Bachelor's in Education: Teaching English as a Foreign Language Professional Qualification for Teaching Foreign Languages in Czech Secondary Schools

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## PRAGUECITYUNIVERSITY

### Doc. PhDr. Zdeněk Starý, CSc. Dean of School of Education



I can highly recommend Prague City
University (previously Akcent College).
I specialized in Pedagogy combined with
English as a Foreign Language for my
Bachelor's degree. The School of Education
uses new, modern and truly motivating
methods. The programme was challenging
but incredibly practical, and advanced my
teaching skills.

Michaela Furiaková

The mission of PCU School of Education is to prepare students to be professional educators of children, youth and adults, and to become valuable members of today's diverse society. Our primary goal is to equip student teachers with the strategies, knowledge and skills to effectively fulfil this mission. Importantly, our approach is based on a combination of theory and practice of disciplines in applied pedagogy.

The School of Education is the most recent development at Prague City University. Its first phase will be broadly determined by the traditions and practices of Akcent College, the Prague-based teacher-training university incorporated into PCU in 2020.

The Czech-accredited
Bachelor's programme prepares students to teach a foreign language to adults in a modern, lively and effective way. The programme specializes in English and the disciplines related to communication in this language, as well as linguo-didactic training and teaching practice.

In addition, we offer a professional qualification accredited by the Czech Ministry of Education (MŠMT) as part of the Further Education of Teachers project (DVPP). This programme enables applicants with any Master's degree to gain the theoretical and practical experience to teach foreign languages at Czech primary and secondary schools.

Thanks to our long-standing cooperation with Akcent International House in Prague, students studying for the Bc. degree at PCU enjoy preferential terms when studying for the Cambridge CELTA certificate, the global standard for teaching English as a foreign language around the world.



<sup>\*</sup> Programme content is accurate at the time of printing (September 2023). Due to continuous development, it may be subject to change. All pictures in this brochure are of PCU students, lecturers and our facilities. No stock photos are used.

ELT Series 06 School of Education 07

# Excellence in Learning & Teaching Series



Education is constantly evolving, not only in terms of pedagogical theory and classroom practice, but also in terms of its expected role in society. In the ELTS series, we invite teachers, educators, trainers and theorists to discuss the latest developments, based on their own experience and training.

In the course of these lectures, students hear about the application of teaching practice, case studies covering many of the challenges of the educational world, and dynamic new ways of teaching and learning that contribute to real excellence in and out of the classroom.

### Past speakers for various lecture series at PCU have included:

BESTSELLING AUTHOR & HUMOR 'ENGINEER', ANDREW TARVIN

CZECH NOVELIST, IVA PEKARKOVA

BBC CORRESPONDENT FOR THE CZECH AND SLOVAK REPUBLICS, ROB CAMERON

EXPLORER, WRITER AND FILMMAKER, BENEDICT ALLEN

PERFORMANCE/DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY ARTIST, MÁRIA JÚDOVÁ

PHOTOGRAPHER FOR ASSOCIATED PRESS, PETR DAVID JOSEK

JOURNALIST FOR DEUTSCHE WELLE, BBC & CZECH RADIO, DR. JAROSLAV ŠONKA

We are looking forward to exciting guests in this new series, broadening our horizons as we push our vision and understanding of education with outstanding experts from the Czech Republic and around the world.



## Education in the service of others

A traditional view is that a university is like an 'ivory tower', closed off from the practical requirements of daily life. PCU takes the opposite approach. We believe that a university and its surrounding communities should always be open to one another, celebrating the shared human values that bind people together.

That's why we engage regularly with schools and educational bodies to ensure programme content is relevant to each new set of graduates. It's why we invite leading specialists and educators into the classroom – not only for students to learn from directly, but to help open doors to further opportunities and careers. And it's why our students engage in the community, participating in activities – social, environmental, and global.

### **Erasmus Programme**

PCU participates in the Erasmus University Charter (ECHE), and has previously sent Bc. Specialized Education students for a semester of studies at the University of Latvia and language teaching internships in Barcelona, Spain and Manchester, United Kingdom. Furthermore, lecturers have conducted teaching exchanges to universities in Turkey, Lithuania, Latvia, Slovakia and Poland.

