



Welcome at FRDIS!

FRESHMAN'S GUIDE

Dear student,

Let us welcome you among us. We believe that your life at FRDIS will be a great adventure that will enrich you and that you will have good memories of in your future life.

We are a young and progressive faculty. Students are our priority and we believe in a friendly and partner approach.

We do our best to help our students develop and prepare for the world of today and tomorrow. We encourage all of you to take part in international study programmes, internships and events and use your experience in your studies. Nevertheless, even during your classes at our faculty, you will hopefully appreciate the multicultural environment through friends from all over the world.

Apart from the study duties, the students who gather in the Academic Union organize a range of leisure time activities and events. Furthermore, you are welcome to join the union too.

We are a small faculty, we are a young faculty and we are a faculty without borders. We are FRDIS and now you are one of us.

The following pages offer some practical information.



Academic year schedule

You will need to know the schedule of the academic year in order not to miss all the important deadlines related to your studies. You can always find the schedule for each academic year in the Student Portal under the Academic Year schedule tab.

In addition to the beginning and end of the semester, the dates of the exam period, enrolment, planned holidays, etc., you will also find a weekly schedule where you can find out when you have seminars and when not.

For the time being, it is important to remember these dates:

20th September - 17th December 2021

Winter semester courses

- Lectures and seminars will take place in this period

27th December - 6th February 2022

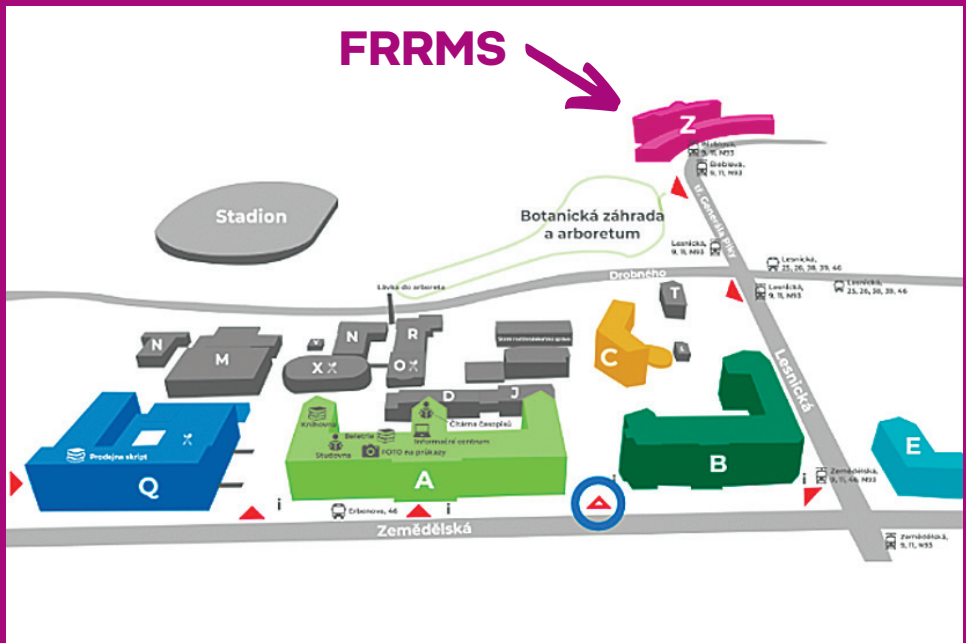
Winter semester exam period



The academic year schedule includes general dates of the academic year. You will find **your schedule with lecture and seminar times** in your Student Portal in the University Information System UIS.



MENDELU campus map



Building Z – The Faculty of Regional Development and International Studies is accessible by trams no. 9 and 11, stop Bieblova, then five minutes walk. See the map here.

Building Z is situated within walking distance of the main campus, it is ideal to walk through the arboretum while drawing energy from the beauty you are walking through.

The university main campus is accessible by trams no. 9 and 11, stop Zemědělská and by trolleybuses no. 25 and 26, stop Lesnická.

