II, in 1295. Situated on the crossroads of two important trade routes and close to Prague, Pilsen experienced an immediate rapid growth.

[Tourist guide to PILSEN](#)

[Visit PILSEN](#)



Statistical evidence proves that the University of West Bohemia is one of the most successful universities in the Czech Republic. We do, however, have a more visible criterion: the admirable successes of our students in many technical fields, humanities, arts, and the field of health care. We do our best to nurture our students' talents and abilities.

We do not close ourselves off to the surrounding world. Every student has a chance to build his/her own study programme according to their interests, to receive excellent language training, study abroad, get involved in research programmes, and to put their knowledge to the test.

And we will be equally happy if our students remember the students' festivals, victories in sports, open-air concerts, or even just moments spent with friends, drinking our city's world famous draught beer. We prepare our students for life, in all its fullness.

[Find more courses here.](#)

FOUNDED IN 1991
9 FACULTIES
62 DEPARTMENTS
130 STUDY PROGRAMMES
11 THOUSAND STUDENTS
MODERN UNIVERSITY CAMPUS
EXCELLENT RESEARCH CENTRE



SOCIAL WORK

PROGRAMME

OUR VISION

Together, in a friendly atmosphere, we strive for the professionalization of social work, with an emphasis on human values, theoretical knowledge, and practical experience.

OUR GOAL

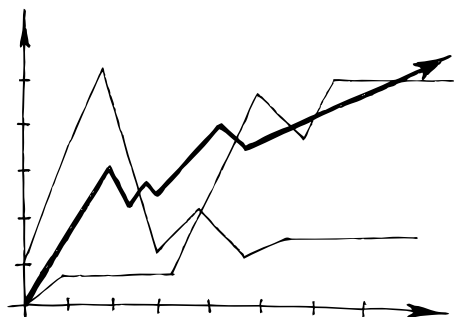
We offer a prestigious study programme, in which we provide students with education in a friendly atmosphere; we create space for the development of moral thinking, personal enrichment, and identification with the field of social work.

OUR VALUES

We aim to provide teaching at the highest possible level, and at the same time, make the course of study pleasant for the student's. We are convinced that a positive way to achieve education deepens the affiliation with the field of study, and builds a positive relationship with their future profession.

OUR MISSION

We help to provide experts for the field of social work, who have the desire to use their acquired knowledge and experience comprehensively and meaningfully for the development and operation of this area.



COMPREHENSIVENESS
OBLIGINGNESS
MEANINGFULNESS

SOME OF OUR TEAM



MGR. ALENA PAŘÍZKOVÁ, PH.D.

is a researcher in migration studies, with a background in sociology, social and cultural anthropology, and social work. She focuses, in particular, on the interrelatedness of migration, social inequalities, biographies, and women's health.

 parizkov@kss.zcu.cz



MGR. KAREL ŘEZÁČ, PH.D.

is a young postdoctoral researcher. Since his undergraduate studies, his research interests have included the boundaries of professional performance of social work, deinstitutionalization, foster care, human development, and well-being.

 rezack@kss.zcu.cz



PROF. PHDR. JAN VÁNĚ, PH.D.

concentrates on comparative research in the field of sociology of religion; sociology of education, and the problems of homelessness and social services provided to socially disadvantaged groups.

 vanejanekss.zcu.cz



ING. ET MGR. ŠTĚPÁNKA SYROVÁTKOVÁ

focuses on supporting the professional growth of social service workers. She is interested in the development of interdisciplinary dialogues, and the effective application of theoretical models to lived experience.

 syrstep@kss.zcu.cz



MGR. LUKÁŠ DIRGA, PH.D.

main research interests lie in penitentiary sociology (the sociology of prison life), criminology, criminal justice, penal policy, and the sociology of deviance. He is particularly interested in the process of humanization of the Czech prison system, and the role of religion in the prison environment.

 dirga@kss.zcu.cz

COURSES FOR

ERASMUS STUDENTS

KSS/ISWCF

Social work with children and families

The aim of the course is to introduce social work with children and families. Students will become acquainted with the system of social and legal protection of children in the Czech Republic, social services for families and children, and typical methods for social work with these target groups (case studies, task-oriented approaches, communication boxes, assessments of the situation of the child etc.). Students will become familiar with the historical context and current trends in this area of social work. Visits and discussions with social workers focusing on children and family will be part of the course.

