



Palacký University
Olomouc



Department of Development
& Environmental Studies





The Faculty of Science building



Palacký University Olomouc

Palacký University, established in 1573, is one of the leading centers of teaching and research in the Czech Republic. It currently comprises of eight faculties and offers degrees in a wide range of disciplines including medicine, other natural sciences, humanities, social sciences as well as law. Recently, one of the highest priorities of the university is to strengthen its international cooperation with other higher education institutions. Yearly, more than 1,700 international students study at Palacký University.

Palacký University is located in the historical and dynamic city of Olomouc. The picturesque town has a long and interesting history and is surrounded by splendid nature. According to the travel guide Lonely Planet, Olomouc is one of the “hidden gems” of Europe. The city of Olomouc is also well-known for its high density of university students. With over 20,000 students in the city of 100,000 inhabitants, Olomouc has the highest density of university students in Central Europe. Students surely appreciate the affordable cost of living in Olomouc in comparison with other Czech cities. In this context, it is worth mentioning that the cost of living in the Czech Republic is generally much lower than in Western Europe.

About the Department of Development & Environmental Studies

The department is an open, progressive and dynamically growing academic department within the Faculty of Science. It provides educational opportunities and conducts research in the areas of development studies, environmental studies and foresight. Its aim is to inspire our students, professionals and the public and thus contribute to the sustainable development of civil society. Members of the department support the personal growth and future employability of students by focusing on their individuality and strengths as well as on international cooperation opportunities. The department provides the following programs.

Programs taught in English:

- International Development Studies Master’s Program
- Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree in International Development Studies (GLODEP), for more information about the course see www.glodep.eu
- Foresight for Environment and Development Master’s Program
- International Development Studies Ph.D. Program

Programs taught in Czech:

- International Development Studies Bachelor’s Program
- Environmental Studies and Sustainable Development Bachelor’s Program
- International Development Studies Master’s Program
- International Development Studies Ph.D. Program



International Development Studies Master Program

The Master's program in International Development Studies taught in English is the first of its kind in the Czech Republic and in the region of Central and Eastern Europe and is open to students worldwide.

It is a two-year, full-time program designed not only for Bachelor students with development studies background but also for students from related fields who are interested in international development.

The program provides students with key knowledge and skills for a deeper understanding of problems affecting developing countries and the policies of international development including the skills for qualitative and quantitative research. The study program is based on three main pillars:

- Theoretical background – seven compulsory courses and three seminars
- Methodological background – a choice between quantitative and qualitative methods
- Regional orientation – two courses applying theoretical knowledge to regional opportunities of development. Students can choose from four regions: Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East and Central Asia.

Upon successful completion of the program, students are awarded the title of “Magister”, abbreviated as “Mgr.” which is equivalent to Master of Science (MSc). Graduates are equipped to work in the field of international development in the public sector, private industry as well as in governmental and non-governmental organizations at both national and international levels. Graduates can also find the opportunity to work as experts in projects run in low-income countries especially in the project organization and administration both in the donor and target country, in diplomatic service, or in the academic sector.

Courses¹

	COMPULSORY (A)	OPTIONAL (B)
<i>Theoretical Basis</i>		
DEVELOPMENT AND GEOGRAPHY	Development Theories	Global Challenges
	Development Assistance	
	Geography of Globalization and Development	Development Challenges 1 and 2
	Political Geographical Processes in the Developing World	
ECONOMICS	Development Economics	International Political Economy of Development
ENVIRONMENT	Environmental Geography	Global Environmental Issues
	Sustainable Development	
<i>Regions</i>		Development Opportunities of Africa
		Development Opportunities of Latin America
		Development Opportunities of South and Southeast Asia
		Development Opportunities of Central Asia and Middle East
<i>Methodology</i>		Quantitative Methods in Development
		Qualitative Methods in Development
PRACTICAL FOCUS		Project Cycle Management
		Evaluation of Development Projects
		Negotiation, Facilitation, Mediation
		Community Development and Participation
		Migration in Today's World
		Internship

¹Subject to change. For current information please consult www.studydevelopment.cz



Foresight for Environment and Development Master's Program

The main aim of the Foresight for Environment and Development program is to prepare foresight-focused professionals for careers in environmental and developmental policy and practice. The duration of the program is two years. Students will be awarded the title of “Magister” (abbreviated as “Mgr.”) which is the equivalent to a Master of Science (M.Sc.). The Foresight for Environment and Development program is the first of its kind in the Czech Republic and in the region of Central and Eastern Europe.