Building A – Rectorate

Building B – Faculty of Forestry and Wood Technology

Building C – Faculty of AgriScience

Building Q – Faculty of Business and Economics

Building E – Institute of Lifelong learning

Building X – Canteen

Building O – Pizzeria

Study department

The study department staff will be those who will help you with your study agenda. You will need to visit the study department in case you need:

- a certificate of study
- ISIC or a sticker on it
- arrange your stay abroad
- solve issues related to your study
- change of your personal data or contact

WHERE CAN YOU FIND US?

The study department office is on the ground floor. When you enter the building, turn right and then the second door on the right.

WHEN ARE WE THERE FOR YOU?

We have office hours when you can come without prior agreement. Follow the web pages, where this information is always up to date. Or contact us and we can agree on the time of your visit.



Faculty Organization



Practical information for studies:

Course registration and enrolment

You don't have to deal with this issue in the first semester, because we've already done it for you. You have been enrolled in your courses automatically and you also have a schedule for the first semester. However, we are so helpful only in the case of our new students and from the second semester on, you have to take care of your course enrolment yourself

COURSE REGISTRATION

The course registration takes place within a given period, usually before the start of a new semester. By registering for courses, you let us know which courses you are interested in in the next semester.

Course registration is not binding, but it helps us to compile schedules and capacities.

COURSE ENROLMENT

During the course enrolment period, you can choose the courses you want to study in the upcoming semester. You will be offered courses from the recommended study plan. You don't have to stick to that, but we recommend it. This way you will avoid future complications with unfinished courses, prerequisites, etc.

SEMESTER ENROLMENT

You can be enrolled in the next semester in case you have met all the requirements of the previous semester and can therefore continue in your studies. Enrolment in the semester goes hand in hand with the enrolment of your courses. To be enrolled in the second semester, you must obtain at least 12 credits in the first semester. In the following semesters, you always have to have at least 40 credits obtained in the last two semesters.



Practical information for studies:

Credits

To complete your studies, you need (among other things) to collect a given number of credits.

You get a certain number of credits for each course. The number of credits is based on the time and study load of the course. For example, Microeconomics is more time consuming than Sociology, so for completed Microeconomics, you will receive 6 credits and for Sociology 4 credits.

What do you have to do to complete a course?

Requirements for the completion of each course are determined by its guarantor. Thus, the conditions may be different for each course.

In some courses, it might be important to participate in class activities, in others, it might be necessary to prepare and defend a seminar paper or presentation, in other courses a final test might be compulsory.

The conditions for completing the courses will be communicated to you by the teacher in the first lesson and you will also find them at any time in the syllabus of the course in the University Information System.

How many attempts do you have to pass the exam?

You register for the exam in the Student Portal via the "Registration for Exams" function. You can choose a date that is free and convenient for you. You always have three attempts. If none of the attempts is successful, then you simply re-enrol the subject in the next semester or year.

But beware! Exceptionally, you can enrol in one course a maximum of 4 times or two courses a maximum of 3 times per study! All other courses can only be taken twice!



Practical information for studies: Lectures and seminars

Courses can consist of lectures, seminars, or a combination of both.

At **lectures** teachers give presentations and often speak about things that you won't find in the study materials. We recommend that you do not miss lectures, because in addition to knowledge, you will also learn here important information and conditions for completing the course and you will usually get tips on what to prepare for the exam or to obtain the credits, or criteria for successfully writing an essay or other type of final assignment.

Exercises and seminars are mandatory unless the teacher stipulates otherwise. They are lessons where you will extend and develop your knowledge obtained during the lectures. Usually, you can only miss a certain number of classes.



Practical information for studies: Scholarships

Our faculty also allows you to get a scholarship. In case you feel entitled to them, you have to apply for them.

Merit scholarship

It is awarded to students up to a study average of 1.5. You must apply for it in writing via the Contact Centre in the UIS.

Accommodation scholarship

Everyone whose journey to school takes more than 60 minutes by public transport and at the same time does not have a permanent residence in the district in which he or she is studying during the decisive period of the academic year is entitled to this scholarship.

The scholarship is valid throughout the academic year and is paid quarterly. You can apply for the scholarship in the Student Portal in the Scholarship Application.

