

M U N I
A R T S

Bachelor's Degree Orientation 2024

English Language and Literature

Department of English and American Studies

Welcome

- Dr Filip Krajník
 - Lecturer in Early English Literature
- Today's programme:
 - General orientation to the Department
 - Bachelor's degree programme in the DEAS
 - Presentations of some First Years Courses
 - Presentations by student organizations

Congratulations!

- Being admitted to study here is a major achievement
 - There were over a thousand applicants!

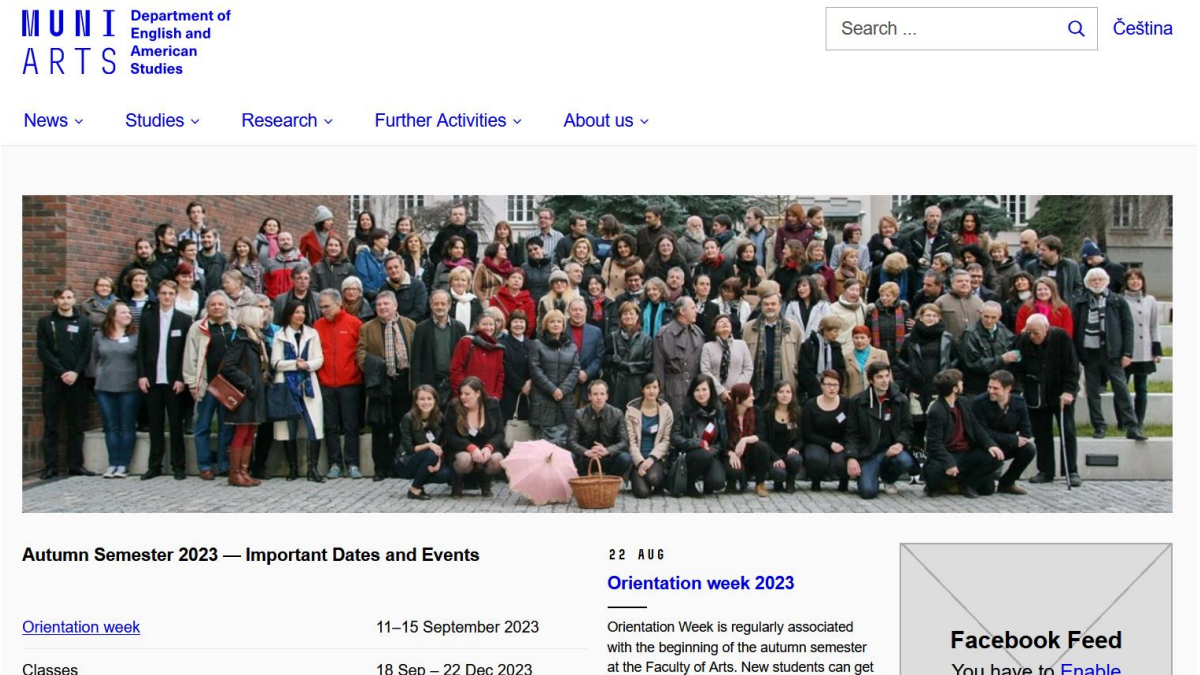
BUT BE WARNED

- Completing your studies here is almost as difficult
- Some of you will fail to complete your first year here
- We hope that most of you will receive a Bachelor's degree in English Language and Literature



Basic sources of information

- Studijní a zkušební řád MU (Study and Examination Regulations)
- Office for Studies, Building C
- Department of English website
 - <https://english.phil.muni.cz/>
- Faculty of Arts website
 - <https://www.phil.muni.cz/>



The screenshot displays the MUNI ARTS website. At the top left is the logo for the Department of English and American Studies. To the right is a search bar and a language selector for 'Čeština'. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links for News, Studies, Research, Further Activities, and About us. The main content area features a large group photograph of students and staff. Below the photo is a section titled 'Autumn Semester 2023 — Important Dates and Events' with a table of dates and events.