Foresight is the ability to describe what may happen or may be needed in the future while considering the future as something that we can create or shape. Foresight assumes that the future is not pre-determined, but that it can evolve in different directions. Foresight includes thinking about the future, debating the future and shaping the future in addition to using participatory and multidisciplinary approaches. Development is a branch of social science that addresses issues in development policy and practices. The environment is an academic field that systematically studies human interaction with the natural world, particularly the factors that have an influence on human well-being and sustainable development.

Upon the successful completion of the program, individuals will be equipped to work in the public sector as well as in private industry both at the national and international levels. Graduate students have the opportunity to be employed in governmental or non-governmental institutions which collaborate on development- or environment-related projects, especially at the positions where planning and future trends analysis is required. In addition, graduates can find careers in the private sector, especially in high-tech companies which monitor and formulate future trends in their industry.

Courses²

	COMPULSORY (A)	ELECTIVE (B)
<i>Theoretical Basis</i>		
FORESIGHT	Introduction to Foresight	Future Global Challenges
	Past Futures – Future Pasts	
ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT	Environmental Geography	Sustainable Development
	Global Demographic Trends	Development Indicators
	Development Geography and Globalization	Environmental Ethics
		Environmental Economics
Economics of Development		
<i>Methodology</i>		
FORESIGHT	Selected Prognostic Methods	
	Possible Futures Shaping	
	Possible Futures Mapping	
	Social and Technological Changes and their Environmental Effects	
	Principles of System and Ecosystem Thinking	
ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT		Quantitative Methods in Development
		Qualitative Methods in Development
PRACTICAL FOCUS		GIS in Environment and Development
		Negotiation, Facilitation, Mediation
		Internship

²Subject to change. For current information please consult www.studydevelopment.cz



How to apply?

Both programs are open to students from around the world. Foresight for Environment and Development program students, who are non-EU citizens, pay the annual fee of EUR 3,000. EU citizens are exempt from paying this fee. All students (EU and non-EU) of International Development Studies program pay the annual fee of EUR 3,000.

Entry Requirements

- A successfully completed undergraduate degree; preferably in subjects relevant to the respective program. However, candidates with other specializations may also be considered
- Good academic performance
- English language proficiency at a B2 Common European Framework level

To complete the application process successfully, students must provide the following documents to our study department:

- Copy of a passport
- Copy of a diploma proving completed Bachelor education
- Copy of a transcript of records of all the completed university courses at the time of application
- Proof of English language proficiency
- Curriculum Vitae
- Motivation letter (maximum 1,000 words)
- Two letters of recommendation

Practical Steps

Visit the below mentioned websites:

- IDS - www.studydevelopment.cz
- GLODEP IDS - www.glodep.eu
- FED - www.studyforesight.cz

Find the respective website and follow the instructions. Be aware that the information about the annual fee and entry requirements is subject to change. Current and more detailed information about the admission process can be found on our websites.



Scholarships

University Scholarships

Merit Scholarship and Master Course Scholarship for Foreigners are granted once a year to students with very good results based on the exam grades and credits received. Scholarships can altogether amount up to CZK 40,000 (an equivalent of more than EUR 1,500).

The Vavroušek Scholarship is designed to support student research projects in the fields of the development and the environment. Students supported by this scheme are given a scholarship ranging from CZK 2,000 up to CZK 25,000 depending on their project. The scholarship provided usually amounts to around 10,000 CZK (approximately EUR 400). For more information about this funding scheme, please see page 13.

The Mobility Scholarship supports internships and student research projects in other countries. Students supported by this scholarship are given CZK 3,000 (approximately EUR 120).

Other Scholarships

A number of other scholarships are available to incoming students:

- Scholarship Awards under bilateral international agreements
- Government scholarships
- Visegrad Fund scholarships
- Scholarships of the South Moravian Centre for International Mobility
- European and other programs
- University scholarships



Students

Orientation Week

During the Orientation Week, which is regularly organized a week before the official beginning of the semester, you will be introduced to how things work at Palacký University, its faculties and departments.

The morning program provides students with information sessions focused on organizational and practical issues, such as an overview of university offices and coordinators, facilities, registration of courses, confirmation of documents, how to arrange an ID card, etc. Students can attend a Survival Czech Course, and learn about their rights and duties in the Czech Republic during a session with a police officer. The evening program is devoted to getting the students together and offering cultural, social and sporting events.