### Centre for Research and Interdisciplinary Studies

The Centre for Research and Interdisciplinary Studies (CRIS) promotes and develops research and development across the university. CRIS is responsible for arranging conferences and seminars, as well as publishing an academic bulletin show-casing current research by the PCU academic community. Selected articles from the CRIS bulletin are made available on the De Gruyter academic publishing network, as well as EconPapers, the world's largest collection of economics research publications.

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### Bachelor's in Education: Teaching English as a Foreign Language



This programme combines the study of English as a foreign language with the educational, psychological and linguistic components of teacher training. English skills are developed to a deep level, with attention also paid to cultural and linguistic differences between English-speaking countries.

The programme offers two pathways; one delivered in English only and one in English and Czech for the first year of theoretical studies. In years two and three the English & Czech pathways combine and all instruction continues in English. This gives students in the Czech pathway the opportunity to learn alongside international students and absorb regional linguistic differences. The Czech pathway is also available in Blended Learning format, as well as Full-time.



STUDY IN AN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT WHERE ENGLISH IS THE PRIMARY LANGUAGE

WORK CLOSELY WITH HIGHLY EXPERIENCED LECTURERS

GAIN REAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE WITH OUR LONG-STANDING PARTNER AKCENT INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

WORK TOWARDS A CZECH-ACCREDITED BACHELOR'S DEGREE

EARN ADVANCE CREDIT ON THE INTERNATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED CELTA (CAMBRIDGE) EXAM

ACCESS CAREER OPPORTUNITIES, SUPPORTED BY YOUR EDUCATION AND PRACTICE AS AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHER

EXPLORE WORK AND INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES VIA THE PCU INDUSTRY NETWORK

PARTICIPATE IN INTERDISCIPLINARY PROJECTS WITH OTHER PCU SCHOOLS AND INDUSTRY PARTNERS

EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE THROUGH THE EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING AND TEACHING LECTURE SERIES

hool of Education 09

# The study programme is delivered over 3 years (6 semesters) and covers six areas:

- Education, teaching and related disciplines
- Language structure and linguistic communication
- Courses of practical English
- Structure of English (English phonetics, morphology, and syntax)
- Historical overview to better understand English-speaking countries
- Teaching practice and linguo-didactics

Teaching practice is a key component, allowing the student teacher to translate theory into practice through actual classroom teaching. Students complete a total of 480 hours of pedagogical practice during the entire programme, through progressively more challenging teaching scenarios.

Graduates who take the English pathway are awarded the degree title Bc. Specialization in Education: Foreign Language Teaching, ve specializaci English as a Foreign Language. In addition, all graduates can earn the Cambridge CELTA certificate, which qualifies its holders to teach English to adults anywhere in the world.

#### YEAR 1

- General Pedagogy
- General Didactics
- General Psychology
- Introduction to Teaching Practice
- Introduction to the Study of Language
- Psycholinguistics
- English Phonetics and Phonology I
- English Language Practice I
- Cultural History of the Englishspeaking World I
- Adult Education Pedagogy
- Educational Psychology in Adult Teaching and Learning
- Planning for Teaching
- English Phonetics and Phonology II
- English Morphology I
- English Language Practice II
- Cultural History of English-speaking World II

#### YEAR 2

- Social Psychology in Adult Teaching and Learning
- Teaching Language Systems
- English Language Teaching
   Methodology I
- Teaching Practice I
- English Morphology II
- English Language Practice III
- English Literature I
- Teaching Language Skills
- English Language Teaching Methodology II
- Teaching Practice II
- English Syntax I
- English Lexicology and Semantics
- English Language Practice IV
- English Literature II

### YEAR 3

- Specific techniques in Language Teaching
- English Language Teaching Methodology III
- Teaching Practice III
- Thesis Seminar I
- English Syntax II
- English Evolution and Varieties
- English Language Practice V
- Teaching Foreign Language For Specific Purpose
- English Language Teaching Methodology IV
- Teaching Practice IV
- Pragmalinguistics
- Sociolinguistics
- Complex Language Analysis
- English Language Practice VI

Electives (based on availability and students' interest) are offered in subjects such as reading, teaching young learners, critical theory, language awareness, extended vocabulary, translation practice, public speaking and teaching students with special needs.

As an English teacher in the Czech Republic, you can make good money and it's truly respected as a profession. My degree opens the door to the whole world, I can literally teach anywhere I want.