Autumn Semester 2023 — Important Dates and Events	
Orientation week	11–15 September 2023
Classes	18 Sep – 22 Dec 2023

22 AUG
Orientation week 2023
Orientation Week is regularly associated with the beginning of the autumn semester at the Faculty of Arts. New students can get

Facebook Feed
You have to [Enable](#)

Information for First Year Students

- <https://studuji.phil.muni.cz/prvak> – Faculty’s Guide to the Studies
 - a special issue of “Magazín M” for first year students here (in Czech):
<https://www.em.muni.cz/images/stories/pdfmuni/Magazin-M-cerven-2024-special.html>
- Instagram: **muni_ff (Czech)**, **foamuni (English)**
 - video instructions
 - important information in stories
- <https://studuji.phil.muni.cz/> – Faculty’s information for students
- www.muni.cz/studenti - University’s information for students
- <https://english.phil.muni.cz/news-and-events/news/orientation-week-2024> - basic information and links on the Department website

Department Office

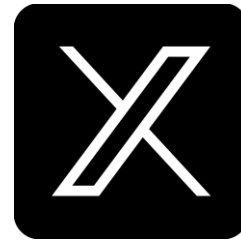
- 3rd Floor, Building G, Gorkého 7
- Department Head: Assoc. Prof. Tomáš Kačer
- The programme guarantor is Dr Martina Horáková
- Studies Advisor: Mr Tomáš Hanzálek
 - Office Hours: Thursday, 10.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.
 - Please respect these hours.
- The Department secretary is Bc. Vendula Matochová

Social Media

<http://www.facebook.com/KAAFFMU>



@KAAbrno or #KAAbrno



@deas_muni



Degree-program requirements

- Detailed information about your studies can be found on the Department website or at https://studuji.phil.muni.cz/spolecny-predmetovy-zaklad#spz_bc.
- University-wide requirements:
 - Physical education
 - Second foreign language
 - French, German, Russian, Spanish
- Faculty-wide requirement
 - Three “CORE courses” outside your study programme (code starts with CORE...)
- Single-subject students are encouraged to pass these requirements during their first year.

Critical Resources

Masaryk University information System

- <http://is.muni.cz>
- Administrative system for all aspects of your studies
- Course registration, grades, controlling your studies
- Some courses also use IS as an e-learning platform



ELF – E-learning at the Faculty of Arts

- <https://elf.phil.muni.cz/>
- E-learning portal of the Faculty of Arts
- Moodle-based
- Most courses in the English Department use it
- You should learn to use it as soon as possible



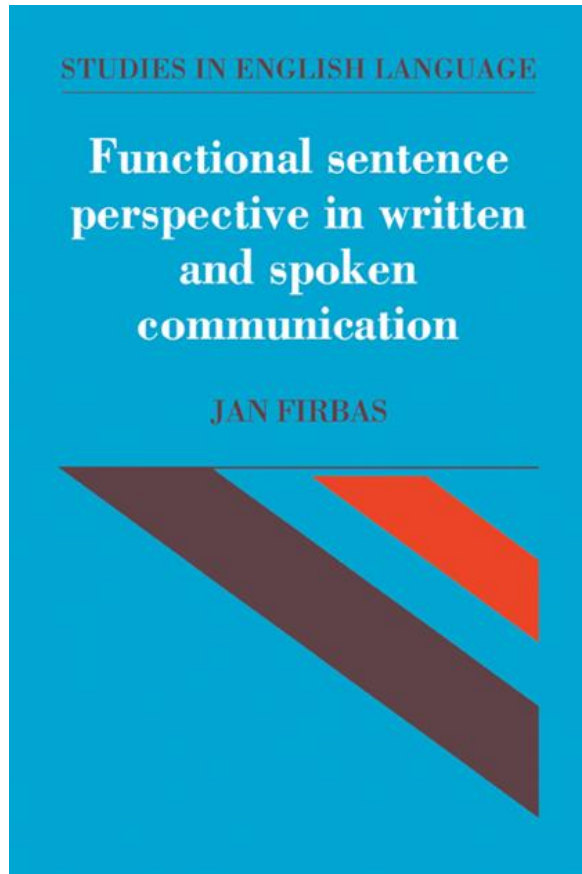
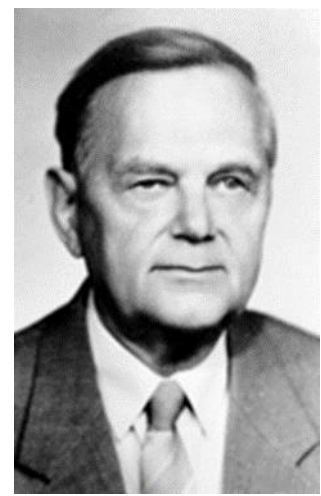
Department History

