



# **The University of Silesia Faculty of Humanities**

**Information for incoming non-EU-based students**

<https://www.us.edu.pl/en/>

<https://us.edu.pl/wydzial/wh/en/>

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## Introduction to the region, the University and its main campuses:

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**Katowice**, home to the University of Silesia's main campus, is a vibrant city in southern Poland at the heart of the Silesian Province. With some 280.000 inhabitants, it is the capital of the Silesian Metropolitan Area, which is a conurbation of 2,1 mln people. Rich in history, it lies at the crossroads of cultures and influences, with a multicultural past located between Silesian, Polish, German, and Czech identities. Over the past twenty years, it has transformed from its industrial heritage into a cultural and business hub, with a very vibrant pub, restaurant, and club scene. Due to its proximity to the state border and with its excellent flight and train connections, Katowice is also a perfect base to explore Poland, Central Europe (with train connections to Prague, Berlin, Vienna, and Budapest) and Europe (most European destinations are within two to three hours of flight time). The historic city of Kraków (Cracow) – the former royal capital of the Kingdom of Poland and one of Poland's leading tourist destinations – lies east of Katowice and is only one hour away by train.



**Sosnowiec**, where the foreign languages campus is located and where most of the teaching in English is based, is also part of the Silesian Metropolitan Area, a minutes bus ride from the centre of Katowice. In fact, you will hardly notice that you have left one city and arrived in the other. Sosnowiec is a city of 185.000 inhabitants, and its history is shaped by its status as a border town of the Tsarist Empire (up to 1918) and as a city of Jewish entrepreneurs until WWII. It is now a little quieter than Katowice, but it has picturesque spots and a lively food and drink culture. It is on the main train line leading from Katowice to the east, and it is well connected to the capital of the metropolitan area by the bus network.

Introduction to Katowice: <https://welcome.katowice.eu/>

The Silesian Province, its attractions and cuisine: <https://www.slaskie.travel/>

The **University of Silesia** is the largest public University in the Silesian province, providing education for nearly 21,000 students, including 900 international students, enrolled in 77 programmes: full-time and part-time studies, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral studies. The University has 3,200 employees, including teaching and research staff. Since its inception, nearly 260,000 graduates have completed their education at the University of Silesia.



## Faculty of Humanities and its two campuses:



**Address:** 4 Uniwersytecka St.,

40-007 Katowice, Poland

**Google Maps location:**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/nNguTwsh8Kmv8qj87>

### Katowice campus:

- Polish studies,
- Classical studies
- Philosophy
- History
- Art History
- Cognitive studies
- Studies in communication
- Korean studies
- Digital communication
- Mediterranean studies

**(Please note that the above study programmes are available in Polish only)**



### Sosnowiec campus

- English studies;
- English studies: Culture – Media – Translation (with Canadian and American elective modules);
- English studies: Literature and Culture (with Canadian and American elective modules);
- English studies: Interactive Entertainment Design and Game Studies;
- Linguistics;

**(Please note that the above study programmes are available in English)**

- French studies;
- German and Swedish studies;
- Italian studies;
- Romance and Spanish studies;
- Slavic studies; East Slavic studies;
- Russian studies;

**Address:** 5 Gen. Stefana Grota-Roweckiego St.,  
41-205 Sosnowiec, Poland

**Google Maps location:**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/4a4KEXmAwVn6aqgd7>

**A short video** about Sosnowiec and the campus:  
<https://youtu.be/vGmjyJEHi80?si=1XtxjOLkLKI1AVi5>

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## **Admissions to the University of Silesia:**

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Please note that you will be assigned a studies coordinator, who will guide you through the admissions process, advise on the available study offer in English and help you settle at the University.

**The admissions page (in English).** Scroll down for more information about the University.

<https://www.us.edu.pl/kandydat/en/>

**Freshers' information in English (in English):**

<https://us.edu.pl/kandydat/en/co-po-zlozeniu-dokumentow-na-studia/>

**Subjects and modules available:** follow the links below to browse through the modules taught in the English studies programmes:

<https://informator.us.edu.pl/programmes/list/all/FA/W1-S1FA19.2021/>

<https://informator.us.edu.pl/programmes/list/all/FC/W1-S1FC25.2025/>

<https://informator.us.edu.pl/programmes/list/all/EL/W1-S1EL25.2025/>

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## **The University of Silesia's International Office**

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General information for exchange students (scroll down for clickable menu):

<https://erasmus.us.edu.pl/exchange-students/>

Browse through the welcome videos (please turn on the English subtitles on YT):

<https://erasmus.us.edu.pl/must-see-videos/>

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## **Accommodation at the University**

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**University accommodation in Sosnowiec and Katowice:**

University dormitories, double rooms with ensuite or shared bathroom and shared kitchens (self-catering accommodation). Depending on the room standard, prices per month range from ca. 800 PLN [ca. 310 CAD] to ca. 1000 PLN [ca. 390 CAD]:

<https://erasmus.us.edu.pl/accommodation/>

<https://us.edu.pl/kandydat/akademiki/> (detailed information in Polish only, please turn on the auto translation in your browser)

**The BaseCamp by Xior student dormitory in Katowice.**

Private student accommodation in Katowice is of a higher standard than the basic university accommodation. 24/7 gym, cinema space, socialising spaces and free bikes. Single or double rooms with private ensuite bathrooms and private or shared kitchens (self-catering accommodation). 30-40 mins. bus ride time to Sosnowiec from the Basecamp bus stop. Prices per month range from ca. 2000,- PLN [ca. 775 CAD] to 3000,- PLN [ca. 1170 CAD].