Agáta Tvrdíková, Full-time Student

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Professional
Qualification for
Teaching Foreign
Languages in Czech
Secondary Schools





STUDY IN AN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT WHERE ENGLISH IS THE PRIMARY LANGUAGE

WORK CLOSELY WITH HIGHLY EXPERIENCED LECTURERS

GAIN REAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE WITH OUR LONG-STANDING PARTNER AKCENT INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

ACCESS CAREER OPPORTUNITIES ALL OVER THE WORLD, SUPPORTED BY YOUR EDUCATION AND PRACTICE AS AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHER

EXPLORE WORK AND INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES VIA THE PCU INDUSTRY NETWORK

PARTICIPATE IN INTERDISCIPLINARY PROJECTS WITH OTHER PCU SCHOOLS AND INDUSTRY PARTNERS

EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE THROUGH THE EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING AND TEACHING LECTURE SERIES

The purpose of this professional qualification is to establish and deepen knowledge and skills in the pedagogical, psychological, and methodological aspects of teaching and learning; and to use newlygained knowledge and skills effectively in the teaching process.

It is intended for those who have completed a Master's degree in a non-teaching specialization. The programme is meant to supplement professional qualifications for teaching English at the second stage of primary schools and at secondary schools. This life-long learning programme is accredited by the Czech Ministry of Education (MŠMT) as part of the Further Education of Teachers framework (DVPP) to provide the minimum qualification for teaching English as a foreign language in the Czech school system.

I definitely do not regret studying for my professional qualification at PCU. I had 16 years of work as a Personnel Manager, and I am now preparing for a change in my career when I graduate. The learning platforms for online study are user-friendly with all the necessary materials available. In general, like any studies, I have the biggest problem juggling work, family and studies, however, I have really enjoyed studying the programme, especially Pedagogy and Linguo-didactics.

Jitka Jarůšková, current student

#### Pedagogy & Psychology 40 hours face-to-face, 64 hours distance learning in the digital campus

- Basics of Pedagogy
- Basics of Psychology
- School Pedagogy
- Educational and School Psychology

#### General and professional didactics 40 hours face-to-face, 70 hours distance learning in the digital campus

- General Didactics
- Introduction to Language Teaching for Children and Youth
- Linguo-didactics I: teaching language systems
- Linguo-didactics II: teaching language skills

#### Teacher Training 15 hours face-to-face, 15 hours distance learning in the digital campus

This module provides teacher training practice in groups of students aged 12–15 and 16–18 respectively, with a focus on teaching language resources and the development of speech skills. For each age group, trainee teachers will teach two lessons of their own, and complete two hours' observation of colleagues' teaching.

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## Story of Akcent College and the School of Education

Akcent College was founded in 2008 as a response to the acute shortage of qualified language teachers with quality methodological training. Over the years it grew into a recognized institution delivering high-quality pedagogical education at degree level. Akcent College was able to build on its partnership with Akcent International House, which delivers courses for internationally recognized examinations for English teachers (TKT, CELTA, DELTA, etc.), whose experience and knowledge formed the basis of all the subsequent programmes and goals of Akcent College.





In 2020 Prague College and Akcent College became sister universities and in June 2021 came together as Prague City University. The values and goals of both Prague College and Akcent College were perfectly aligned and Akcent College became our new School of Education. The School is committed to continuing to deliver the same high-quality education focused on student development, practical experience and a wide range of employment opportunities.

### **How We Teach**

As with all Schools at PCU, the School of Education focuses on creating unique opportunities for learning, and a culture of close individual and interactive study with the lecturers.

Great emphasis is placed on the practical application of knowledge gained through the programme. Students take part in lively interactive lessons in subjects focused on teaching practice, and student teachers are trained in small practice teaching groups. All teaching practice is provided by top professional lecturers in the field.

### **Teaching Practice**

Teaching practice is a key component of the Bc. in Specialized Education programme, allowing the student teacher to translate theory into practice through actual classroom teaching. It takes place in small groups and includes immediate personal feedback on each student teacher's performance. Student teachers also have the chance to observe expert teachers, receive in-depth feedback and practice strategies, all of which contribute to their growth as teachers. Students complete a total of 480 hours of pedagogical practice during the entire programme, through progressively more challenging teaching scenarios.

Academic Team 14 School of Education 15

## Meet some of our academic team



Doc. PhDr. Zdeněk Starý, CSc.

