Charles university

**historical facts about Charles university**

Its roots are found in the 14th century when Charles IV reigned in Bohemia. He asked the Pope Clement VI to establish a university. Most encyclopaedias say that it was established in 1348 but the truth is, the process was way longer and lasted from 1347 till 1349. At that time there were 4 faculties- the faculty of arts, theological faculty, the law faculty and medical faculty.

It was opened in 1349 and was sectioned into parts called *nations.* the Bohemian, Bavarian, Polish and Saxon. The Bohemian *natio* included Bohemians, Moravians, southern Slavs, and Hungarians; the Bavarian included Austrians, Swabians, natives of Franconia and of the Rhine provinces; the Polish included Silesians, Poles, Ruthenians; the Saxon included inhabitants of the Margravate of Meissen, Thuringia, Upper and Lower Saxony, Denmark, and Sweden.

Its very interesting that only 16-20 percent of students were Czech.

The faculty of art became a centre of the Hussite movement and there was very little education going on between 1417-1430. The son of Charles took it into his property and made some progress. The emperor Ferdinand I. opened an important academy Clementinum. In 1616 it became a Jesuit Academy.

On 23 February 1654 emperor Ferdinand III merged Carolinum and Clementinum and created a single university with four faculties—Charles-Ferdinand University.

On 29 July 1784, German replaced Latin as the language of instruction. For the first time Protestants were allowed, and soon after Jews. The university acknowledged the need for a Czech language and literature. In the revolution of 1848, German and Czech students fought for the addition of the Czech language at the Charles-Ferdinand University as a language of lectures.

Because they were not able to make an agreement, the university split and became a German Charles-Ferdinand Univesity and a Czech Charles-Ferdinand University. And the fight between Czechs and German over this university lasted until the end of second world war and after that in actually only started to become worse.

Only in the late 1980s did the situation start to improve; students organized various activities and several peaceful demonstrations in the wake of the Revolutions of 1989 abroad.

**location and faculties**

Charles University does not have one campus. The academic facilities occupy many locations throughout the city of Prague and three of the faculties are located in other cities (two of them in Hradec Králové, one in Pilsen). The historical main building from the 14th century called Carolinum is situated in the Old Town of Prague and constitutes the university's center. It is the seat of the rector and of the Academic Senate of Charles university. Carolinum is also the hall for official academic ceremonies such as matriculations or graduations.

The key priority of Charles University is to continue to enhance its prestigious status as a research university. To achieve this aim, the University focuses strongly on research activities. Charles University can boast a number of outstanding research teams which are involved in close collaboration with international research institutions. Students can also become involved in the University’s research work at each of the individual faculties.

The rector is Prof. MUDr. Tomáš Zima, DrSc., MBA.

Today, Charles University consists of 17 faculties, based primarily in Prague, two houses in Hradec Králové and one in Plzeň.

* Catholic Theological Faculty
  + The founding faculty of the Charles university. It was established in 1347 by Pope Clement VI., and in 1348 by a Czech king Charles IV.
* Protestant Theological Faculty
  + After many intents to open a protestant faculty at Charles university, a Czechoslovakian protestant university was established in 1919. This university went through a lot of oppression in the 20th century but survived and in 1990 this university was incorporated in the scheme of Charles university and became a Protestant Theological Faculty.
* Hussite Theological Faculty
  + This faculty is connected to the Czechoslovakian hussite church. It welcomes every student regardless of their believes.
* Faculty of Law
  + One of the founding faculties.
* First Faculty of Medicine
  + One of the founding faculties of the Charles university. During the Hussites wars it stopped its activities and was renewed after 1622 when the Jesuites took over. The education was only theoretical until 1740. In this year the students were advised to visit hospitals.
* Second Faculty of Medicine
* Third Faculty of Medicine
* Faculty of Medicine in Plzeň
* Faculty of Medicine in Hradec Králové
* Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Králové
* Faculty of Arts
  + The Faculty of Arts at Charles University is currently one of the largest and most important research and educational institutions in the arts and humanities in Central Europe.
  + With close to 1,000 staff members, over 9,000 students and a growing international student population of almost 1,000 students from all over the world, the Faculty of Arts is a vibrant and diverse academic environment.

**interesting fact about this faculty.**

Did you know that…

… the Department of Egyptian Studies has been working in Egypt for the last fifty years and has made significant discoveries? Their discovery of the tomb of an unknown Egyptian queen in Abusir was voted one of the 10 greatest archaeological finds in 2014.

… in 2014, Professor Tomáš Halík was awarded the prestigious Templeton Prize, given to people who “made an exceptional contribution to affirming life’s spiritual dimension”?

… Professor Martin Hilský translated the complete works of William Shakespeare into Czech?

* Faculty of Science
  + FSV UK is an institution that contributes through its pedagogical and scientific activities to the understanding of society in cultural, historical and territorial contexts.
* Faculty of Mathematics and Physics
* Faculty of Education
  + **The Faculty of Education at Charles University**was established in 1946 following a decree on teacher education by the President of Czechoslovakia issued on October 27, 1945 and a subsequent law in the following year relating to faculties of education throughout Czechoslovakia. The Faculty of Education at the Charles University was officially opened on November 15, 1946 in the Prague [Rudolfinum](http://www.czecot.com/en/tourist-attraction/8083_rudolfinum-praha) (The House of Artists), and the festive launch was attended by the Czech president, Dr. Edvard Beneš.
  + Although Czechoslovakia was later (1993) divided into two independent countries – the Czech Republic and Slovakia – the Czech and Slovak faculties of education maintain collaboration
* Faculty of Social Sciences
* Faculty of Physical Education and Sport
  + The Faculty of Physical Education and Sport, Charles University, was incorporated into Charles University as an Institute of Physical Education and Sport in 1959, and as a Faculty in 1965.
  + Its mission is to educate and train professionals in sport and physical education (for children, adults and seniors, with and without special needs), military physical education, civil protection education, sport management, recreation and physiotherapy.
* Faculty of Humanities
  + Originally founded as the Institute for Liberal Education of Charles University in 1994, **the Faculty of Humanities Charles University gained full academic autonomy in 2000.**

It offers many study fields that other universities don’t.

Charles University has nearly 50 000 students - roughly a sixth of all students in the Czech Republic – enrolled in more than 300 accredited degree programmes that offer over 630 different courses. More than 20,000 students are studying in Bachelor’s degree programmes, almost 25,000 in Master’s programmes, and 8,000 in PhD programmes. The University has over 7,000 students from other countries. Every year, just under 9,000 students complete their studies; Charles University graduates enjoy one of the highest employment rates of any population segment in the Czech Republic. Every year a diverse range of lifelong learning courses are attended by more than 16,000 participants.