Rankings

Charles University is ranked among the top 2% of universities worldwide and among the top 100 European universities according to the most respected international league tables.

Several international comparative ranking tables such as the Academic Ranking of World Universities, QS World University Rankings, Times Higher Education World University Rankings and Best Global Universities rank Charles University amongst the most research-intensive higher education institutions around the globe. This is true for a number of fields, among the most valued belong for example Natural Sciences, Geography, History, Linguistics, Mathematics, Medicine, Modern Languages, Pharmacy and Pharmacology, Physics & Astronomy and Philosophy.
Educational and research facilities

**Hradec Králové – Mephared I**
Mephared I is a joint project of the Faculty of Medicine in Hradec Králové and the Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Králové. Opened in 2015, the Teaching and Research Centre helps university improve the quality of education and the translation of basic research into clinical application.

**Pilsen – UniMeC and BioMediC**
The new educational facilities of UniMeC accommodate five theoretical institutes of the Faculty of Medicine in Pilsen (biophysics, biology, pharmacology and toxicology, physiology, pathologic physiology). BioMediC features two buildings with labs and studies with a total area of over 4,000 m². The centre’s work will support the long-term cooperation of the faculty and the Pilsen Faculty Clinic with the main focus on biomedical research and development, especially in organ replacement and regeneration.

**Prague – Biocentrum and Globcentrum**
A new campus of Charles University is to be built in the Prague district of Albertov. The Biocentrum and Globcentrum will be shared by the Faculty of Science, the First Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics. The Biocentrum will explore new biotechnologies and analyse biodiversity, while Globcentrum will study planetary climate change, plant species distribution and natural risks.

**Vestec – Biocev**
The Biotechnological and Biomedical Centre is the joint project of Charles University and the Academy of Sciences. The research of the centre focuses on biomedicine, for example on the identification of the specific genes responsible for heart and liver diseases, development of new biomaterials or new therapeutic and diagnostic procedures in medicine etc.
University & significant persons

**Charles IV (1316–1378)**
Holy Roman Emperor and King of Bohemia, founder of Charles College and the Prague University – the oldest university in the Holy Roman Empire north of the Alps.

**Jan Hus (c. 1371–1415)**
Master of the Faculty of Arts, bachelor of theology, latterly dean of the Faculty of Arts and rector of the university, preacher and church reformer.

**Bernard Bolzano (1781–1848)**
Philosopher, mathematician, professor of the religious sciences and the Faculty of Arts of Charles-Ferdinand University.

**Franz Kafka (1883–1924)**
One of the most significant and globally acclaimed writers of the 20th century.

**Tomáš G. Masaryk (1850–1937)**
Philosopher and sociologist, professor at the Faculty of Arts of the Czech part of Charles-Ferdinand University, first president of the Czechoslovak Republic.

**Albert Einstein (1879–1955)**
Physicist, author of the theory of relativity, holder of the Nobel Prize for Physics, professor of physics at the Faculty of Arts of the German part of Charles-Ferdinand University.

**Karel Čapek (1890–1938)**
Major Czech writer, journalist, playwright, translator and photographer.

**Karel Pacák (* 1958)**
Internationally recognised specialist in internal medicine and endocrinology, currently working as the Chief of Section on Medical Neuroendocrinology, NICHD, Bethesda, USA.

**Antonín Holý (1936–2012)**
Chemist, discoverer of, amongst other things, the most effective current treatment for AIDS.

**Jaroslav Heyrovský (1890–1967)**
Chemist, inventor of polarography, professor at the CU Faculty of Science, holder of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry.

**Martin Hilský (* 1943)**
Professor of English Literature, translator, Shakespeare scholar.

**Miroslava Knapková (* 1980)**
Rower/sculler, gold medallist in single sculls at the London Olympic Games in 2012.
Science and research

Charles University is a research-driven university with focus on research based education. Nowadays CU has over 1,000 excellent university researchers, 8 recipients of European Research Council (ERC) grants, many top leading teams and expends around 100 mil € every year on research.