Zdeněk's role at Prague City University is Rektor of the Czech University Accreditation and Programmes and Dean of the School of Education. Zdeněk has also chaired the Department of General Linguistics at Charles University and served two terms in the Charles University Senate. He also pursues his own professional and educational interests in general linguistics.

He teaches courses in general linguistics focusing on language structure and issues of cognitive linguistics.

Zdeněk holds a CSc. degree in General Linguistics (Charles University) and MA degrees in Czech Studies, Aesthetics and Mathematics (Charles University). He is Associate Professor in General Linguistics.



PaedDr. Dana Hánková, Ph.D.

Dana has been teaching English as a foreign language for over 35 years in various teaching contexts. She has over twenty years of experience in training English teachers for adults (Cambridge CELTA and Cambridge Delta courses). Dana earned her Ph.D. in pedagogy from the Faculty of Education at Charles University. Since 2008, she has been an instructor in the teaching methodology of the English language, supervised teaching practice, and chaired the Department of foreign languages and their didactics.



Mgr. Veronika Quinn Novotná, Ph.D.

Veronika holds a Master's degree in English and German Philology and a Ph.D. in English linguistics from the Faculty of Arts at Charles University in Prague. She has taught (applied) linguistics, academic and creative writing at Charles University, the University of West Bohemia, and the Czech Academy of Sciences. Her research and teaching interests include English morphology, syntax, lexicology, and Global Englishes.



Mgr. Jana Richterová, Ph.D.

A long-time senior lecturer at prestigious universities in the Czech Republic, including Charles University, Jana is in charge of the linguistic field of English studies at PCU. Since graduating from Palacký University in Olomouc with a doctoral degree in 2012, she has been teaching morphology, syntax and phonology of English. Her main area of research is the syntax of English, specifically syntactic structures conveying the expressive function in both English and Czech. Her research has a substantial overlap with English Language Teaching, her interest lying in both textual analysis and the education of future professionals in English.



PhDr. Kateřina Šrahůlková, Ph.D.

Kateřina is responsible for courses in psychology, specifically educational/pedagogical psychology and social psychology. She studied for her Mgr. and PhDr. degrees at Charles University, focusing on educational and pedagogical psychology. Her Ph.D. studies took place at the University of Ghent (Belgium) and at Charles University in Prague. Kateřina also works as psychologist at the elementary school of the Bulovka Hospital, and cooperates with the international charity Médecins sans Frontières. Her most recent mission with MsF was in a refugee camp in Greece in 2020. Her publication and research activities deal mainly with issues related to the work of psychology practitioners.



Mgr. Květa Suchánková, Ph.D.

Květa's areas of expertise are general didactics, general pedagogy, and adult education. She studied at Masaryk University in Brno (Mgr. degree in Czech language, social sciences) and subsequently at Charles University in Prague (Ph.D. in pedagogy). She specializes in the development of didactic competencies of lecturers to adults as well as teachers of pre-school and school education. She has more than twenty years of experience in private and public educational institutions as a teacher, lecturer and consultant, and also as a school principal. She teaches courses on pedagogy, didactics and adult education, and has chaired the Department of Pedagogy and Psychology since 2014.

Programmes

# PCU Digital Campus

As well as three physical campuses in the centre of Prague, PCU runs a Digital Campus for online and distance learning. It has enabled us to continue our high standards of education during the pandemic; but in fact, we have been delivering Global Blended Degree programmes and professional level qualifications online for over ten years.

Investment in technology provides unique and outstanding learning opportunities, regardless of a students' location. Together with small class sizes, the Digital Campus allows lecturers to prioritize students' needs, with an emphasis on individual attention and mentoring. Access to resources and real-time interaction provide an immersive online experience with a personal, human touch.

### Lifelong learning

Wherever they are in the world, all students can now expect to find some learning happening online during their studies and indeed throughout their lives. We see the PCU Digital Campus as a centre for lifelong learning.

In October 2021, the online learning platform LinkedIn Learning was introduced with the launch of the Prague City Architecture course, expanding the opportunities for all PCU students. LinkedIn Learning allows for additional skills acquisition both inside and beyond the programme of study. For Education students, this includes the opportunity to explore further language acquisition, classroom and teaching management skills, and indeed professional skills like video production that may well become part of your future career in education.





I like how effective distance learning is. It is quite demanding - managing all tasks on time, self-study, etc., but the teachers are very helpful and available to advise you. I also like that they use a lot of practical examples when training us. In general the teachers are of a very high calibre.