Sustainable Palacký

Students of the Department of Development & Environmental Studies founded the student initiative Sustainable Palacký whose main goal is to make the university environmentally sustainable, socially equitable and an economically efficient learning environment. Since its inception, the initiative has expanded and now involves many active members from different faculties. The association works on both spreading the sustainability awareness among students and pushing for long-term systematic changes in the functioning of the university.

Sustainable Palacký created the first student community garden in the Czech Republic and has held numerous documentary screenings and discussions with sustainability as its theme. Moreover, they have launched a successful campaign Think Out of the Bin which focuses on the improvement of waste management in student dormitories and by various public events shows the interconnectedness of environmental, social, and economic impacts of waste.

Bejdžink

Each November students of the department organize the truly unique “Bejdžink” event that should be attended by all students who want to become a member of the department. Different themes related to future challenges, environment, and development are presented every year (e.g. global warming, dealing with globalization etc.). According to the chosen topic, each class prepares a short comic sketch expressing its perception of the given theme. Bejdžink welcomes new students with a traditional ritual that each freshman should experience. This event is attended by all members of the Department of Development & Environmental Studies including the academic staff and graduate students.



The Department Students and Graduates Testimonials



Paulina Nakashole about her studies at the Department:

The study experience is excellent. It broadens your mind and gives you a different perspective on global development issues. The professors are friendly and always willing to help students. I believe in a prosperous future because I have been given the opportunity to study at the department.



Zbyněk Wojkowski about his internships supported by the Department:

As the most valuable benefit of my studies of International Development, I consider the opportunity to combine studying and gaining foreign experience. Several times during my studies I had the chance to travel abroad, even during the term which would not have been possible without help and support of the teachers who allowed me to resume studies and exams after I had returned. Thanks to that, I was able to gain priceless practical experience which helped me in finding a permanent position as a project worker in Palestine.



Xanani Baloyi about academic and study environment at the Department:

Studying in Olomouc is a great opportunity to exchange the best practices for international students and impart their knowledge to their host university. The university has well-developed facilities that contribute to an enabling academic environment. The staff at the department is always available to help international students settle into their new host country.



Veronika Semelková about her research supported by the Department:

In my research stay in Ethiopia, I cooperated with the local non-profit organization PADet. My aim was to conduct a quantitative analysis of one of the communitarian projects of the organization. Thanks to this field experience, I have had the opportunity to become a researcher in the process related to data collecting and evaluating. I have confronted closely the reality of life in a developing country with cultural and language differences which was a challenge. At the same time, I realized that Ethiopia is a country to which I would like to come back for further research.



Marea Grinvald about her studies at the Department:

Studying at the Department of Development & Environmental Studies enabled me not only to get theoretical knowledge about current development issues all around the world but it also provided me with a unique opportunity to apply the gained knowledge on development projects in my home country. My passion and motivation for this field deepened each day spent at the department.



International Opportunities

Erasmus+ program

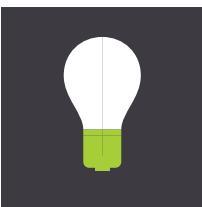
The Department of Development & Environmental Studies significantly supports international student mobility. Within the Erasmus+ program, our students may study up to 12 months at a chosen partner university abroad or do an internship in the selected organisation. This opportunity deepens the international experience which is a necessary precondition for working in the field of international development. All credits and exams acquired and accomplished abroad are accepted by the Department of Development & Environmental Studies. The Department of Development & Environmental Studies is currently cooperating with more than 20 universities which are listed below:

Aarhus (Denmark), Antwerp (Belgium), Brighton (Great Britain), Brussels (Belgium), Casablanca (Morocco), Clermont-Ferrand (France), Fort de France (Martinique), Ghent (Belgium), Granada (Spain), Grenoble (France), Helsinki (Finland), Huelva (Spain), Kalulushi (Zambia), Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain), Lesbos (Greece), Lodz (Poland), Madrid (Spain), Málaga (Spain), Malmö (Sweden), Manchester (Great Britain), Montpellier (France), Nouméa (New Caledonia), Oslo (Norway), Pavia (Italy), Torino (Italy), Trondheim (Norway), Utrecht (Netherlands), Vienna (Austria), Warsaw (Poland)

In the last years our students did an internship in e.g. CONCORD (Belgium), ALDA (Italy), PDCS (Slovakia), UN Volunteers (Germany), Zavod Voluntariat (Slovenia), Habitat for Humanity (Slovakia) and many others.