KSS/ICSW

Contact as a key feature of social work

The course focuses on one of the basic tools of social work – contact. The aim is to make students familiar with the concept and essence of contact in social work, to show its specificity and help to reflect the specificity and limits of the relationship, its actors (social worker and client), and the importance of their context. More specifically, the course will focus on contact in low-threshold services. Emphasis will be placed on teaching through case histories drawing from social workers' experience. Important parts of the course include visits in low-threshold services and involvement in their activities.

Research methods for social workers

The course focuses on understanding the basic principles of qualitative and quantitative methodology, as well as the principles of preparation and implementation of a research project. Students will learn to distinguish among different research approaches, and will use practical training to become familiar with basic research methods: questionnaire surveys and selected types of qualitative interviews.

Students may enrol in any course offered by all of the faculties for a particular semester, for example:

SPEAKING IN ENGLISH

(KAJ/MPA) (WS, 2 ETC)

WRITING IN ENGLISH

(KAJ/PPA) (WS, 2 ETC)

COMPARATIVE ETHNIC AND MINORITY POLITICS

(KAP/1CEMP) (WS/SS, 8 ETC)

MODERN CZECH PHILOSOPHY

(KFI/1CPH) (SS, 10 ETC)

RELIGION, SCIENCE, AND THE FUTURE OF THE HUMANITIES

(KFI/IRSFH) (SS, 5 ETC)

THE HISTORY OF EUROPEAN CULTURE AND SOCIETY

(KHV/1DEK) (WS, 10 ETC)

ANTHROPOLOGY OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

(KSA/1ACEU) (WS/SS, 10 ETC)

MARGINALIZATION AND POVERTY

(KSA/1MAP) (WS/SS, 10 ETC)

PENITENTIARY SOCIOLOGY

(KSS/1PNS) (WS, 10 ETC)

WS – winter semester

SS – summer semester

[Find more courses here.](#)

GET IN TOUCH

WITH PRACTICE

In addition to supporting theoretical knowledge, we consider it essential that students gain professional experience through continuous and associated professional practice. For this reason, we are in close contact with institutions and organisations carrying out social work with various target groups. We have cooperation agreements with several non-profit organizations that provide a diverse range of social services. Based on this cooperation, we offer Erasmus students excursions to different organisations.

Examples of our partner organization:



We have been helping children and adults, the elderly, as well as people who are facing various life crises for more than 30 years. We are a leading provider of social services in the Czech Republic, and the first in the area of special education.



Ledovec is a non-profit organization that offers support to people with mental illness and/or mental disabilities from the Pilsen region in maintaining and improving their quality of life under normal conditions. We also organize a number of interesting events for the general public.



We are a non-governmental, non-profit organization, founded on the ideals of humanism, freedom, equality, and solidarity. We consider human dignity and freedom to be fundamental values. We believe that people everywhere around the world should have the right to make decisions about their own lives, and to share the rights expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

STUDENT

SERVICE AND SUPPORT

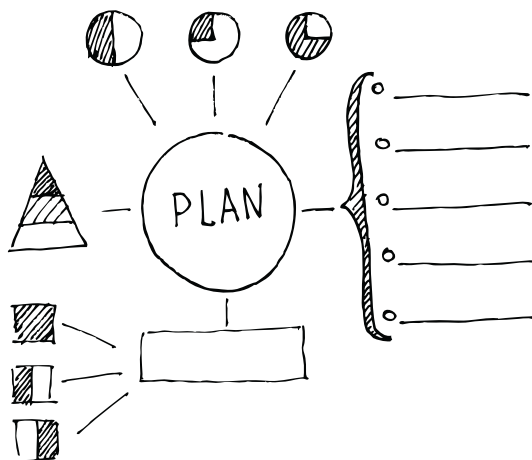
THE ERASMUS STUDENT CLUB PILSEN

ESC Pilsen is a voluntary student organization which helps incoming students under the Erasmus programme with their integration among Czech students, and helps them in the beginning with their organizational issues. ESN Pilsen also organizes various activities for foreign and Czech students throughout the semester.

[You will find more info on.](#)

ORIENTATION WEEK

The Orientation week is always held one week before the semester starts. Within the frame of the orientation programme for students who newly join the university the social and cultural life of the town is introduced, by having excursions round Pilsen. Organised by the presentation team of the Buddy system, students are taken to their departments, and helped with setting up study programmes for their study plans. This is the time when everything related to bank accounts, travel cards, student JIS cards, and PC access are set up.



ACADEMIC

CALENDER

ACADEMIC YEAR: 1ST SEPTEMBER – 31ST AUGUST

The academic year is divided into winter and summer semesters. Each semester is split into two periods: the teaching period and the exam period.

