



CULTURE SCHOCK at the university

Please remember the study culture and university culture in Central Europe is completely different than in the rest of the World. In Poland a student is responsible for everything! You have to take care of all your matters on your own! You are responsible to collect all required documents and to submit them in due time to proper offices, units, professors. If you miss deadlines, sometimes there would be no chance to repair it and you will have to stay in Poland longer! Please be responsible and make all the requested things in due time! The International Programmes Office team will offer you a great help.

Please be careful and be sure about the different university culture. In Poland students are very 'independent' during the whole academic year, everything depends mostly on final exams! Please be careful while planning and organizing your study stay!

In Poland, there two types of university classes: lectures and classes (tutorials):

- Lectures: during the lectures, a professor lectures the material and students have to make notes during the lectures and to take the final exam only (written works, multiple choice tests, written tests). Students must take the final exam during the examination period (2 weeks only, that is the first two weeks of February in winter semester and the last two weeks of June in summer semester), if they fail any exam, they have to retake it during the retaking examination period (also 2 weeks only, 2 weeks in March for the winter semester and 2 weeks in mid-September for summer semester).
- Classes (tutorials): during classes students must work systematically and prepare for all classes collecting the scores during the classes, but they are also required to take the final test at the end of the semester (2 weeks before the examination period starts).

The Polish language is very formal. We don't use our first names in public affairs, they are reserved for close friends only. In Poland, at the universities we call university professors using their scientific degrees: Professor (for professor degree), Doctor (for PhD degree), Mr. or Mrs. (for master degree and others). Of course you can call all professors by using the title 'professor', which during the English-language at CUE is common and popular among International Students, and CUE professors, but using first names of professors is not recommended.