Social scholarship

It is awarded to students who suffer from material deprivation associated with the purchase of study aids. In this case, it is necessary to prove that the family's income determined for the child allowance for the calendar year stated in the certificate does not exceed the product of the amount of the family's subsistence minimum and the coefficient of 1.50.

A written application for this scholarship is submitted to the study department by 31 October.

Extraordinary scholarship

It is awarded to students for extraordinary representation of the faculty or other beneficial activities.

Detailed information on the conditions for obtaining scholarships can be found in the Mendel University Scholarship Regulations.



Practical information for studies: **Study abroad**

During your studies, you can spend up to 12 months abroad and choose if you want to study at one of the partner universities or gain experience in a company, NGO or a farm if you wish.

You will improve your language skills and learn more for your studies as well as about the life out there.

Our faculty supports these stays and encourage the students to go!

These are some of the programmes that offer the students the opportunity to study abroad and also financial support:

- **Erasmus+** for studying at a university in the EU
- **CEEPUS** for studying in the countries of central and Eastern Europe
- **bilateral agreements** that enable studying outside of Europe (e.g. USA, Australia, South Korea, Thailand, Russia, South Africa)

For the researchers-to-be among you, we organize 30-day long research expeditions that you can join together with the academics.

The pragmatic souls might prefer practical internships and use the database of companies and institutions that offer positions for interns.

There are also foundations that provide a range of scholarships or you can take part in international projects. For more information, contact the MENDELU International Office (Oddělení mezinárodních vztahů a internacionalizace).



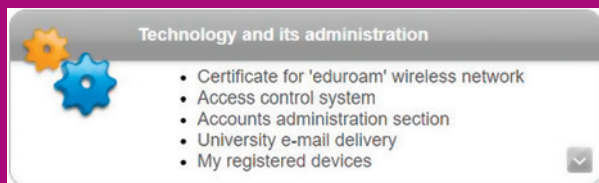
Practical information

– student life:

University Wi-Fi

For accessing the university Wi-Fi you have to download and install the certificates first.

Via your mobile data or the network „faro-free“ log in to the University Information System (UIS) and in “Personal Administration” go to the section “Technology and its Administration” → “Certificate for ‘eduroam’ wireless network”. At the bottom, there is “Instructions for installation and information about the wi-fi network Eduroam” that will guide you depending on the type of device.



The whole procedure is not long and it will give you access to the internet not only everywhere at MENDELU but also at other universities and institutions around the world that use Eduroam as their Wi-Fi.



Practical information

– student life:

Canteen

MENDELU offers several canteens that offer inexpensive meals:

Canteen in building Z (FRDIS)

- breakfast and snacks in the mornings
- lunch between 11:30 am and 2 pm

Canteen in building X

Pizzeria in building O

More canteens are at the dormitories – JAK in Kohoutova street (Kohoutova 5) or TAK in Jana Babáka (Jana Babáka 3/5).

ORDER

There is no need to order your meal in advance. You simply come and select one of the meals that are on offer. There is always a soup of the day available for you, as well as some salads.

You may also use the facility to heat up your meal in a microwave oven.

PAYMENT

You pay with your ISIC card, so make sure it is charged.

MORE INFO

The menus, prices and manual for charging your ISIC card are available at <https://skm.mendelu.cz/en/catering/28604-menu>.



Practical information

– student life:

Dormitories and accommodation

In case you would like to live at MENDELU dormitories and have not arranged it yet, see <https://skm.mendelu.cz/en/accommodation/28372-accomodation-for-students>.

And if you are lucky and the capacity allows it, you will be offered a room in the faculty building and just run downstairs from your place to attend the classes :-D



Practical information

– student life:

ISIC card

This card is something like your ID card and you will use it, apart from identifying yourself, for many other purposes:

- the canteen – you just charge the card and pay with it for your meals
- the libraries – remember to activate your card in the information centre, building A
- the campus – the card will let you in the areas restricted only to MENDELU students and staff
- the dormitory – when locked, this card will let you in, your card will have a sticker of the particular dormitory for identification
- the arboretum – the beautiful park with a unique collection of trees and plants, which is part of the campus, is not open to the public but the card will let you in on both ends (btw, walking through the arboretum is a shortcut to the campus but also a great place to chill out)

At the same time, the ISIC card is an internationally recognized student card that entitles you to have a student discount on public transport or in entrance tickets and so on.