- The Department is one of the Faculty's founding departments (1921)
- The first professor was František Chudoba (1878-1941),
who was also Dean in 1927/8
- The Department remained quite small until the 1960s
- During the late 1960s there was a brief upsurge in the number of students (30 per year)



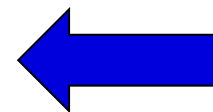
- During the 1970s and 80s the Department was again very small
- 10-15 students per year were admitted
- After 1990, the Department experienced rapid growth
- In the early 1990s, 45 to 60 students per year were admitted
- It was one of the first Departments at the Faculty to offer single-subject studies
- Today, around 130 students enter our Bachelor's degree program every year
- A further 110 students are admitted to study in one of our Master's degree programmes.

Professor Jan Firbas (1921-2000)



Cambridge University Press, 1992

- Most renowned scholar to have been a member of our Department
- Member of the Prague Linguistic Circle
- Syntactical analysis known as “functional sentence perspective.”



This is his key work

The Department Today

- The Department currently offers the following degrees
- Bachelor's (Bc.): English Language and Literature
- Master's (Mgr.):
 - English Language and Literature
 - Upper Secondary School Teacher Training in English Language and Literature
 - English-language Translation
 - North American Cultural Studies
- Doctoral (Ph.D.)
 - English Linguistics
 - Literatures in English



Some numbers

- The Department currently employs 23 permanent academic staff, several external teachers and two administrative staff
- There are more than 650 students pursuing degrees in the Department
 - 386 Bachelor's degree students
 - 229 Master's degree students
 - 35 doctoral degree students
- There are over 40,000 volumes in English in the Faculty Library including the largest collection of Canadian literature in Central Europe

Research Interests

- **Linguistics**

- Functional Syntax, Pragmatics, Discourse Analysis, Corpus Linguistics, Semantics

- **Literature**

- English Renaissance literature, Victorian literature and culture, Aboriginal literatures, Canadian literature, American minority writers, Life writing, Contemporary Drama, Relationship of politics to literature

- **Cultural Studies**

- American and Canadian film, Aboriginal cultures (N. America and Australia), American politics and culture, British and American cities