Research support at Charles University

CU developed a system of a research support of excellence for undergraduate and graduate students, postdocs, junior researchers as well as well-established professors:

**PRIMUS**
encourages young researchers with international experience to establish their own research group at CU.

**UNCE (UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CENTRES)**
represents long term support for excellent established researchers at CU.

**START**
supports students in doctoral programmes, puts emphasis on internationalisation,

**DONATIO UNIVERSITATIS CAROLINAE**
supports well-established and outstanding scholars contributing to the CU’s prestige.

**COOPERATIO**
Cooperatio ensures the quality and development of various research fields, the main goal of the program is prevent the fragmentation of research fields within the Charles University.

Cooperatio is a tool for supporting communication, coordination and cooperation of across all faculties and university institutes of the CU, where a certain field is developed.

**CHARLES UNIVERSITY GRANT AGENCY (GA)**
subsidizes the research projects initiated by students of master’s or doctoral degrees study programmes.

The Centre for Knowledge and Technology Transfer

(CKTT, CPPT in Czech) is an independent department of Charles University which connects research teams with both public and private sectors, supports application of innovations in society, protects intellectual property and helps researchers to turn their ideas into products.
Charles University

Charles is a public university, meaning an autonomous scientific and educational institution and it is leading and the most renown university in the Czech Republic.

History and the present

Charles University was founded in 1348 by Charles IV, King of Bohemia and Holy Roman Emperor. It is one of the oldest universities in the world and the oldest university in the Central Europe. At the time of its establishment it had four faculties – the liberal arts, medicine, law and theology. Nowadays Charles University has 17 faculties. Modern university life thrives, drawing strongly on international cooperation. The top priorities for Charles University are to boost the quality of research and educational activities and enhance its position in the scientific scene.

Facts & figures

4 university institutes:
- Institute of the history of Charles University and Archive of Charles University
- Centre for Theoretical Study
- Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education
- Environment Centre

Other Units:
- Computer Science Centre
- Institute for Language and Preparatory Studies
- Central Library of Charles University

- Centre for Transfer of Knowledge and Technology
- Agency of the Council of Higher Education Institutions
- Karolinum Press, the university publishing house
- 17 student residences
- 14 student cafeterias
- Sports centres
- Several faculty museums and collections
- 2 Botanical gardens
Study at Charles University

With its 17 faculties and more than 50,000 students Charles University is the largest university in the Czech Republic. Students of Charles University attend more than 1,300 accredited study programmes.

Structure of students based on areas of education

- Education – 166
- Arts and Humanities – 287
- Social Sciences, Journalism and Information – 186
- Law and Administration – 36
- Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics – 288
- Information and Communication Technologies – 34
- Engineering – 2
- Health and Welfare – 287
- Physical Education and Sport – 21

Number of degree programmes to 31.12.2021

- Bachelor´s – 663
- Master´s – 340
- Follow-up Master´s – 39
- Doctoral – 265

Number of students in degree programmes to 31. 12. 2021:

- Bachelor´s – 6,710
- Master´s – 15,227
- Follow-up Master´s – 9,675
- Doctoral – 19,306
University is a member of many international organisations – for example: Coimbra Group, EUF, EUA, Europaeum, LERU, UNICA and many others.

Alliance 4 EU+
Alliance 4 EU+ has been formed in 2017 by six large public European research universities – Heidelberg University, Sorbonne University, the University of Warsaw, the University of Milan, Copenhagen University and Charles University. The main goal of the Alliance is the cooperation in research, innovation, education, services and free movement of students and academics.

Student mobility
According to official European Union statistics, the number of incoming Erasmus students puts Charles University in 5th place in Europe; in terms of outgoing students, it ranks 10th.

International co-operation

3,100 inter-institutional agreement Erasmus+ programme
More than 200 international partnership (except Erasmus)
Over 260 study programmes accredited in foreign languages
More than 10,000 international students
Charles University International Partnership

Charles University partners are prestigious universities from 59 countries all around the world – from Canada to New Zealand.

#StudyinPrague/Charles University
#StudyCharles