Faculty of Languages and Literature

## THE HUMANITIES IN PLOVDIV

The Faculty of Philology is part of the Main Building. Training is provided in modern lecture-halls, auditoriums, and rooms for seminars. The Faculty has one computer center, a server of its own (http://slovo.pu.acad.bg), and a computer net work. The Faculty of Philology also houses a Language Center and libraries specialized in Slavic and Western European Languages.

In accordance with its objectives the Faculty of Philology:

* *develops* the educational, scientific, academic, administrative and informational sections of its infrastructure by having a two-way transfer of information with the labor market in Plovdiv, Southern Bulgaria, the rest of the country, the Balkan countries, Central Europe, and the EU.
* *contributes* to international officially accredited agreements, the building up of educational and research panels, gaining access to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

## THE FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

The Faculty of Philology has been independent since 1991 but the history of the humanities in Plovdiv began with the 1973-74 academic year when philological specialties were founded. It was exactly then that the joint Department of Bulgarian Language and Literature was established.

The Faculty of Philology is the largest one among the other 12 faculties at the "Paisii Hilendarski" University of Plovdiv. The total number of students who receive their training in 14 specialties amounts to 4400 students. More than 2900 of them are full-time students, including 30 foreigners, the others taking extramural courses. 6300 students have graduated from the Faculty so far, as 3600 them majored in Bulgarian philology.

The Faculty of Philology works in partnership with the universities of Poznan (Poland), Szeged (Hungary), Novi Sad (Serbia), Brno (Czech Republic), the Faculty of Philology at St. Petersburg University, the University of Prague, the University of Minsk, the University of Paris, the University of Lisbon, the University of Ghent (Belgium), the Sorbonne Nouvelle in Paris, the University of London, and the University of Dresden (Germany), State University in Ankara (Turkey).

## About the faculty

Web site:<http://slovo.uni-plovdiv.bg>

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## General Information

The Faculty is located in the Central Building (English Language and Literature and Western-European Languages and Literatures Library in New Building, 236 Bulgaria Blvd.).

Classes are taught in large lecture halls, auditoria, seminar rooms, built in 1914-1928 and partially renovated.

The Faculty has 6 computer rooms, a specialized website in Bulgarian (<http://slovo.uni-plovdiv.bg>) and a computer network.

A Specialized Slavonic and Western-European Languages Libraries, as well as a Language Centre are available to students.

The Faculty of Languages and Literature functions independently since 1991 but the history of Humanities in Southern Bulgaria began already in the academic year 1973-1974, when language and literature programmes were established.

The Faculty of Languages and Literature is the biggest of the eight faculties of Plovdiv University. It trains 2,600 students in 18 programmes (24 profiles) for a B.A. degree and 12 M.A. programmes. Over 2,200 of the trainees are full-time students, including 30 foreigners, and the rest are part-timers.

## DEGREE PROGRAMMES

The Faculty offers the following programmes:

B.A. programmes: (4 years, 8 semesters)

* Bulgarian Language and Literature
* Russian Language and Literature
* English Language and Literature
* Bulgarian and Russian Language and Literature
* Bulgarian and English Language and Literature
* Bulgarian and French Language and Literature
* Bulgarian and German Language and Literature
* Bulgarian and Modern Greek Language and Literature
* Bulgarian and Turkish Language and Literature
* Russian and French Language and Literature
* Russian and English Language and Literature
* Russian and German Language and Literature
* Bulgarian Language and Literature and History
* Applied Linguistics (18 profiles)
* Linguistics and Physics (English)

**M.A. programme:** (5 years, 10 semesters)

* Slavonic Languages and Literature (3 profiles)
* Balkan Studies

**M.A. programmes:** (1 year, 2 semesters, after completion of the B.A. programme)

* Bulgarian Language and Literature
* English Language and Literature
* Russian Language and Literature
* Linguistic and Translation (English)
* Cultural Tourism
* Eurotranslate Studies
* Multicultural Communication

## FACULTY DATA

Faculty General Assembly (131 members)

Faculty Board (35 members|

Dean

Dean Council (13 members: Dean, prodeans and heads of department)

Departments (8) – Centers (3)

