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Erasmus+

Faculty of Humanities

Nicolaus Copernicus University

Toruń, Poland

2015/16 Guide



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Welcome

Faculty of Humanities of Nicolaus Copernicus University (Torun, Poland) would like to invite international students to spend one semester or a year in Toruń.

*I would like to invite you to study at the one of the best
Faculties
of Humanities in Poland.*

Warm welcome to all of the prospective students!

Prof. Andrzej Szahaj
Dean of the Faculty of Humanities
Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń
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Poland – basics

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Capital: Warsaw

Language: Polish

Currency: Zloty (PLN, zł), 1 zloty = 100 groszy

Country Code: PL



Poland - climate



Warm September marks the beginning of Poland's autumn, which lasts till the beginning of November. The autumn is called 'golden' because of the abundance of colours, mostly yellow, light brown, and red, from the leaves of trees. Most of the time it is still quite warm (around 15°C). This is the best time to visit our beautiful old cities like Krakow, Warsaw, Wrocław, Poznań and the tri-city of Gdańsk, Gdynia, and Sopot.



Spring is the happiest and most colourful time of the year. The whole of nature awakes from the numb of winter. Toruń is overtaken by greenness and flowers start blooming. The streets fill up with colourful fashion. If you like fresh seaside breeze then take a train to Gdańsk and relish the spring sea air. Would you prefer a mountain view? Then go south and walk in the mountains: Tatry, Pieniny, Sudety, Karpaty or Bieszczady.



As winter starts the temperature can drop below zero and snow begins to fall. Between mid-December and February the average temperature is -10°C. Sometimes, however, it can drop even below minus 25°C. The snow often lies till mid-March when the astronomic spring begins. Therefore, if you are fond of skiing, both winter and summer semester are ideal. In the south of Poland, you can find many places for skiing like Zakopane, the so-called 'winter capital' of Poland, Bukowina Tatrzańska, Białka Tatrzańska.



The summer starts in June with temperatures around 25 °C, and July is the hottest month. It is the best time to visit Poland and sunbathe on the beautiful sandy beaches along the Baltic Sea. Moreover, you can go mountain climbing in the south of Poland.

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Toruń

Toruń was founded in medieval times. Throughout the dramatic history of Poland, the city was fortunately saved from major destruction. For that reason the city has an abundance of historic buildings and monuments, many of which date back to the medieval period. Additionally, a significant number of buildings are built in the Gothic architectural style. Toruń is the Polish city with the second highest number of retained, authentic historic monuments. The authenticity of the medieval and Gothic skyline of Toruń was one of the main arguments supporting the decision to add Toruń to the UNESCO List of World Heritage Sites in 1997. A national poll in 2007 chose Toruń's Old Town as one of the Seven Wonders of Poland.



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Toruń - as all cities with a rich history - has its own magical places...

- The most beautiful Polish panorama - of the illuminated medieval part of the city seen from the Vistula River side,
- The Old Town, known as the Gothic pearl,
- Castle of the Teutonic Knights,
- The Philadelphia Boulevard - a long street (about 1.5 km) running between the Vistula River and walls of the Old Town
- The Town Hall Tower is open to tourists. It provides a spectacular view of the Old Town and the surrounding area,
- Gallery of gothic art, Exhibition of old Toruń 1233-1793, Exhibition of Toruń coins, Court hall, Hall of Polish kings and more,
- The Leaning Tower.

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Ny Coperny!

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Nicolaus Copernicus, the famous astronomer who “stopped the Sun and moved the Earth”, was born in Toruń. Copernicus was the first to formulate a modern heliocentric theory of the solar system. His reiteration that the sun is at the center of the solar system is considered among the most important landmarks in the history of western science.

Every year approximately 1 milion tourists vistis Toruń

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Toruń is one of the most important tourist centres in Poland and, right after Cracow, has the second richest collection of original and well preserved historical monuments of all Polish cities. Numerous museums and other attractions attract tourists to Toruń which is also one of the most important science and cultural centres in Poland with the biggest and oldest university in the North.