Erasmus+



Vavroušek Scholarship

The Vavroušek Scholarship is an initiative of the Department of Development & Environmental Studies in Olomouc. It is offered to students of Bachelor and Master programs at the department. The aim of the scholarship is to support study abroad, internships and research projects in the field of the development cooperation. Many students use the experience and data collected during their stay abroad as the basis for their Bachelor or Master theses.

The call for scholarship applications opens at the beginning of winter and summer semesters.

Field Trips

During the studies at the Department of Development & Environmental Studies students may enroll in elective international field trips to developing regions or to international institutions and organizations (Brussels, Strasbourg, Vienna, Bratislava, Geneva etc.) related to international development. The aim of the field trips is to provide deeper knowledge about the development-related issues, which is enhanced by discussions with local experts who provide students with information about internships or future job prospects. Field trips usually last 5-10 days.

Cooperation with Foreign Lecturers

One of our highest priorities is cooperation with foreign academic departments where environmental studies programs and programs related to international development are offered. The aim of such cooperation is not only sharing experience and cooperation in research but also broadening the spectrum of courses taught within the department or enlisting new issues presented by foreign lecturers.



Academic Staff



Assoc. Prof. Pavel Nováček

Pavel is the head of the Department of Development & Environmental Studies and founder of the International Development Studies program. Among his professional fields of interest are global environmental issues, sustainable development and foresight. Pavel is the author or co-author of several books (including Sustainable Development, 2011), which are available at www.pavelnovacek.eu.



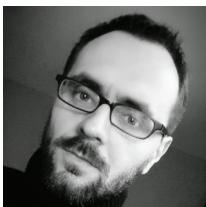
Assoc. Prof. Ivo Machar

Ivo is an experienced expert focusing on the field of forest ecology and has published numerous scientific articles. He is an active member of the International Association for Landscape Ecology and Society for Conservation Biology. He co-lectures courses focusing on ecology-related foresight issues in the Foresight for Environment and Development program.



Prof. Jaroslav Miller

Jaroslav is a professor of history and the rector of Palacký University Olomouc. He focuses on urban studies, the history of political thought, and most recently on issues of Czech and Slovak exile. He has been awarded long-term fellowships at universities and scientific institutions in Canada, Hungary, United States, Great Britain, Germany, and Australia. Jaroslav lectures the Past Futures - Future Pasts course in the Foresight for Environment and Development program.



Mgr. Tomáš Daněk, Ph.D.

Tomáš is responsible for the implementation of the Environmental Studies and Sustainable Development program at our department. He specializes in topics related to Environmental Science and Environmental Humanities. Tomáš lectures several courses and is an author of academic articles dealing with topics related to his interests.



Mgr. Lenka Dušková, Ph.D.

Lenka focuses on conflict sensitive development and the use of mediation and facilitation techniques in project management in fragile and/or post-conflict regions. She is a lecturer of courses on Security, Conflict & Development, Politico-geographical Processes in Developing Regions, and Qualitative Research Methods. She has edited and co-authored the Encyclopedia of Development Studies as well as papers dealing with security and development.



RNDr. Tomáš Fürst Ph.D.

Tomáš teaches mathematics and works in the fields of mathematical modeling, data science and complex systems at several institutes at Palacký University. He thinks that mathematics is the language of science and an important key to understanding the art of forecasting, which lies at the heart of foresight. Tomáš is a proud Fulbright fellow.



Mgr. Ing. Jaromír Harmáček, Ph.D.

Jaromír specializes in development economics as well as in social and economic statistics applied to development issues of low and middle-income countries. His special focus is on the nexus of poverty, inequality and economic growth. He is a lecturer of the courses Quantitative Methods in Development and Development Economics. Jaromír is the author of academic articles on economic aspects of development.



Mgr. Zdeněk Opršal, Ph.D.

Zdeněk is the deputy head of the department and specializes in environmental geography, political ecology, globalization, and development. He is a lecturer of the courses on Geography of Globalization as well as Development and Environmental Geography. Zdeněk is the author of academic articles focusing on the land use and land cover changes, ecosystem services, and foreign aid.



Mgr. Jiří Pánek, Ph.D.

Jiří conducts research and teaches in the area of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Participatory Mapping. He has a background in Geography-Geoinformatics and International Development Studies. He spent seven months on research stays in various African countries and studied GIS for Rural Development in India. Jiří is the editor of the Development, Environment and Foresight journal that is published by the department.



Mgr. Miroslav Syrovátka, Ph.D.

