

## DEPARTMENT OF TEACHER EDUCATION STUDIES IN GOSPIĆ

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## **ABOUT US:**

In its long tradition, the teacher study in Gospić has become a recognizable and desirable higher education institution, from which many generations of quality teachers have emerged, both for the needs of our community and for Croatia as a whole. In addition to pursuing higher education, we can also highlight the multiple cultural, scientific, artistic and professional activities that take place.

The Department of Teacher Education Studies is the only remotely located department of the University of Zadar. It is situated in Gospić, the administrative, cultural and educational center of Lika-Senj County.

The Department has a century of heritage in terms of teacher education in Gospić and Lika. In 1919, the State Teacher Education School commenced its work in Gospić, and the Department continues its teacher education mission today, nurturing the teaching, cultural, scientific and artistic activities.

The Department offers an integrated undergraduate and graduate university teacher education study program, with the module of Cultural and Natural Heritage. Having completed this educational cycle, graduates gain the title of Masters of Primary Education and are prepared to work in primary education as well as to continue their own studies.

The Department has 15 employed teachers: 7 associate professors, 3 docents, 1 senior lecturer, 1 lecturer and 4 assistants. In addition to the teachers that comprise the Department's staff, teachers from other departments of the University, in particular from the Department of Teacher and Preschool Teacher Education and several external associates, are engaged in the teaching as needed.

There are 9 staff members employed at the Department for administrative and maintenance work. Through their conscientious work engagement, employees of the administrative and technical departments contribute to the quality of the overall activity of the Department.

Teachers at the Department of Teacher Studies in Gospić have also realized several international forms of mobility. The Office for International Cooperation of the University of Zadar informs the academic community of opportunities for participating in mobility programs, administers outgoing mobility for students and staff, and provides them with information on mobility opportunities.

Given that teacher training is interdisciplinary, scientific and artistic, activities span throughout several scientific and artistic fields: humanistic, social, interdisciplinary, natural sciences and art (visual arts and music) in which the criteria of scientific and artistic evaluation are different. Teacher's scientific and artistic activity is monitored through participation in scientific and artistic projects, participation in international scientific conferences at home and abroad, (co)organization of domestic scientific conferences and doctoral schools, publication of scientific papers, exhibitions, concerts and other scientific and artistic activities. Collaborative employees are also monitored through a system of appointment of departmental mentors who evaluate the work of assistants once a year, according to the Rules on the evaluation of the work of assistants, postdoctoral students and mentors of the University of Zadar. Each year, the Expert Council of the Department develops a one-year Scientific and Artistic Activity Plan and adopts the Report on the realization of the scientific and artistic plan for the previous year.

In addition to the usual teaching activities envisaged in the study program, the Department organizes suitable guest lectures for students and teachers in various fields of science and art, in order to improve teaching, scientific, artistic and professional work. The invited lectures encourage interdisciplinary studies and collaboration with students on project assignments.

### **Cultural and Public Action**

In addition to its teaching, scientific, artistic and professional activities, the Department of Teacher Studies in Gospić, as the only university institution of higher education, is recognizable in its Lika environment and in a number of cultural events and public activities. The Department has presented itself to the general public through the years with a variety of cultural activities. Each year, the Department adopts a Plan for the Popularization of Science and the Arts. In accordance with this, activities are continuously carried out through participation in the Science Festival and a number of other activities such as lectures, workshops, performances, exhibitions, concerts, book presentations, meetings with artists and scientists, visits to scientific, educational and cultural institutions in the town of Gospić and Croatia.

The Department continuously cooperates with a number of educational, cultural and scientific institutions and associations fostering a collaborative relationship and opening the way to various forms of project work and an interdisciplinary approach. In this regard, their cooperation with the Primary School dr. Jure Turića in Gospić is particularly important. The Teacher Education Program envisages professional-pedagogical practice that takes place at the primary school (training room) with mentor-teachers and the head of the professional-pedagogical practice. In addition, the cooperation of the Department with all teaching faculties in the Republic of Croatia and a number of other higher education, cultural institutions and civic associations in Croatia and abroad, as well as with a number of cultural, educational and scientific institutions in Gospić and with local self-government units (the City of Gospić and the Lika-Senj County) is of significant importance. Cooperation with the following institutions is of particular importance: The State Archives in Gospić, the Independent Public Library in Gospić, the Ivo Pilar Institute, the Gospić branch, the Museum of Lika in Gospić, the Diocese of Gospić-Senj, the Public Open University of dr. Ante Starčević, the Cultural Information Center of Gospić, Matica hrvatska, the Gospić branch, Nature Park Velebit, National Park Plitvička jezera, Cave Park Grabovača, the Civil Society Our Children from Gospić and the Parents' Association of Children with Disabilities Pčelice.

Through its many years of high quality teaching, scientific, artistic and professional work, cultural activities, promotion of the teaching vocation and collaborative relationships, the Department of Teacher Studies has been recognized in the local community and has received many thanks, awards and recognitions.