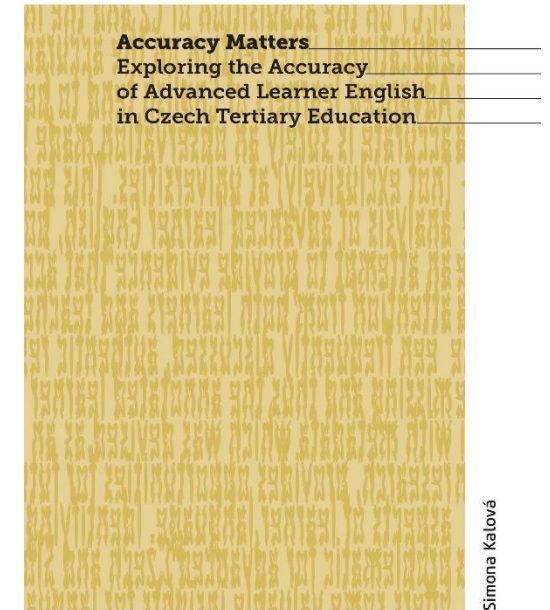
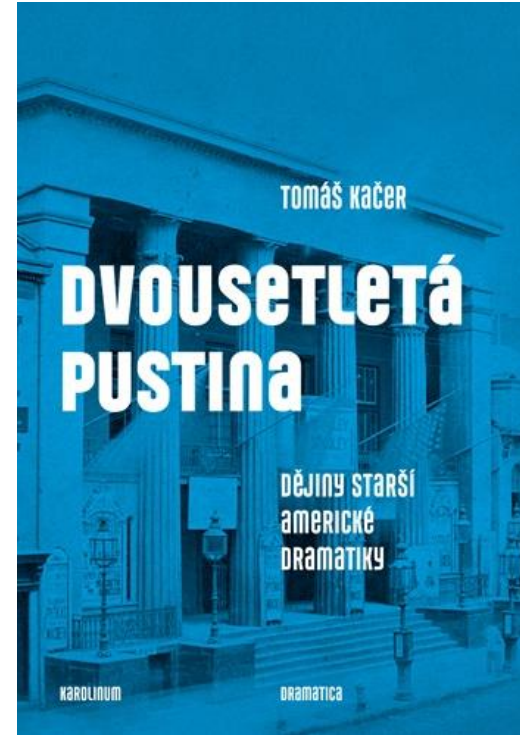
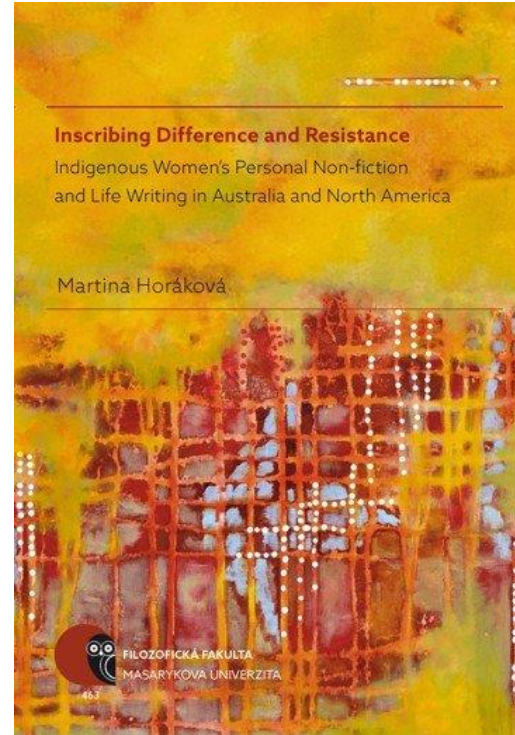
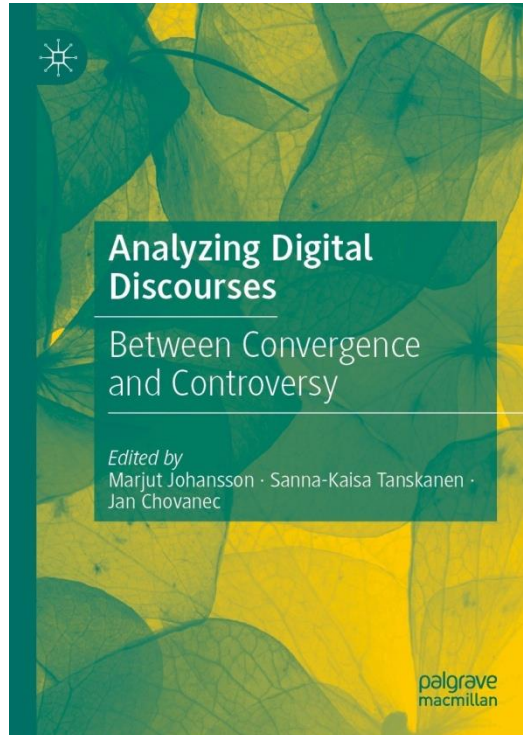
- **Translation**

- Parallel corpora, Analysis of literary translation, Translation of children's literature