# Управление на образователната и научната дейност и процеси на вземане на решения

## LIST OF DEPARTMENTS

* **Department of Bulgarian Language**
* **Department of General Linguistics and History of Bulgarian Language**
* **Department of Slavonic Languages and Literature**
* **Department of History of Literature and Comparative Literature**
* **Department of Bulgarian Literature and Theory of Literature**
* **Department of English Language and Literature**
* **Department of German and French Language and Literature**
* **Department of Russian Language and Literature**

## LIST OF CENTERS

* **Test DaF center**
* **Center for Languages and Intercultural Communication**
* **Computer and Dialectology Language Center**

## LIST OF SPECIALIZED SCIENCE LIBRARIES

* **Slavic Library**
* **American Corner Library**
* **New Greek Library**
* **Dialectology Collection**
* **Emil Steiger Library**

## LIST OF STUDENT RESEARCH GROUP

* **Linguistic Student Research Group “Prof. B.Simeonov” (Head: Assoc. prof. Krassimira Chakyrova, PhD)**
* **Student Research Group for National Language (Head: Prof. Diana Ivanova, DSc)**
* **Multimedia Student Research Group ((Head: Assoc. prof. Zhivko Ivanov, PhD)**
* **Dialectology Student Research Group (Head: Assist. prof. Vanja Gajdadzieva, PhD)**
* **Old Bulgarian Manuscripts Student Research Group (Head: Assist. prof. Ani Kemalova, PhD)**

# Описание на университетските структури (катедри, направление) и тематика на научните изследвания, провеждани в тях

## RESEARCH IN FACULTY

The research strategy of the faculty has two main priorities:

- To explore the language, literature and culture of the region, country and western Slavic countries to prepare professionals with high competence in different areas of humanitarian knowledge;

- To integrate the deep historical and cultural heritage of the region in modern European system of community and interaction between ethnic groups, languages and cultures;

Faculty development information, educational, scientific and academic-administrative infrastructure through interaction with the social practice of Plovdiv, southern Bulgaria, Bulgaria, the Balkans, the Central Region and the European community.

Modernize education, research, academic and administrative technologies.

For the realization of targets faculty has over 130 highly qualified teachers, attracts leading scientists from elite research institutions, actively exchanging professors from European and North American universities.

Faculty through the various programs invest in building a modern language classrooms, computer rooms and multimedia IT update on research and education infrastructure.

Funding of research is carried out through all available sources, the main burden falls on the National Fund for Scientific Research (three projects for 2007-2009) and international programs of the European Union.

Faculty through its various departments and by the Centre for Language Learning prepares and develops a network of projects to apply for funding university research fund, the National Fund Research, the Swiss program for Eastern Europe SCOPES, DAAD - Germany, programs "Erasmus / Socrates" and "Leonardo".

# DEPARTMENT RESEARCH PROFILE

## DEPARTMENT OF GERMAN AND FRENCH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

The research activities carried out in the Department of Romance and Germanic languages relate to the following three fields:

1) Exploring spoken and written languages – French, Spanish, German and English – at the phonetic, lexical and grammatical levels.

2) Software development in the area of the Natural Language Processing (NLP); our research interests are mainly focused on computer-based tools and instruments for implementation in foreign language learning and teaching, translation techniques and experimental phonetics.

3) Cultural and literary studies (literature in French, Spanish and German).

## DEPARTMENT OF SLAVONIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

In the Department of Slavic Philology we conduct studies in two main directions – confrontative linguistics and comparative literature. Research of linguistic topics is most often based on the methods of comparison: between the Bulgarian language and one of the three Slavic languages (Polish, Czech and Serbian). Literature studies concern mainly the problems of the Czech, Czech-Bulgarian and Serbo-Bulgarian literature and cultural contacts.

## DEPARTMENT OF RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

The Russian Philology Chair works in the sphere of pragmatics and syntagmatics of the Russian language and the methodology of language teaching of students, whose native language is Bulgarian, in out-of–language environment. The research is dedicated to the national and international elements in the lexical and phraseological systems of the Russian and the Bulgarian languages. The Russian people’s mentality is studied on the basis of the Russian literature from all periods of its development.

## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY OF LITERATURE AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

 The Department of Literary History and Comparative Literature offers undergraduate and graduate courses based on researches in Bulgarian literature (from the National revival period to the present), Bulgarian Folklore, Ancient and West European literature, Children’s literature, Historical poetics, and Comparative literature. These courses are designed both for students who want to acquire basic knowledge in these subjects, and for majors who are planning careers as specialists in teaching and in literary and cultural studies.

