

# IGA – Academic and Project Writing

## Seminar 6

### Institution Introduction

*\* Read the following Masaryk University Language Centre introductions and discuss their quality.*

*\* Decide which are appropriate for projects and for which subject areas:*

1) MUNI is the second largest public university in the Czech Republic and the leading higher education institution in Moravia. It consists of ten faculties with over 200 departments, institutes and clinics. Recognized as one of the most important teaching and research institutions in CR and a highly regarded CE University. One of the top priorities is scientific research, transfer of knowledge and support of innovations.

The MU Language Centre gives language support to all of them. Besides foreign language courses for academic and professional purposes, there is a need to develop new courses for Ph.D. students and professionals. The LC team has a very good professional and methodological background, experience with leadership and is competent to solve tasks in the project. They are keen to learn from other partners. MUNI has over 30,000 students.

2) Masaryk University (MU), located in Brno, was established in 1919. It is the second-largest public university in the Czech Republic. At present, it comprises ten faculties with over 200 departments, institutes and clinics and has over 30,000 students. Recognized as one of the most important teaching and research institutions in the Czech Republic and a highly-regarded Central European university, it plays a major role in the educational, social and cultural life of the region. The area of Archaeology is studied from many perspectives at the MU Department of Archaeology and Museology, such as landscape archaeology, settled area in landscape frame and its changes in time, dynamics of social processes in past, prehistoric and historical technology and its environmental impact.

The Masaryk University Language Centre is the largest institution of its kind in the Czech Republic. It was established in 1970s and provides MU students with courses of foreign languages for academic and specific, professional and work purposes (e.g. English, German, French, Spanish, Russian, Czech for Foreigners, Arabic, Chinese) and with courses of language soft skills. Its team of 70 internal and 8 external language teachers, together with 17 administrative staff members, runs and develops materials for face-to-face as well as online courses for approximately 9 000 MU students each term. Thanks to its international activities, the Language Centre continuously innovates its courses and offers an international expertise to its students. The Language Centre teams have extensive expertise in the development and innovation of university courses focusing not only on specific language education but also on the design of methodological courses. It is also important to note that the Language Centre is included in the accreditation processes. Therefore, the Language Centre is aware of course forms across MU and has an overview of possibilities and ways that courses can be executed.

3) Brno is home to six public universities. Masaryk University, the second-largest university in the Czech Republic with 10 faculties and over 30,000 students, is the leading higher education institution in

the region. The Masaryk University Language Centre, with its 120 staff members and over 10,000 students each term, is the largest language centre in the country. It provides language-focused services and support to the university, encourages internationalisation efforts and enhances continuous exchange of knowledge, ideas and information in Europe and beyond.

4) Masaryk University (MUNI), the second-largest public university in the Czech Republic who welcome students since 1919, consists of ten faculties and over 200 departments, institutes and clinics and is home to over 30,000 students. MUNI offers diverse programmes in the area of Tourism, such as Regional Development, Leisure Time, Tourism in Business, Environmental Sustainability, and Mediterranean Studies.

The Masaryk University Language Centre is the largest institution of its kind in the Czech Republic. It was established in 1971 and provides MU students with courses of foreign languages for academic and specific, professional and work purposes (e.g. English, German, French, Spanish, Russian, Czech for Foreigners, Arabic, Chinese) and with courses of language soft skills. Its team of over 100 academic and administrative staff runs and develops materials for face-to-face as well as online courses for approximately 9 000 MUNI students each term. Thanks to its international activities, the Language Centre continuously innovates its courses and offers an international expertise to its students. The Language Centre teams have extensive expertise in the development and innovation of university language courses focusing not only on specific language education but also on the design of methodological courses such as the use of ICT in language education, the use of videoconferencing systems, teaching soft skills and academic writing.

5) Masaryk University is a leading higher education institution in the region, established as the second Czech public university in 1919. Its mission is to create and disseminate knowledge that enhances quality of life and culture in society. Its fundamental values are freedom, responsibility and respect to rules. Masaryk University is home to 10 faculties, over 200 institutes and clinics, 30 000 students and 2 200 educators and researchers.

The Masaryk University Language Centre is the largest language centre in the country. It was established in 1971 with a mission to encourage intellectual and personality growth of students and academics, increase their international mobility and improve their position in the global labour market. It supports international cooperation and intensive exchange of knowledge, ideas and information on a worldwide scale. It offers language services and support for personal, professional and academic purposes to prospective and current students, to staff of all ten faculties of Masaryk University and to members of general public. Its flexible language courses, material development and testing focus on languages for academic and specific purposes at B1-C1 CEFR levels and on languages for general purposes and language soft skills at all CEFR levels. The Language Centre promotes innovation and modern technologies in language education, contributes significantly to internationalization of the university life, and participates in the creation and sharing of good pedagogical practice and research. Its teaching, project and research activities help to build and expands an extensive network of national and international teams and strategic partnerships.

#### 6) Masaryk University Language Centre:

- established in 1971
- the largest university language centre in the Czech Republic
- individual units at ten faculties of Masaryk University
- over 9,000 students each term
- over 100 staff members
- pedagogical activities
- research activities
- language counselling services
- professional translations, proofreading and editing of texts

Pedagogical activities: The Language Centre's expert tutors use modern teaching methods and high-quality resources. They excel in the following areas, such as academic writing, presentation skills, intercultural communication, e-learning, video-conferencing, peer review, autonomous, collaborative and project teaching, CLIL and EMI.

Research activities: The Language Centre's academic staff members perceive research as an integral and meaningful part of language education, as a cornerstone of high quality teaching and a means to their personal development and professional growth. They use action research and exploratory practice to focus on development of mediation skills, use of corpus linguistics tools in the teaching of languages for academic and specific purposes, development of critical thinking, motivation to learn foreign languages and its impact on learning strategies, role of memory in learning foreign languages and the use of e-learning for the development of language skills.