- **Language Education**

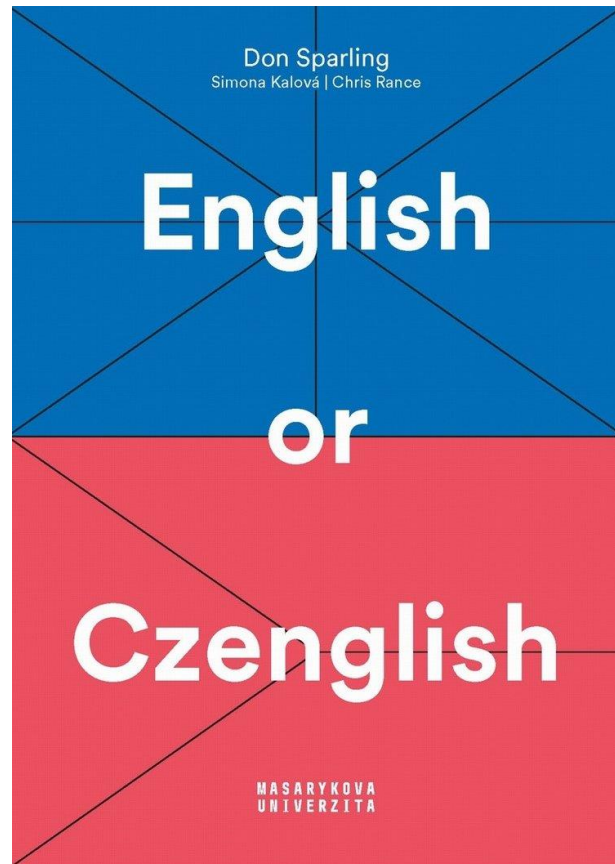
- Learning technologies, Language testing, Corpora in ELT

Recent Staff Publications



Masaryk University Press

Recent Staff Publications



@studentska_renesance

How are my studies in the English Department going to be different from secondary school?

- **1. You will not be spoon fed**
 - You must keep track of everything and make sure you do what you're supposed to do
- **2. You are expected to work independently**
- **3. Your teachers are not your parents**
 - We are all adults here and we expect that you will behave appropriately
- **4. Your success (or failure) is entirely up to you!**
 - *We are here to help you succeed.*

- **5. Your success will not be only based on how many facts you can memorize but equally on how you synthesize and analyze the materials you read and the lectures and seminars you attend**
- **6. You must read and study continuously throughout the semester**
 - You should always bring your reading to class with you
 - “Cramming” for a few days before your exams will only guarantee your failure
- **7. If you do have questions, we are here to help you find an answer to them. Don’t hesitate to come and ask.**
 - Remember that information you hear from your colleagues or “through the grapevine” may not be completely accurate or may even be wrong!

Cheating and plagiarizing

- What is cheating?
 - 1a: to practice fraud or trickery; b: to violate rules dishonestly <cheat at cards> <cheating on a test>. (Merriam-Webster definition)
- What is plagiarizing?
 - transitive verb: **to steal and pass off** (the ideas or words of another) as one's own; use (another's production) without crediting the source. (Merriam-Webster definition)
- Neither is tolerated in this Department, this Faculty or this University
- If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing, you will automatically fail the course in question. You will also be sent before the Faculty Disciplinary Commission with a recommendation that you be expelled from the University.

Grades and Credits

- The grading system is a bit more complicated than secondary school, with three variants, two of which we use here:
 - zápočet (credit): pass/fail (some courses)
 - kolokvium (colloquium): pass/fail (not used in this Department)
 - zkouška (exam): A-F (most courses)
- According to university regulations you must gain a minimum of 20 credits per semester to continue your studies
 - This applies separately to credits accumulated in each degree programme you may be studying
 - The normal semester workload is 30 credits