Departmental research reflects the diversity of our faculty, with a wide range of scholarly and editorial projects underway. Recent faculty publications include book-length studies on major Bulgarian authors, a thematic archeology of German Romanticism, reception studies, and collections of papers from conferences organized by the department.

Recent dissertations have explored a wide range of topics - including Bulgarian literature of the National revival period, the Greek archaic lyric, the European literary years 1953-54, and literary anthropology.

## DEPARTMENT OF BULGARIAN LANGUAGE

Department of Bulgarian language contribution to Bulgarian linguistics is the imposition of a specific methodology based on a single structural-functional and pragmatic conception of natural language based on formal-semantic interpretation of Prague structuralism and formalism of the American descriptiveness. (The first - adapted by the theory of morphological categories and oppositions of A. C. Bondarko longtime head of the Department Prof. Ivan Kutsarov and the second - in the context of syntagmatic formalism of N. Chomsky.)

Production Research Department carried out based on the general methodology is quite diverse issues: grammar (general and verb morphology - temporality, aspectuality, modality, and historical and comparative term, generative grammar, Linguistic modeling; lexicology, dialectology (Thrace); Onomastics; ethno-sociolinguistic and stylistic aspects of language and pragmatics, text linguistics.

Extensive and important topics related with the history of Bulgarian Studies and Slavic Studies, History of Modern Standard Bulgarian language and grammar, with methods of teaching Bulgarian as a foreign language. The main merit of the Department of Bulgarian language requirements are serious about increasing literacy, language and culture of the society carried out by means of entrance exams in language and culture for most of the universities and other universities in the country, through the fruitful meetings with teachers and journalists, through individual work of teachers with graduate students, master and doctoral students and faculty of the Department.

The department carries out research and the problems of contemporary literary norm; current issues of modern spelling and punctuation, so is the initiator of proposals for innovation in normativity of the literary Bulgarian language and discussions with the Institute for Bulgarian Language, BAS and other universities in the country.

## DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL LINGUISTICS AND HISTORY OF BULGARIAN LANGUAGE

The main scientific and research sector in general linguistics focuses on Lingvoculturology, Onomastics and, in particular Anthroponomy. Research interests of colleagues from the sector of Bulgarian history are concentrated in the history of literary and spoken Bulgarian language during all periods of its existence - from the Old period (IX-XI century) until today. They work in the field of historical lexicology and historical syntax. In the scope of their research activities are matters of historical dialectology, as well as the history of Bulgarian studies linguistics. The sector study in classical languages of Latin grammar problems - morphology and style, popular Latin and Nehellenic college work in the theory of translation and questions of modern Greek poetry.

## DEPARTMENT OF BULGARIAN LITERATURE AND THEORY OF LITERATURE

 The Department of Bulgarian literature, theory of literature and of teacher-training in Bulgarian language & literature works in three main areas:

* Literary history
* Theory of literature
* Methodology of teaching language & literature

The research activities of the Department of Bulgarian Literature and Theory of Literature are focused on the historical, theoretical and cultural-anthropological perception and appreciation of literature.

Within the department, the section of scholars dealing with teacher-training works on:

the aspects of inter-cultural interaction in school-education in Bulgarian language & literature;

the communicative competence in the education in language & literature;

teaching Bulgarian literary classics in the conditions of an evolving system of education;

## DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

Lecturers from the *English philology* department do research in the areas of linguistics, literary theory and history, culture studies, and methodology of teaching English as a foreign language. Publications in linguistics include theoretical constructions in cognitive, generative and historical grammar, descriptive models, as well as practically oriented types of output like Bulgarian—English and English—Bulgarian dictionaries.

In the field of literary studies, interests range from theoretical discussions of English-language literature, through comparative analyses, to historicizing texts and contexts. The meta-discourse of the state of English studies as a discipline brings together the different strands of philological inquiry, and

# *FACULTY IN EUROPE*

The Faculty is a member-cofounder of Prague Network, which is an initiative of the Deans of the Faculties of Humanities of Europe, which was founded at the first meeting of the Deans in Prague in 2005. The Initiative joins twenty Faculties of Humanities within all of Europe and endeavours to discuss issues of the humanities discipline within the context of all of Europe. (See membership page at <http://www.prague-network.org/PN-8.html> and the Prague Declaration at <http://www.prague-network.org/PN-15.html> )