<https://www.basecampstudent.com/student/katowice/>

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## Travel links

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Getting here by air (we recommend either **Katowice Airport (KTW)** with several daily connections with **Frankfurt Airport (FRA)**, a hub for intercontinental flights):

<https://www.katowice-airport.com/>

From Canada, you may also choose a direct flight from **Toronto Airport (YYZ)** to **Kraków Airport (KRK)** operated by LOT Polish Airlines: <https://krakowairport.pl/en/homepage/>

### **Arriving from Katowice Airport (KTW/Katowice Pyrzowice):**

**By public transportation:** bus line **AP** from the airport to the centre of Katowice

Travel time: approx. 40 min.

**By public transportation:** bus line **M11** from the airport to the centre of Katowice

Travel time: approx. 75 min.

Tickets: PLN 23–30/ca. 12 CAD. You can buy public transportation tickets via smartphone apps (moBILET, Skycash, Jakdojade, mPay) or in the paper version.

### **Arriving by shuttle bus service from Katowice Airport (KTW/Katowice Pyrzowice):**

Travel time: approx. 40 mins.

Tickets: PLN 20 / ca 8 CAD – tickets can be bought online or from the driver.

### **Timetable and more information**

**From Kraków Airport (KRK/Kraków-Balice) to Katowice:**

Travel time: approx. 1 h.

Tickets: PLN 45 /ca. 17 CAD – tickets can be bought online.

### **Timetable and tickets (FlixBus)**

### **Rail travel:**

The railway station in Katowice is only a few minutes' walk from the main University buildings. There are direct rail services from major European cities such as Paris, Berlin, Prague, Vienna, and others. Rail connections with major cities in Poland (Warsaw, Kraków and others) are available several times a day by InterCity trains.

**Timetable and tickets:** <https://www.intercity.pl/en/>

### **By coach (international and national lines):**

There are low-cost direct coach connections between Katowice and numerous European cities offered by FlixBus: <https://www.flixbus.pl/autobusy/katowice>

### **Local public transport:**

Public transport, including buses, trams, and trains, is quite good in the area. Transport within the city area is much cheaper with a monthly ticket. For further information, please visit: **Transport GZM:** <https://transportgzm.pl/>

Please note: The student discount is available only to students under 26 with a valid University of Silesia in Katowice ID card.

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## Health insurance

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The exchange students coming to our University are obliged to have health and accident insurance valid throughout their stay in Poland. It is recommended to have liability insurance as well. Please check the expiry date, scope and all provisions of the insurance policy you are going to buy. If you plan to travel to other countries during your stay in Poland, you must ensure that this is included in your insurance coverage.

Students from outside the European Union and EEA countries are obliged to obtain health insurance either through the Polish National Health Fund (NFZ) upon arrival in Poland or through a private insurance company in their home country or in Poland. The health insurance must be valid throughout your entire stay in Poland.

Depending on the terms and conditions of your insurance, you may receive health care free of charge, or you may be charged and have the costs reimbursed after returning home. The University of Silesia cannot endorse any private insurance agencies, so please choose carefully.

If you choose to join the Polish National Health Fund (NFZ), the monthly cost is around PLN 50 (12 EUR). When using health services, you will have to present your NFZ contract and the monthly premium payment receipt.

Recommended NFZ health care centres in Katowice and Sosnowiec (service available in English):

CenterMed

ul. Bocheńskiego 38, 40-859 Katowice  
<http://centermed.pl/placowka/Katowice-14>

MarkMed

ul. Stara Kłodnicka 43, 40-703 Katowice  
<https://mark-med.pl/>

Safmed

ul. Będzińska 41, 41-205 Sosnowiec  
ul. Sobieskiego 21, 41-200 Sosnowiec  
<http://www.safmed.com.pl/>

Detailed information concerning health care in Poland may be found at:

<http://www.nfz.gov.pl/>

## Accident insurance

Accident insurance is a policy that pays benefits to the beneficiary in the event of fatal or non-fatal accidents. Accident insurance covers loss of life resulting from a covered accident and can provide coverage for certain conditions (e.g., loss of limbs, loss of eyesight, etc.) resulting from an accident. The conditions which may be covered depend on the policy.

**In an emergency, call 112.**

**We look forward to seeing you in Silesia and in Poland!**



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