### **Days of Šime and Ante Starčević**

Since 2001, the Department has hosted the traditional Days of Šime and Ante Starčević, which is a scientific and professional conference with international participation. The Conference takes place in May in commemoration of the birthday of Ante Starčević and the Day of the Lika-Senj County. The Conference takes place over two days; the grand opening is scheduled for the first day along with plenary presentations and other exhibitions with accompanying events (presentation of publications, exhibitions), and the second day is scheduled for the trip (tour of the city, visit to the museums, natural and cultural attractions of Lika). Šime Starčević and his nephew Ante Starčević were members of the old Starčević tribe from Veliki Žitnik. They strongly characterized the cultural, political and social life of Lika and Croatia with their lives and activities.

The traditional organization of the Days of Šime and Ante Starčević continuously improves the scientific research, publishing and organizational work of the employees of the Department, establishes cooperation with a number of related institutions at home and abroad, exchanges scientific, artistic, professional and teaching experiences and by presenting scientific research and artistic results, the Department and the University are recognized internationally. This is supported by the international membership of the program boards and invited lectures that seek to give breadth and quality to the thematic framework of the Conference and to raise its scientific, artistic and international reputation. The 6th annual Days of Šime and Ante Starčević – Teacher: between tradition and modernity. The hundredth anniversary of teacher education in Gospić was marked.

After each conference, the following works were printed:

*Lika i Ličani u hrvatskom jezikoslovlju* (2003.), Zagreb, Institut za hrvatski jezik i jezikoslovlje. Zagreb (*Lika and People from Lika in Croatian Linguistics* (2003), Zagreb, Institute of the Croatian Language and Linguistics, Zagreb)

*Ekologija u odgoju i obrazovanju* (2004.), Visoka učiteljska škola Gospić (*Ecology in Education* (2004), Teacher Training College in Gospić)

*Zavičajnost, globalizacija i škola* (2006.), Gospić, Visoka učiteljska škola Gospić (*Provincialism, globalization and school* (2006), Gospić, Teacher Training College in Gospić)

*Šime Starčević i hrvatska kultura u 19. stoljeću* (2014.), Sveučilište u Zadru, Odjel za nastavničke studije (*Šime Starčević and Croatian Culture in the 19th Century* (2014), University of Zadar, Department of Teacher Studies)

*Nove smjernice u odgoju i obrazovanju/ Znanstveni prinosi Dragutina Rosandića* (2017.), Sveučilište u Zadru, Odjel za nastavničke studije (*New Directions in Education / Scientific Contributions by Dragutin Rosandić* (2017), University of Zadar, Department of Teacher Studies)

*The Teacher: Between Tradition and Modernity* (2021.) University of Zadar, Department of Teacher Studies

### **Students**

There are about 150 students from different parts of Croatia studying at the Department of Teacher Studies in Gospić. Students participate in various departmental and other activities, contributing to the quality of teaching, cultural, sports, entertainment and humanitarian life in our city. By their involvement in the evaluation of the study program,

individual courses and teachers, they contribute to the quality of the study program and are indicators of future work guidelines. In accordance with the Statute of the University of Zadar, student representatives participate in the work of the Department's Expert Council. Each academic year there is one representative from each study year who has more intensive contact with the departmental administration and mentors. The representative participates in monthly joint departmental meetings to discuss all topics relevant to the quality of student life, study conditions, teaching, extracurricular activities, etc. Every study year has a mentor from the ranks of teachers. Students are regularly informed of all study related information through the bulletin board, the Department's website and/or through the Merlin system.

The Department's students are highly active in extracurricular activities as well as in volunteer and humanitarian work. Their volunteer work at the Science Festival, Open Door Days, University Fair, Our Children Society, the Gospić branch and the Beekeepers Association, in which they participate in working with children with disabilities is particularly productive. The local Volunteer Center in Gospić regularly organizes student lectures, which has resulted in increased volunteer engagement in volunteer activities.

The students of the Department are active in a series of workshops, interdisciplinary projects, fine arts and music events, research for graduate work, fieldwork, stage and media culture, participation in scientific and professional meetings, a series of literary meetings and occasional lectures organized at our institution or in other cultural and educational institutions in our city. The aim of such activities is to promote positive values, to stimulate the teaching, artistic, scientific and professional potential of students, as well as to raise awareness of the breadth of the cultural horizon of the teaching vocation for which they are being educated.

Students from the Department of Teacher Studies in Gospić have realized several international forms of mobility, through ERASMUS+ or through other programs. Every year, the staff of the Office for International Cooperation gives students an informational lecture on mobility programs at the University of Zadar. In addition, students are offered lectures on the Erasmus + project of civil society organizations, which has resulted in, among other things, a number of different forms of international student mobility.

The University Alumni Club was also established as a Department branch, with the aim of connecting all generations of students of teacher training in Gospić and predecessors of the Department in order to achieve mutual cooperation.

The sport hall is also available at the Department for a variety of extracurricular students' activities.