WINTER SEMESTER (WS)		SUMMER SEMESTER (SS)	
WS starts at the beginning of September and ends in mid-February.		SS starts in mid-February and ends at the end of August.	
Teaching period	Exam period	Teaching period	Exam period
Mid-September till working day before Christmas day (24th December)	From the beginning of January till mid-February	Mid-February till mid-May	Mid-May till end of August.
Vacation: from Christmas day till the beginning of January (including 1st January)		Vacation: usually starts last week in June until the penultimate week of August.	

TIPS FOR

INCOMING STUDENTS

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Pilsen has quite a good transportation network with buses, trams, and trolleybuses, running day and night. Public transport travel is very simple. The only thing to do is to purchase a ticket (via a vending machine or at newsagents' shops or tobacconists, etc.). The price of a basic ticket is 18 CZK. Another possibility is the purchase of transfer tickets directly in the vehicles of the Public Transport, by means of the electronic wallet of the Pilsen Ticket chip card, or by credit card or via SMS.

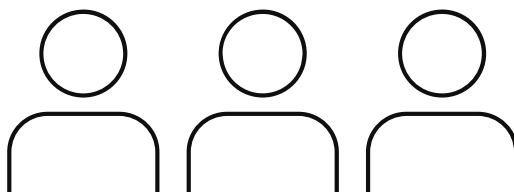
[For more information.](#)

COST OF LIVING

It is estimated that students will require approximately 300 - 350EUR per month to cover accommodation, food, and additional costs. Basic food is relatively cheap, as is public transport and cinema & theatre tickets. Restaurant prices are reasonable (the price depends on the category and quality of the restaurant).

EDUROAM

Students and staff can use the WEBnet infrastructure to connect their business and personal mobile devices (laptops, tablets, ...) to the wireless network. This connection is provided within the Eduroam federation, allowing each user to connect in other member organizations, both in the Czech Republic and around the world. Each user can use his/her mobile device to connect to the Eduroam network, wired and wireless, at UWB, and all affiliated academic institutions.



PUBLIC

HOLIDAY



1.1.

New Year's Day



1.5.

Labour Day



5.7.

St. Cyril and St. Methodius Day, celebrating the arrival of the Christian missionaries sent from Byzantine Empire to Czech lands



28.9.

St. Wenceslas Day, in remembrance of the patron of the Czech State



17.11.

Freedom and Democracy Day, commemorating the anti-Nazi student demonstrations of 1939 and the anti-Communist demonstrations of 1989



25.-26. 12

Christmas Holiday



APRIL

Good Friday, Easter Monday



8.5.

Liberation Day, celebrating the end World War II



6.7.

Master Jan Hus Day, commemoration of the religious reformer's death at the stake in 1415



28.10.

Czechoslovakian Statehood Day, establishment of independent Czechoslovakia in 1918

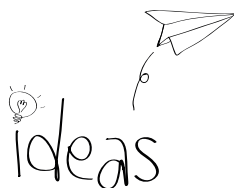


24.12.

Christmas Eve



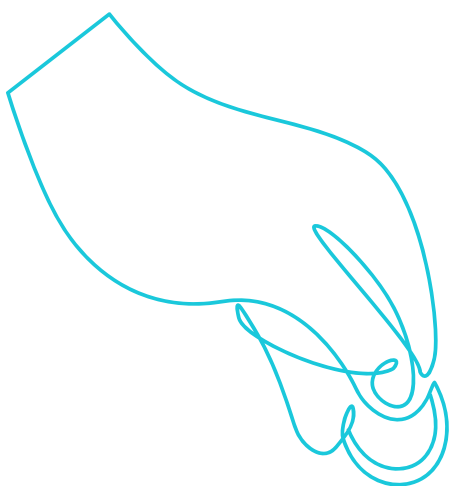
RESEARCH



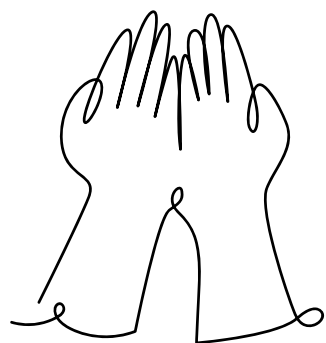
PRESENTATION OF STUDY PROJECTS



HELPING PEOPLE IN NEED



OUR PRACTICE



STUDY WITH US SOCIAL → WORK COMPREHENSIVENESS OBLIGINGNESS MEANINGFULNESS

“ It is necessary to learn, even in practice
to reinforce what you've learned. ”

– Seneca –

Authors of the text

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