

Fact sheet – University of Mostar

University profile

Welcome to the University of Mostar with ten faculties, one academy, 9.000 students, 1.000 teachers...

University of Mostar is a public higher education institution, which organizes and performs university studies, scientific and professional work. It is one of eight public Universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the only one where Croatian is used as the official language. It consists of 10 faculties and the Academy of Fine Arts. Around 150 study programs and 14 postgraduate doctoral studies are offered at the University.

We are designing the “new era” of our university and some of our priorities are to achieve recognized European standards in higher education, strategically determine priorities and goals, keep the position in society and be the authority of knowledge, strengthen student competencies and constantly interact with economy and society.

Teaching and quality of teaching are the *conditio sine qua non*. Optimal organization and encouragement of scientific and professional work present challenge but the opportunity as well. Also, we consider intensive international cooperation, exchange of students and professors, joint master studies and international projects as our priorities. New trends and possibilities and constant changes have to be a motive for our teachers and associates to put more effort into achieving excellence. Of course, excellence has to result with new research papers, better quality of teaching and publishing scientific works and publications in recognized domestic and international journals and textbooks.

The University of Mostar have to be and will be open for differences, dialogue, new and competitive ideas, domestic and international partners, cooperation in the field of scientific research, projects, joint studies as well as other possibilities in the field of science and education.

Students are always the meaning of our existence. They are in the first place. Working with students, listening to their problems, priorities and their ideas is a special task and obligation. Involving students in all University activities stays our commitment.

The society has to consider knowledge as one of the priorities in development and put University in the centre of changes and a better future. On the other hand, University of Mostar will carry the responsible role in creating a better society. Fulfilling our mission and vision is not only an obligation. We are honoured to serve and build a better world around us.

University history

Beginning and development of higher education and educational institutions in Mostar and Herzegovina date from the end of the 19th century. Roots of higher education in Mostar are related to establishment of the Franciscan Theological School that launched its activity in 1985. That was the first school at the university level. The Teacher Training School began its work after the Second World War (1950). It was followed by the Higher Engineering School (1959), Higher Agricultural School (1960), departments of the Faculty of Law and Faculty of Economics, which became autonomous faculties in 1976. From 1977 to 1992 both higher schools and faculties worked as a part of the University "Džemal Bijedić" in Mostar and the official language was Croatian-Serbian or Serbian-Croatian language. Both the name and the official language were changed after 1992. Since then, the name is the University of Mostar and Croatian was introduced as official language instead of a former Croatian-Serbian.

During the Homeland War, on April 7, 1992, the teaching process was interrupted because the first grenades fell on the Student House and the Faculty of Economics. The University ceased with its work only in the period from April to July 1992 due to the ongoing aggressor bombing of Mostar. Summer exams were held in Široki Brijeg for students who did not reside in Mostar. The following two academic years (1992/93 and 1993/94) the lectures for the first year of study were organized in Neum and Široki Brijeg. Since the academic year 1994/95, the lessons have been held in partially renovated university facilities in Mostar.

After recovering from the consequences of the war, the University commenced strong development, and thus Mostar became a university city.

Higher education system of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Higher education in Bosnia and Herzegovina is regulated by the Framework Law on Higher Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina ("Official Gazette of BiH", No. 59/07, 59/09). This law establishes the organization of higher education in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the responsibilities of competent authorities in this area, the establishment of bodies for the implementation of laws and international obligations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the method of ensuring quality in the field of higher education.

Based on the Framework Law on Higher Education, the Law on Higher Education in the Republic of Srpska, ten cantons in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina have been harmonized, thereby fully transitioning Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Bologna education system.

Higher education institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina include universities and colleges. Higher education is organized into three cycles:

- The first cycle leads to the academic title of completed undergraduate studies [the degree of Bachelor] or equivalent, obtained after a minimum of three and a maximum of four years of



regular study following the acquisition of a high school diploma, which is valued at a minimum of 180 or 240 ECTS credits.

- The second cycle leads to the academic title of master or equivalent, obtained after completing undergraduate studies, lasting one or two years, and valued at 60 or 120 ECTS credits, so that the total with the first cycle amounts to 300 ECTS credits.
- The third cycle leads to the academic title of doctor or equivalent, lasts for three years, and is valued at 180 ECTS credits.

One semester of study carries 30 ECTS credits in each cycle. Excluded from the provisions of paragraph 1 of this article is the study of the medical sciences group in the first cycle, which is valued up to 360 ECTS credits.

- Upon completion of the study program, graduates are awarded a diploma and an academic title in accordance with the previously approved study program.

