Founded in 1364, the Jagiellonian University has been an integral part of Kraków’s history for 650 years. The University’s importance on the international scene dates back to the 15th century, when some 44% of the entire student population was coming from abroad!

At present, with 47,989 students enrolled, 3,844 academic teachers and 689 distinguished professors, the JU offers professionally focused courses in nearly 150 areas of the most notable academic disciplines. JU constantly improves and expands its infrastructure to create an ever better environment for scholarly research, teaching and learning. For the past few years, the JU has consistently occupied top positions in various rankings of the best universities in Poland. Due to the Jagiellonian University’s outstanding level of teaching and high regard on the international stage, studying here as a degree or exchange student is an unforgettable personal experience as well as a life-time academic and professional investment.

Today, the JU is recognised for:

- A wide range of specialisations related to the issues regarding European integration;
- A long standing commitment to the spread of knowledge in the most professional manner;
- High-quality and internationally renowned research;
- Dynamically developing teaching and research centres;
- A wide range of innovative study and research options that seek to foster the aspirations for analysis, critical discourse, and dialogue to promote the highest intellectual standards.

The 650th Jubilee of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków

In May 2014, the Jagiellonian University in Kraków was celebrating the 650th anniversary of its foundation. Let it be a pearl of the inestimable sciences, so that it may bring forth men outstanding for the maturity of their counsel, pre-eminent for their virtue, and well-qualified in all the branches of knowledge, reads an excerpt from the act founding the Kraków Academy, as it was then known, issued by King Casimir the Great on May 12, 1364.

As if at the noble King’s bidding, the University has indeed played a vital role in the history of Poland as the breeding ground for the intellectual elite, which has had an enormous cultural impact and has greatly contributed to the development of science and education throughout the region.

It was the Jagiellonian University that witnessed the first scientific steps of Nicolaus Copernicus, the author of the ground-breaking De revolutionibus orbium coelestium, which led to one of the most important revolutions in scientific thinking since ancient times, often referred to as the Copernican Revolution. In his later years, he noted that he was greatly indebted to the Kraków University.

Other students whose names have gone down in history include later king of Poland, Jan III Sobieski, called the Lion of Lechistan by the Turks and the Defender of the Faith by the Christians, Karol Wojtyła, the future Pope John Paul II, science fiction and philosophy writer Stanisław Lem, one of the greatest visionaries and futurologists of our times, and poet Wisława Szymborska, awarded with the Nobel Prize for Literature.

To mark the occasion of the 650th Jubilee of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, various events and festivities were held throughout the whole academic year with May 2014 being the highlight of the anniversary celebrations. They included official ceremonies, local and international conferences, and meetings between European and Polish university networks. There were also many cultural events: exhibitions, concerts, even an opera written by Jan A.P. Kaczmarek.

The students' role was very important in the celebrations as well. They held various conferences and a session of the Board of the European Students’ Union, prepared a jubilee edition of Student Research Papers of the Jagiellonian University and conducted a chain experiment. Lots of cultural and sport events were organised by the JU students too: international regatta, football match, concerts, and even the painting of a mural.

No university better than the JU

Oksana Kucharska (Ukraine): I have always dreamt of studying at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. Why? The answer is simple: there is no city more beautiful than Krakow and no university better than the JU. The cultural capital of Poland is truly a magical place, full of historic monuments, charming backstreets, and unique cafés. Here everything moves with life and you cannot get bored. The atmosphere of Krakow is one of a kind, and the Jagiellonian University is a prestigious academic institution, which has a centuries old tradition, and lots of great people among its graduates. Studying here is a gateway to the future and an opportunity for personal development. I am very happy that I was admitted to this university and I hope that soon I will become its graduate.
Programmes of study in English and other foreign languages

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMMES:
- Polish Studies Study Abroad
- European Studies Study Abroad

UNDERGRADUATE (First-Cycle):
- BA in International Relations and Area Studies
- BA in Cultural Studies (Polish and Ukrainian language studies)

DOUBLE DEGREE UNDERGRADUATE (First-Cycle):
- BA in Management, BSc in International Management
  Consortium with the ESB Business School
  Reutlingen University (Polish and German language studies)

GRADUATE (Long-cycle):
- Doctor of Dental Surgery Programme for High School Graduates (DDS)
- Medical Doctor Programme for College-University Students (MD)
- Medical Doctor Programme for High School Graduates (MD)

GRADUATE (Second-Cycle):
- MA in Cultural Studies: TransAtlantic Studies
- MA in European Studies – specialisations:
  - Central and Eastern European Studies
  - EU Studies
  - Europeanisation and Governance in Central and Eastern Europe
  - Studies in the Holocaust and Totalitarian Systems
- MA in International Relations – Europe in the Visegrad Perspective
- MA in Mathematics: Pure and applied mathematics
- Interdisciplinary MA Programme in Polish Studies, Jewish Studies and History
- MSc in Biotechnology
- MSc in Ecology and Evolution

ERASMUS MUNDUS JOINT MA PROGRAMMES (Second-Cycle):
- EuroPublicHealth: European Public Health Master
- International Masters in Economy, State and Society (IMESS)
- International Masters in Russian, Central and East European Studies (IMRCEES)
- MA in Euroculture

DOCTORAL (Third-Cycle):
- PhD in Comparative Literature
- PhD in Physical Sciences
- International PhD Studies in Medical Sciences
- Studia dalekowschodnie
- International PhD Studies in Economics

Facts & figures: Founded in 1364 • almost 40 000 academic staff • almost 50 000 students • over 3 300 foreign students • over 250 student associations

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