Toruń has entered agreements of friendship and cooperation with cities which have a lot in common in terms of big cultural, educational and historical tradition. Toruń's twin-towns are Göttingen in Germany, Philadelphia in the US, Leiden in Holland, Hämeenlinna in Finland, Kaliningrad in Russia, Čadca in Slovakia, and Swindon in Great Britain.

Since 1998 Toruń has been a member of the Union of the Cities of the New Hansa. The New Hansa Union promotes understanding and acceptance of the cultural, political, and social differences of other nations. It teaches tolerance and mutual respect. It strengthens the feelings of democracy and enables the sharing of experiences between New Hansa partners. It brings together citizens of the eastern and western parts of Europe.

Curiosity

Because of its rich history and enchanting atmosphere Toruń is often compared to the ancient English city of York. Both cities are well known and popular thanks to their picturesque historical monuments, delightful gothic atmosphere, renowned universities and hundreds of atmospheric cafes and pubs.

Festive Toruń

International Theatre Festival KONTAKT

The International Theatre Festival KONTAKT has been organized by Wiliama Horzycy Theatre since 1991. KONTAKT creates the possibility to see and promote the most interesting theatral events from Central-Eastern Europe and confront them with Western European Theatres. KONTAKT is an intermediary in a multicultural, often demanding, understanding of a new reality. The festival takes place at the end of May and has a competitive character. An important aspect of this festival is the fringe activity: events like art exhibitions, concerts, and film projections.

TOFIFEST

The International Toruń Film Festival is one of the fastest developing Polish film events. It presents the films of directors who want to start their international career, professional independent films and short films. Every year over 100 premiers which have never been shown in Polish cinemas are projected. The TOFIFEST brand has its own importance in the film world, and the Polish Minister of Culture takes this event under his patronage, as does the director of the Polish Institute of Cinema Art. This festival exists only because of people who are real passionate about cinema and want to show really good cinema to a wide audience.

Student Rag Week – Juwenalia

Juwenalia is the biggest student festival, it lasts almost a week and is usually held in May.

The event was originally established due to the exam session in June and the desire to relax students and increase their positive energy. Everything begins when Toruń's Mayor passes the symbolic key to the city gates to students. Then the city belongs to students for the next 4 or 5 days. During this time many different activities take place like: a beer run, a rafting competition and much more. Each evening there is a huge open-air concert, with a different type of music every day.

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Poland's Gingerbread Capital

The most famous product of Toruń is gingerbread. The tradition of baking these aromatic cookies in the town of Copernicus is almost as old as the history of Toruń. No visitor leaves Toruń without sampling this delicacy. **The Gingerbread Museum** For some visitors seeing and tasting is not enough – they choose to make the aromatic dough themselves.

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Nicolaus Copernicus University - NCU

The Nicolaus Copernicus University (NCU) in Toruń is the biggest university in northern Poland. The idea of university is to widely educate students. As a university NCU is different than a typical specialized school, it places an emphasis on giving students the opportunity to broaden their interests. So, apart from your main course of studies, you can also learn about philosophy, economics, physics, mathematics, law and much more if you want to. Our university was rated highly in the universities ranking which was recently carried out in Poland. There are 18 departments at the university. The university employs over 4.000 people, among them there are over 2.000 university teachers and 600 professors. There are almost 30.000 students, who are studying at over 100 specializations. So far the university has produced over 100.000 graduates. Each year over 100 symposiums, conferences and scientist sessions take place at the university. Thousands of scholars from Poland and foreign countries take part. Every year over 500 scholars from all over the world visit our university. There are 21st century facilities waiting for you, and we have extensive experience in managing learning.

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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

ONE OF 16 FACULTIES
OF NICOLAUS
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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES IS COMPOSED OF:

1. the Department of Sociology
2. the Department of Philosophy
3. the Department of Logic.

The Faculty of Humanities according to the 2013 Ministry of Science ranking was ranked in the top 37 of the best academic faculties in Poland (No. 2 in Humanities).

