



Palacký University
Olomouc

Service Learning

Department Christian Social Work
Sts Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology



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Olomouc

Palacký University Olomouc

- long-standing tradition since 16th century (1573)
- the second-oldest university in the Czech Republic
- 332 Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral study programmes and copious scientific and research activities
- 20 000 students/ 8 faculties
- one of the largest employers in the Olomouc Region and the City of Olomouc



Mission of Palacký University:

- High-quality university education in a broad range of natural, medical, and social sciences and humanities
- active partnership with both the regional community and the global community
- the development of the intellectual wealth of the society
- the sustainable scientific, technological, cultural, and social development



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VALUES

- innovation,
- engagement,
- transparency, academic integrity,
- freedom and autonomy,
- necessary continuity
- integration into the society



Sustainable University – main activities:

- **Free shop:** circular economy, solidarity among students
- **Community garden Václavka:** the first student's community garden in Czech Republic
- **Initiative Zaparkuj /Just Park/-** animating the public space: bringing more cultural, social, sporting and educational low budget and low-threshold events to the Olomouc parks and other public spaces
- **Donate blood with the rector**



Volunteer Centre of Palacký University

What we are doing?

- We are connecting Palacký University students and employees with local and national organisations, NGOs and other institutions who need volunteers for their projects and ideas
- We offer Palacký University students and employees a valuable opportunity to participate in the public society and to join the volunteering service
- We award the best volunteers with the Rector's Prize annually
- We have many years of experience in the field of volunteer management, so we can help you with your own project, idea which involves volunteerism
- We may even help you with your research in diploma thesis about volunteerism



The Sts Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology

Current main examples of cooperation with practice:

Health talks in the Czech Republic <https://hovoryozdravi.cz/>:

- Cooperation between our Faculty and Health Experiences Research Group (HERG) University in Oxford

Project ROMSPIDO <https://romspido.upol.cz/>:

- Prevention of pupils school failure at elementary schools (using informal clubs for leisure activities)
- Promoting school successfulness at secondary schools
- The project is special because of development of volunteering and taking spirituality into account



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The Department of Christian Social Work

Since 2000/2001: 2 bachelor study programmes in co-operation with CARITAS – College of Social Work Studies in Olomouc
www.caritas-vos.cz:

- **Charity and social work** in full-time and combined form
- **International Social and Humanitarian Work** in full-time form, this field of study is unique in Central Europe



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The Department of Christian Social Work

Master's (magister) study program Charity and social work (in three specialisations):

- 1) Management in social services**
- 2) Social work with families**
- 3) International humanitarian and community social work**



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Service Learning at Department Christian Social Work

Aim:

to implement SL as teaching and education strategy
in Master Study Program Social Work since academic year
2019/2020



The Preparation 09/2015 – 10/2016:

- discussion among teachers
- establishing of team for SL at the department
- cooperation with PF UMB (participation on seminar in Banská Bystrica, invited lecturer A. Brozmanová Gregorová, studying of web page, textbook and other materials)
- e-learning course on SL (CLAYSS)



Communication with partners in social work practice

10/2016 – 09/2017:

- 2 seminars on SL for organisation/partners for practical education
- 12 bilateral meeting (department – organisation) - how to collaborate
- distribution of documents on SL among organisation with serious interests for collaboration
- the preparation of SL I. syllabus – 02/2017



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The optional course – Service Learning I. 09/2017 – 01/2018:

- promotion among students
- presentation of organisations and their offers for SLA
- enrolment of 10 students



SLA as part of obligatory course 09/2017 – 01/2018:

Theory of Community Social Work – 14 students have participated and split to 2 groups:

- Project 1: Awarding of informal volunteering (app development)
- Project 2: Promotion of the Department Christian Social Work