

## A GUIDE FOR THE CANDIDATES

# HUMANITIES

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### **THE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE FAST PACE WORLD**

The idea behind the our study programmes is to offer the students the tools to approach the changing world. The economic crisis, rise of nationalisms and populisms, rapid urbanization, the internet revolution, migrations, gig economy labour, radical shifts of the private and the public, the climate... Human activity turns out to complicate matters on the planet Earth to a great extent.

Our programmes are meant for those of you who want to dismantle the complexities of the contemporary. Using a variety of academic disciplines and their critical approach but also giving you an interdisciplinary freedom to conduct your master's project on the topic that you want to challenge.

### **HUMANISTIC EDUCATION – UNDERSTANDING PROFESSIONALLY**

The humanities and social sciences dig deep into human worlds of communication, languages, laws, cultures or interactions. We use different methodologies to deal with profoundly subjective matters like the meaning people attach to their actions or symbols. In the course of the study programme of your choice, you will be trained to use these scientific methods to develop understanding of human lives and also act upon that knowledge.

### **FOCAL POINTS: LEARNING TO BE GENERALLY SPECIFIC**

The idea of humanistic education is to give you the tools to think globally. Everything is located in some context, everything is multilayered. We want you to be able to navigate these multitudes of actions, meanings, symbols or data with ease. On the other hand, we believe it makes sense to concentrate on specific issues and slightly alter methodologies to approach them.

### **INNOVATING: THINKING ALLOWED**

The most important skill we nurture is critical thinking. Thinking out loud. Debating. Questioning tacit assumptions, challenging your own bias. We teach reflexivity. This is – we believe – the straight path to new ideas, better solutions, responsible transformations and even spectacular breakthroughs. We foster out of the box thinking (within the rigour of scientific methodologies) and devote substantial amount of time to teach you that.

### **THE ACADEMIC MINDSET AND NOT A VOCATION**

One must keep in mind the classical university education does not automatically teach the student a profession. It will instead provide you with the 21st century skills, like critical thinking, problem solving, project based work and intercultural competences. It will enable you to work in various industries with the flexible intellectual base and a humanities/social sciences toolkit of skills.

### **TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR EDUCATION**

Our programmes are designed for the students who want to take their intellectual faith in their own hands (or minds). The library, the instructors and plenty of open invitations to scientific journeys are waiting. We allocated a substantial number of teaching hours to your individual master's projects. We want you to take advantage of the expertise of our professors and develop your ideas together with them.

### **WHY TO STUDY IN POLAND?**

We are a great country. Of course, any other country is great too. If you are a foreigner and you want to learn different things about Polish heritage, navigate to the Culture.pl website to learn more. At the very moment, Poland has been in the European Union since 2004 and is one of the steadily growing economies in the world. It offers not only a high quality education but most certainly career opportunities in abundance. Poland is undergoing a demographic shift, with the society aging fast. It means, young people with quality education (like you) are in high demand in this region.

## A GUIDE FOR THE CANDIDATES

We are a very well connected university, having great relations with some hundreds universities in Europe where we are more than happy to let our students study in exchange programmes, i.e. Erasmus+. We are located in Central Europe, bridging the traditions of East and West so everyone feels at home here.

### **WHY TO STUDY IN OPOLE?**

Opole is a delightful town of a medieval heritage over the river Odra in the south of Poland. A capital of the administrative region, it is located approximately the same distance from the capital city, Warsaw, and other European capitals, like Berlin, Vienna or Prague. It is easy to travel from this southern transportation hub. It is safe, livable, walkable, lively, green and friendly at the top of different livability rankings in Poland and growing economy, including international companies. The academic community is close and very open to the newcomers. We are an internationalized university with many international students in our campus.

### **WHERE TO GO FROM HERE?**

The University of Opole is an interconnected institution. We send and receive tens of students each semester and encourage ours to use our links and spend a semester or two abroad. We have partner universities in EU and outside of EU and offer the Erasmus scholarships. We also run an extensive placement programme under the umbrella of Erasmus+. Find a company or an institution who will host you and apply.

### **CONVINCED? HOW TO GO ABOUT THE ENROLLMENT?**

If you want to enrol in one of our leading study programmes, visit our recruitment website <https://rekrutacja.uni.opole.pl/en-gb/>

If you are a foreigner, visit our website for international students (<http://hello.uni.opole.pl/>) Should you have any further questions, do not hesitate to get in touch at [hello@uni.opole.pl](mailto:hello@uni.opole.pl).