Miroslav is a Director of GLODEP Consortium that organizes Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree program. He specializes in development economics, with research interests in development indicators, inequality, and development aid. For Master programs he coordinates and lectures courses on Economics of Development and International Political Economy of Development.



Mgr. Simona Šafaříková, Ph.D.

Simona's work focuses on the development opportunities in different regions in Asia, the role of sport in development and the impacts of physical activities as a solution for development problems. She also teaches the Qualitative Research Methods. Simona has already published several academic articles in the field of sport and development and is the co-author of the Encyclopedia of Development Studies.



MSc. B.A. Radovan Dluhý-Smith

Radovan has been engaged in development issues both theoretically and practically for the last two decades. He organized development projects in Ecuador and Mexico and researched urban farms in Cuba. He worked as a development consultant for the UN in Vienna. Radovan received both his undergraduate and graduate diplomas abroad in the United States. He teaches Development Theories and Development Opportunities of Latin America.



Mgr. Eva Komlossyová

Eva is a Ph.D. candidate in the International Development Studies program, specializing in the post-conflict peacebuilding processes. In her research, she evaluates the impact of non-governmental organizations working towards peacebuilding goals in Bosnia and Herzegovina. She teaches Project Cycle Management, Evaluation of Development Projects, Development Assistance and Possible Futures Mapping courses.



Lucie Macková, M.A.

Lucie's research interest lies in the area of migration and development. Currently, she is working on the issue of return migration to Armenia as a part of her Ph.D. project at the Department of Development & Environmental Studies. In the past, she studied in the United Kingdom, Denmark, and Hungary. She currently teaches Migration in Today's World, Introduction to Foresight and Possible Futures Mapping.



Mgr. Petr Pavlík

Petr is studying in a Ph.D. program at the Department of Development & Environmental Studies. His background is mainly in the field of economics and he specializes in environmental economics. Petr's research focus is directed at the relationships of economic development and environmental degradation.



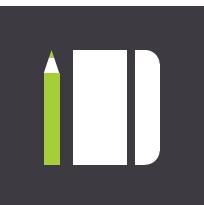
Mgr. Martin Schlossarek

Martin is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Development & Environmental Studies. He specializes in composite indicators of development, pro-poorness of growth in developing countries and the role of microfinance as a tool of poverty reduction. Martin is the head of the Maendeleo NGO which provides microcredits in Tanzania.





Historic centre of Olomouc



Selected Publications

Opršal, Z., Harmáček, J., Syrovátka, M. 2017. Geography of Czech aid: Where and why Czechia promotes development? *Geografie*, 122 (2), 169–189.

Harmáček, J., Syrovátka, M., Dušková, L. 2017. Pro-poor growth in East Africa. *The Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance*, 64, 82–93.

Pánek, J., Benediktsson. 2017. Emotional mapping and its participatory potential: Opinions about cycling conditions in Reykjavík, Iceland. *Cities*, 61, 65–73.

Machar, I., Simon, J., Rejsek, K., Pechanec, V., Brus, J., Kiliánová, H. 2016: Assessment of forest management in protected areas based on multidisciplinary research. *Forests*, 7, 285.

Sobotová, L., Šafaříková, S., González Martínez, M. A. 2016. Sport as a tool for development and peace: tackling insecurity and violence in the urban settlement Cazucá, Soacha, Colombia. *Qualitative Research in Sport, Exercise and Health*, 8 (5), 519–534.

Opršal, Z., Kladivo, P., Machar, I. 2016. The Role of Selected Biophysical Factors in Long-Term Land-Use Change of Cultural Landscape. *Applied Ecology and Environmental Research*, 14 (2), 23–40.

Schlossarek, M., Harmáček, J., Pavlík, P. 2016. Economic Growth and Human Development in Developing Countries: Virtuous or Vicious Circle? [in Czech] *Politická ekonomie*, 64 (6), 651–673.

Syrovátka, M., Hák, T. 2015. Measuring rich-country policies toward the global environment: A critical analysis of the environmental component of the Commitment to Development Index. *Journal of Environment & Development*, 24 (1), 105–128.

Pánek, J. 2015. How participatory mapping can drive community empowerment – a case study of Koffiekraal, South Africa. *South African Geographical Journal*, 97 (1), 18–30.

Kladivo, P., Nováček, P., Macháček, T., Teichmann, J. 2014. The State of the Future Index for the Czech Republic. *Moravian Geographical Reports*, 22 (3), 42–52.



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