Faculties & Institutes

Faculties:

1. Faculty of Agriculture and Food Technology (<https://aptf.sum.ba/en/>)
2. Academy of Fine Art (<https://alu.sum.ba/>)
3. Faculty of Economics (<https://ef.sum.ba/en>)
4. Faculty of Civil Engineering, architecture and geodesy (<https://fgag.sum.ba/en/>)
5. Faculty of Science and Education (<https://fpmoz.sum.ba/>)
6. Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Computing and Electrical Engineering (<https://fsre.sum.ba/en>)
7. Faculty of Health Studies (<https://fzs.sum.ba/en>)
8. Faculty of Pharmacy (<https://farf.sum.ba/en/>)
9. Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (<https://ff.sum.ba/en>)
10. Faculty of Medicine (<https://mef.sum.ba/>); Medical Studies in English (<https://mef.sum.ba/engl/>)
11. Faculty of Law (<https://pf.sum.ba/>)

Center:

- The Center for Information technologies of the University of Mostar-SUMIT (<https://sumit.sum.ba/#>)
- Center for Artificial Intelligence – SUM AI (<https://ai.sum.ba/>)
- Center for lifelong education- <https://www.sum.ba/sum/centar-za-cjelozivotno-obrazovanje/o-centru>
- Museum of modern art (<https://modern.ba/>)
- University Television -SUM TV (<https://tv.sum.ba/>)

Student involvement at University of Mostar

Student Union/Council

https://www.facebook.com/studentskizbor/?locale=hr_HR

The Student Union of the University of Mostar operates through the student councils of organizational units and bodies of the Student Union. The bodies of the Student Union are:

- The Presidency of the Student Union,
- The President,
- The Vice President,
- The Chief Secretary, and
- The Student Ombudsman.

The **Presidency** is the highest body and consists of the presidents and vice presidents of the student councils of organizational units and one representative of the University department. The Presidency:

1. Adopts the Regulations on student elections and the Rules of Procedure of the Student Union, by a two-thirds majority of all Presidency members;
2. Elects the President and Vice President of the Student Union;
3. Elects the Chief Secretary and the Student Ombudsman;
4. Adopts general and individual acts within the jurisdiction of the Student Union;
5. Approves reports on the work and activities of the Student Union;
6. Decides on the exclusion of members in case of violation of the Regulations and other acts of the Student Union;
7. Decides on all matters not within the scope of another body as stipulated by the Regulations of the Student Union.

The **President of the Student Union** is elected at the inaugural session of the Presidency following the conduct of student elections. The President of the Student Union has the following powers:

1. Represents and acts on behalf of the Student Union;
2. Convenes, organizes, and presides over the meetings of the Presidency;
3. Signs acts adopted by the Presidency;
4. Supervises the legality, implementation, and enforcement of acts adopted by the Presidency;
5. Proposes candidates for the Chief Secretary and the Student Ombudsman;

6. Carries out other activities in accordance with the acts of the Student Union.

The Vice President assists the President and, based on their authority, carries out other tasks within the President's purview. The Vice President substitutes for the President in case of their inability or absence.

The Chief Secretary assists the President in organizing and convening meetings, prepares meeting agendas, participates in the proceedings, and takes minutes of the meeting. They also prepare the final texts of acts from the session, sign, archive, and distribute them to designated entities.

The Presidency, based on the Student Union's conducted competition, elects the Student Ombudsman from among the students in their final year of undergraduate or graduate studies at the Faculty of Law, University of Mostar, with a minimum grade point average of 4.0. The term of the Student Ombudsman lasts as long as the term of the members of the Presidency who appointed them.

The Student Ombudsman:

1. Receives complaints from students regarding their rights and discusses them with the relevant University authorities;
2. Advises students on exercising their rights;
3. Participates in disciplinary proceedings at all organizational units to protect student rights;
4. Communicates with the relevant University authorities to enforce student rights;
5. Carries out other tasks related to the realization and protection of student rights.

Office for students with disabilities: The office is intended to improve access, meet the needs and rights, and improve the study experience of students with disabilities. (https://www.sum.ba/sum/studenti/ured-za-podrsku-studentima?fbclid=IwAR1DqUyUeRrOud1eVwY_mLX_uDc_myVjs197JltY-HDwS6wbbzqxjsY1E4)

More information

- List of courses taught in a foreign language: <https://www.sum.ba/en/sum/medunarodna/kolegiji-na-stranom-jeziku>
- University publishing house PRESSUM- the University publishing house PRESSUM was founded with the aim of additional involvement of the University of Mostar in the promotion of scientific and research work. (<https://pressum.sum.ba/>)
- The University of Mostar in brief: https://web-admin.sum.ba/api/storage/The%20University%20of%20Mostar%20in%20Brief%202022_1664967990_91.pdf