The card is only valid for the time of your studies and you have to renew it every year by buying a stamp at the study department.

WARNING – if you already possess an ISIC card (issued by another institution), it is not valid at MENDELU. It does not have your student identification number and it will not allow you the purposes listed above. Therefore, you have to get your MENDELU ISIC card.



Practical information

– student life:

Libraries

MENDELU Information Centre and the Central Library

This is where you can study or work on team projects with your peers, you have access to a copy machine, a scanner or a printer. The shelves also display books and journals that are either available for loan or for on-site reference only.

LOCATION

One of the libraries is located in building Z, at FRDIS, others are to be found in building A. This is a link to the **online catalogue**: <https://katalog.mendelu.cz/#/>

Some teachers prepare materials for their classes that you can loan from the library in building A or buy them in building Q. You can also buy these second hand from students in higher grades.



Practical information

– student life:

Sports and leisure time

MENDELU has its **Centre of Sports Activities** that offers a range of classes and opportunities to move a bit (or a bit more). You will surely find your sport there, as their scope goes from body and mind activities to something more dynamic and adrenalin.

Some of these activities take place at the dormitory building Jana Babáka 5, some take you to other sports halls and gyms around Brno. The Centre of Sports Activities also offers summer and winter intensive courses that take you rafting, wind-surfing or skiing.

As a MENDELU student, you are entitled to two sports courses of your choice free of charge. If you want more, you will have to pay, even though the costs are very competitive for Brno standards.

TAKING SPORTS SERIOUSLY?

If you are advanced in a certain discipline or sport, you will be welcome in the University Sports Club. MENDELU has its teams for baseball, basketball, bodybuilding, down-hill skiing, floorball, orientation run, table tennis, tennis, volleyball and windsurfing.

And if you prefer to do sports your way, the opportunities in Brno are boundless. Not far from the MENDELU Campus there is Lužánky park where you can go jogging or enjoy other sports and non-sport activities. There are many gyms, yoga centres and other sports facilities that will fulfil your sports needs.



APART FROM SPORTS

Brno is a student city with a vibe and lots of cultural events. For many, it is also a gastro heart of the Czech Republic which shows in the coffee culture in cafés all around the town, bistros and food trucks as well as restaurants.

As Brno is the capital of a wine region, local wine is beloved by all of us. However, we also love beer and you can taste specials from many microbreweries. The beer and wine are served in the restaurants but also at festivals and other events.

If you feel like going to the movies, Brno offers small art cinemas as well as multiplexes. In summer, there are hundreds of open-air screenings around the town. Including the one organized by the university cinema SCALA.

Even high culture has its place in Brno! The National Theatre (Národní Divadlo Brno – www.ndb.cz) has ballet, opera and drama scenes and they sometimes have performances with English subtitles. There are many smaller theatres too.

There are several museums that you can visit, The Moravian Museum, Technical Museum or Mendel Museum (guess where our university got its name?). As for the galleries, two public institutions will saturate your hunger for visual art – Moravian Gallery and the House of Arts. Furthermore, there are many other galleries that you can visit. And then there is the art in the streets – statues, sculptures and architecture. Ranging from Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque buildings to the functionalist architecture of the 20th century with its gems around Brno.

However, the highlight for many students is the festivals. In May we welcome the student festival Majáles which is a festival of students and universities but there are many others. You will surely find the one (or more) that will be your cup of tea – rock music, folklore music, world music, dance festivals, street festivals, food festivals, fireworks festival and so on.



Once again, welcome at FRDIS, our faculty.

Wishing you a smooth adaptation to your life here and fingers crossed at your studies.

If you have further questions or any difficulties, contact the study department or senior students. In case it is something more serious, you should contact the vice-dean in charge or directly the dean of the faculty.

We will be happy to make everything clear and to help you overcome any difficulties you may have.



- **MENDELU**
- **Faculty of Regional**
- **Development and**
- **International Studies**

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