THE FACULTY OFFERS PROGRAMS IN:

- Philosophy
- Religious Studies
- Cognitive Science
- Sociology
- Social Politics
- Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities

There are about 800 students (among them 40 Ph. D. candidates) and 65 scholars employed at the Faculty

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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

THE NCU'S FACULTY OF HUMANITIES OFFERS COURSES IN PHILOSOPHY, SOCIOLOGY, RELIGIOUS STUDIES, GENDER STUDIES, SOCIAL POLITICS, INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES IN HUMANITIES AND COGNITIVE SCIENCE

COLLEGIUM MINDUS
WYDZIAŁ HUMANISTYCZNY



Erasmus+ offers a great prospect for those who want to expand their knowledge studying in Poland. Incoming students can expect to receive comprehensive assistance from the International Programmes Office (incoming@erasmus.umk.pl) and the Faculty Erasmus+ coordinator Prof. Zbigniew Nerczuk (zibbi@umk.pl).

NCU web pages for incoming students: http://www.umk.pl/en/cooperation/erasmus_plus/
Faculty of Humanities web pages for incoming students: <http://www.erasmushum.umk.pl/>
Erasmus+ Faculty of Humanities Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/284311268410286/>



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Program for the incoming students: Invitation to Philosophy and Sociology (2015/16 Program)

In the year 2015/16 the Faculty of Humanities is going to offer a Program in English for the incoming students "Invitation to Philosophy and Sociology". It is composed of the 19 courses (20 H / 30 H each, 4 / 5 ECTS).

Every incoming student is required to enroll for the two selected seminars from the list below:

Dr. Piotr Stankiewicz	Environmental Sociology and Philosophy	20	4
Dr. Krzysztof Abriszewski	Philosophy and popular culture	20	4
Dr. Radosław Sojak	Science and Technology Studies: an Introduction	20	4
Dr. Janusz Grygień	Introduction to Political Philosophy	20	4
Prof. Krystyna Szafraniec	Society in the mirror of youth - the sociological perspective	20	4
Dr. Anita Pacholik-Żuromska	Philosophical problems of cognitive science	20	4
Dr. Paweł Gładziejewski	Cognitive science of self-deception. How and why we lie to ourselves	20	4
Prof. Krzysztof Olechnicki	Anthropological perspective on everyday life	20	4
Dr. Dominik Antonowicz	State, Market and Society	20	4
Dr. Rafał Gruszczyński	Logic as a tool	20	4
Prof. Adam Grzebiński	Main Issues of Modern Philosophy	20	4
Dr. Michał Wróblewski	Biotechnology and Society	20	4
Dr. Aleksandra Derra	Gender Problem in Science. Theories and Practice	20	4
Dr. Lucyna Stetkiewicz	Film as a social reflector	30	5
Dr. Lucyna Stetkiewicz	Sociology of Arts – the case of music	30	5
Dr. Lucyna Stetkiewicz	Social History of Literary Communication	30	5
Dr. Lucyna Stetkiewicz	Close reading of the Sociological Texts	50	5
Dr. Dominik Antonowicz	Modern Sport	30	5
Dr. Agnieszka Furmańska-Maruszak	Labour markets– contemporary challenges	20	4

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How to apply?

ACADEMIC YEAR

Winter Semester: from October to mid-February

Summer Semester: from mid-February to the end of June

For more detailed information please check: [Academic Calendar](#)

DEADLINES FOR APPLICATIONS

1 JUNE – full academic year or first semester students

1 NOVEMBER - second semester students.

STEPS - APPLICATION FORM

I. Nomination e-mail

If you have been selected by your home university to study at the Nicolaus Copernicus University within the ERASMUS programme, your home university should send an **e-mail** with your nomination to our office incoming@erasmus.umk.pl.

II. Online application (applying, uploading documents and submitting)

1. Only electronic applications <https://irk.umk.pl/>.

2. Submitting application.

III. Sending original documents to NCU

The **original application form** from NCU (signed and stamped by your home university) together with

2 photos (of high quality, size: 3,5 x 4,5 cm) should be sent in an envelope by registered post to the following address:

International Programmes Office

Nicolaus Copernicus University

Gagarina 11,

87-100 Toruń,

Poland

IV. Decision of the NCU

Other documents

1. Electronic photo (on-line)

In order to adjust the photo to the requirements of our Polish student ID-card, you will need the Java programme which can be downloaded from [here](#).

2. Health insurance - by e-mail – a scan of the European Health Insurance Card or of private insurance (the latter one should be translated into English)

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**Do not hesitate!
Apply NOW!**