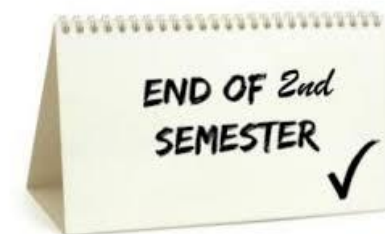
Your 1st year of studies

- All courses offered in our Department are taught in English
- Compulsory introductory courses in the 1st year for majors and single-subject students cover Practical English, Literature, Cultural Studies and Linguistics
 - These represents four of the five major subfields of study
 - The fifth, translation, is covered in Introduction to Translation and is offered in the 2nd and 3rd year of studies
- Language courses:
 - Practical English (two semesters, 2 hours per week)
 - English Grammar (two semesters, 2 hours per week)

Courses for the 1st and 2nd semesters

– Autumn semester:

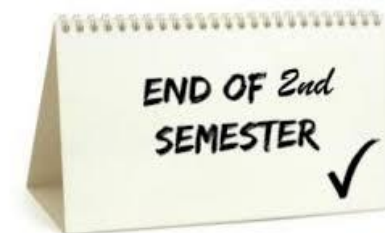
- AJL01001 Practical English I (3 credits)
- AJL02001 Introduction to Linguistics (6 credits)
- AJL02003 English Grammar I (3 credits)
- AJL04000 Introduction to Literary Studies I (6 credits)
- AJL06001 Introduction to British Studies I (3 credits)
- AJL07001 Introduction to American Studies I (3 credits)
- PHA0001 Philosophy for Non-Philosophical Disciplines Students (4 credits)



Courses for the 1st and 2nd semesters

– Spring semester:

- AJL01002 Practical English II (3 credits)
- AJL02002 Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology (6 credits)
- AJL02005 English Grammar II (3 credits)
- AJL04002 Introduction to Literary Studies II (6 credits)
- AJL06002 Introduction to British Studies II (3 credits)
- AJL07002 Introduction to American Studies: Topics in Culture (3 credits)



Scheduling

- You may only take courses in the Department that begin with the code AJL0
- You may not take other courses in the Department as the courses you are currently doing are prerequisites for them
- Please deregister from any course in our department that do not begin with AJL0
- Register for both the seminar and seminar groups
- For example, AJL01001 Practical English plus seminar group 1



Be forewarned



- 1. This is not a language school
- 2. This year you will have on average 3 to 4 hours of language lessons per week
 - For some of you this is not enough
 - Study outside of class/university, self-study at home, attend a language school
 - Ask your practical language teacher for some strategies to use outside the classroom
- 3. You should think of every class in the English Department as an English lesson.
 - Listen to your teachers, the vocabulary they use and the way they speak.
- 4. After 1st year, language courses no longer focus on course books
 - Two compulsory one-semester courses
 - Academic Writing
 - Spoken Fluency

Completing your 1st year



- If you fail Practical English II, you will not be allowed to take any other courses in the Department until you resit the course and pass it.
- Most of you currently have English at the B2 level. The course you must pass is mid-way between B2 and C1.
- In order to complete your Bachelor's degree here, your written and spoken English must be at the C2 level.
- If you fail Introduction to Literature I & II, you will not be allowed to take any literature courses until you retake the course and pass it.
- If you fail Introduction to Linguistics, you will not be allowed to take any linguistics courses.
- If you fail either Introduction to American Studies or Introduction to British Studies, you will not be allowed to take any cultural studies courses.

Going abroad?

Department of English ... 3,327 views

DEAS Erasmus Partners

- ★ Universidad de La Laguna
- ★ University of Graz
- ★ University of Antwerp
- ★ University of Zagreb
- ... 24 more

Masaryk University Partner Universities

- ★ Adam Mickiewicz University
- ★ Comenius University, Bratislava
- ★ Greifswald University
- ★ University of Pécs
- ★ University of Regensburg
- ★ University of Vienna
- ★ University of Wrocław

DEAS International Partners

- ★ Texas A&M University
- ★ Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Cheo...
- ★ Udmurt State University
- ★ The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
- ★ University of Cincinnati
- ★ National Taiwan Normal University
- ★ University of Hull

Contact person: Dr Jakob Horsch

How long should my studies take?