Jitka Jarůšková, current student

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# What do I need to apply?

We make the application process for each of our applicants as smooth and easy as possible. We talk to each applicant to understand their needs and requirements, as we wish to offer the best possible choice of programme. Our study advisors, lecturers and students are always happy to share their experiences with applicants.

|  | Professional Qualification for Teaching<br>Foreign Languages in Czech Secondary<br>Schools | Bc. Specialized Education – Teaching<br>English as a Foreign Language |
|--|--|---|
| Confirmation of previous education       | Master's degree  | High school diploma or equivalent                                     |
| Confirmation of English level upon entry | Level C1*  | Level B2**  |
| Final interview                          | YES  | YES   |

<sup>\*</sup> C1 level, corresponding with standardized tests such as Cambridge English (Advanced level) (CAE); Cambridge English (Business Higher); IELTS grades 6.5 – 7 (Academic), General Czech State Language Exam. If you do not have this certification, your linguistic competencies will be assessed instead as part of the interview process.

# Begin your application today!

You can get started right away on our website at <a href="www.praguecityuniversity.cz">www.praguecityuniversity.cz</a>. You can also contact us at (+420) 222 101 020 or <a href="mailto:admissions@praguecityuniversity.cz">admissions@praguecityuniversity.cz</a> to speak to one of our admissions specialists.

<sup>\*\*</sup> B2 level according to the European Framework of Reference for Languages. Candidates can prove their level by submitting an English certificate such as FCE, CAE, IELTS, TOEFL or General Czech or Slovak State Language Exam. Without a certificate proving sufficient English skills, the candidate's linguistic competencies will be assessed with an English test. Successful candidates will proceed with an interview to prove their oral competencies in English and to justify their motivation to study the programme.

Programmes

## How much does it cost?

\* Tuition fee is 35,500 CZK per semester for the first 20 Czech or Slovak students 18

#### School of Education Grants

If you graduated from a Czech or Slovak secondary school or you are currently working in a Czech or Slovak secondary school then you are automatically eligible for a grant of **60,000 CZK per year.** 

The grant is valid for the duration of the programme, subject to satisfactory academic performance. There is no need to apply for the grant as it will be automatically available to the **first 20 successful applicants**, for whom we have designated funding of 3.6 million CZK.

### School of Education Scholarships (10 – 50 %)

If you are eligible for the grant and also hold **Czech or Slovak citizenship**, then thanks to a further designated scholarship fund of 3.6 million Kč for the first 20 students, you receive an **automatically awarded scholarship**. When combined with the grant, this makes the tuition fee **35,500 Kč per semester** for the duration of the programme.

For other applicants, scholarship requests are also considered, and are allocated in whole or in part based on your previous academic and/or professional results, your engagement with the community around you, and your engagement with your previous or current place of study and/or work. Scholarships of **up to 106,000 CZK per year** are offered based on consideration of your scholarship request by the Scholarship Board. Scholarships are reviewed on an annual basis according to your academic performance and engagement with the university; and, subject to maintaining at least a passing academic standard, are expected to run for the duration of the three-year degree.

Additional consideration is given to applicants' current social and economic conditions, with our priority to support outstanding students who would otherwise not be able to study for financial reasons.

| Qualification                 | Programme  | Programme<br>Length       | Semester<br>Tuition in CZK   | Semester<br>Tuition in Euro |
|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bachelor's                    | Bc. Specialized Education — Teaching English as a Foreign Language                         | 6 semesters,<br>3 years   | 106,000 CZK<br>per semester* | € 4,400<br>per semester*    |
| Professional<br>Qualification | Professional Qualification for Teaching<br>Foreign Languages in Czech Secondary<br>Schools | 3 semesters,<br>18 months | 12,500 CZK<br>per semester** | € 500<br>per semester**     |

<sup>\*\* 36,250</sup> CZK (€ 1,550) for the programme if paid all at once.

## City Centre Campus

Hybernská 24, Prague 1, 110 00 Czech Republic

## Bishop's Court Campus

Biskupský dvůr 6, Prague 1, 110 00 Czech Republic

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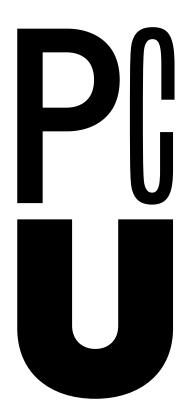
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