- The normal period of study for the Bachelor's degree is 3 years (6 semesters)



- It will take the average student one or two additional semesters

Extracurricular activities

- Your university experience isn't limited to the classroom. In the Department, we have a student organization that brings together interested students



The KAardian
monthly gazette



Re:Views

ESCape (English Students' Club)



What we do:



Creativity Night



Halloween Party



Book & Bake Sale

Free positions:

- graphic design
- social media management
- event organisation
- baking

Wanna join us? Check out our [Carrd](#) and send us a message on IG or FB!



facebook.com/esc.english

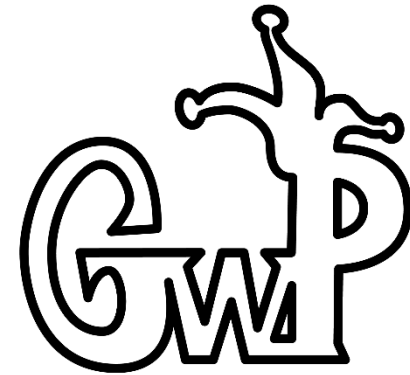


instagram.com/escape_muni

Gypsywood Players (Theater)



- What do we play?
 - usually classic English plays – Shakespeare, Chaucer
 - We are doing MACBETH this semester!
- No prior theater experience needed to join
 - You can be an actor, costume designer, sound technician, photographer and more!
- First meeting – Tuesday 17th of September 17:45 in G03
 - Follow our FB for more info – <https://www.facebook.com/GypsywoodPlayers/>
- Contact person – Betty Hřivnová
 - gypsywoodplayers@gmail.com
 - 512336@muni.cz
 - or feel free to find me on Messenger (Betty Hřivnová)



Gypsywood Singers (Choir)



- What we sing?
 - Autumn semester means Christmas repertoire, so get ready to sing Christmas carols for three months!
- No prior choir experience needed to join
- First meeting – Thursday 19th of September 6pm in G34
- Contact person – Betty Hřivnová
 - 512336@muni.cz
 - or feel free to find me on Messenger (Betty Hřivnová)
- If you want to get a taste of what we do –
 - <https://www.youtube.com/@TheGypsywoodSingers>





Re:Views



The Student Magazine of the Department of English and American Studies

est. 2014

- Student magazine at DEAS (started September 2014) – registered online periodical (ISSN 2464-7306) published once a year.
- [Instagram](#), Web currently unavailable ☹️ (*we are in the midst of changing webhosting/domain, and the whole process is more complicated than we could imagine*), [FB](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#).
- Editorial board: BA, MA and PhD students.
- What we write/publish about:
 - **anglophone countries**; the relationship between them and the Czech Republic
 - **literature, culture, language, current issues** - we want to **inform** and **inspire** our readers
 - the articles – semi-academic (somewhere between academic and popularizing)
 - each issue consists of **articles (views)** on the main topic of the issue, **reviews**, **interviews** and other articles
- We are currently looking for new members: **writers**, **editors** and **social media wizards** as well as **graphic designers/digital typesetters** (with some experience). Write to us at re.views.magazine@gmail.com for more info or if you are interested in joining the team. Looking forward to hearing from you and best of luck with your studies!



Your future



- Terminal Bachelor's degree studies
- Continuing towards a Master's degree (two-year programs):
 - Philology: English Language and Literature or North American Studies
 - Teaching: Teacher Training for Secondary Schools
 - Teaching qualifications are only offered at the Master's-degree level
 - Translation: English-language Translation
 - North American Cultural Studies
- Admission to the philology degree occurs in both the autumn and spring semesters

Stay informed

- Read your email regularly
- Check out the department web page (english.phil.muni.cz)
- Like and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
- Check the IS on a regular basis
- Look at the bulletin boards in the Department



Courtesy and Respect

– Please observe the following

- Mobile/cell phones must be turned off whenever in a classroom unless you're told otherwise



- Notebooks may be used for writing or following presentations

- Seminars and lectures are not the time to check your social media nor to chat or play



– Social media



- It is not appropriate to ask your teachers to become your Facebook friends

- But be sure to  Like Department's Facebook page!

- Politeness: Respect your teachers and they will respect you

Any questions?