### **Fieldwork**

In order to improve the quality of teaching, the Department regularly organizes fieldwork as part of the planned teaching activities from different courses, offering students the opportunity to learn about the contents of national landmarks, relevant teaching topics and also presents them with native cultural and natural heritage, which motivates them for direct learning and toward research-project work. Thus, students of the Department of Teacher Studies in Gospić, as part of courses in humanities and social fields, have visited a number of exhibitions in well-known Croatian museums and exhibition spaces (Klovićevi dvori, Museum of Modern Art, Museum of Contemporary Art, Museum of Ancient Glass), many theaters in Croatia (Croatian National Theater Zagreb, Croatian National Theater Zadar, Mala scena (Small Scene), Žar ptica (Firebird), Zadar Puppet Theater), watched

cultural performances, traveled to the Ogulin Fairytale Festival, visited the cultural and historical complex of the City of Zadar, visited the Rector's Palace, Croatian School Museum, Croatian Parliament, as well as the Institution for the Accommodation of Children with Special Needs in Knin, the Center for Education Vinko Bek, the Children's Home in Nazorova and many others. Getting acquainted with the cultural and natural heritage of Lika has been realized through trips to a number of locations on Velebit and Plitvice Lakes. In the context of the fieldwork, students are introduced to the way the fieldwork is organized, principles of regional identity, and ways to integrate content from different courses as well as preparing different working materials.

### **The student choir Degenija**

Within curricular and extracurricular activities, a large number of students are engaged in the activities of the student choir Degenija, who presents, in the best light, the rich musical repertoire of the Department to the cultural public. Degenija, the singing choir, was founded in the fall of 2012. Tvrtko Sarić, the professor of a number of music courses at the Department is the founder and leader of the choir. In a relatively short time, the choir has made several solo appearances: Gospić, Zadar, Čakovec, Varaždin, Otočac, Perušić and Smiljan. In 2016, the choir was on a successful international tour where they presented their program to related colleges in Zagreb, Maribor and Ljubljana. This resulted in continued cooperation and guest visits by students and teachers from Maribor and Zagreb to Gospić.

### **The Library of the Department of Teacher Studies**

The Library of the Department of Teacher Studies is part of the University of Zadar library. The present library is the successor to the Library Fund of the Pedagogical Academy, which was founded in 1963. As a higher education library, with its fund and activities, it is intended for students, teachers and associates of the Department, as well as for other members of the wider community that are engaged in scientific and professional work. The library consists of an open access for users, covering 90 m<sup>2</sup>, with a borrowing part and a reading room, as well as a closed access that covers 8 m<sup>2</sup>. The library also has an office for acquisition, inventory and processing. There is a reading room with 12 seats and 4 computer workstations that students can use to write seminars and graduate papers, search online catalogs, access electronic sources of information and databases. The library was subscribed to about 30 magazines a year, but that number decreased due to the ability to access to a large number of electronic magazines and online databases (bibliographic, citation and full text). Today, the library is subscribed to 12 magazine titles a year and the School Gazette.

Part of the fund is a collection of masters and doctoral dissertations of professors who have taught at the College for Teacher Training as well as the graduate papers of students. Since 2016, doctoral dissertations and master's theses are stored in the Digital Repository of the University of Zadar.

## STUDY PROGRAMM

### University integrated undergraduate and graduate study programme of Teacher Education (single-major)

**Duration of the study:** 10 semesters

**Admission requirements:** Completed four-year high school and passed state graduation exam

**Competencies acquired upon finishing the study programme:** Upon completing this study the students are competent for working as elementary school teachers (1st–4th grade) and for organizing extracurricular activities – sports workshops, music workshops (they contribute to improvement of cultural and sports activities in schools), for helping teachers who work with children with special needs and in day care, and for working in publishing business. Master of primary education is trained for scientific and research work, systematic evaluation of practical work, development of new ideas related to lower elementary school, and for application of new theoretical knowledge related to concrete educational situations. After completing this educational cycle, the masters of primary education can continue their education.

**Professional title acquired upon finishing the study programme:** Master of Primary Education

**Course list by semesters:**

Course unit code	I SEMESTER	Status	Hours per week			ECTS
			L	S	E	
UČG101	Introduction to pedagogy	O	2	1	0	3
UČG102	Introduction to the Developmental Psychology	O	2	1	0	3
UČG103	Natural Sciences	O	2	1	0	3
UČG104	Phonology of the Croatian Standard Language	O	2	1	0	3
UČG105	English Language 1	O	2	0	1	3
UČG106	Mathematics 1	O	2	0	1	3
UČG107	Review of World History	O	2	0	1	3
UČG108	Culture of Kinesiology 1	O	0	0	2	1
UČG109	Sociology of development and environmental sociology	M	1	1	0	2
UČG110	Language communication	M	1	1	0	2
UČG111	The development of pupils' kinanthropological features	E	1	0	1	2
UČG112	Choral Singing 1	E	1	0	1	2
UČG113	Croatian language in academic communication	E	1	0	1	2
	II SEMESTER					

UČG114	Child Psychology	O	2	1	0	3
UČG115	Morphology of the Croatian Standard Language	O	2	0	1	3
UČG116	English Language 2	O	2	0	1	3
UČG117	Mathematics 2	O	2	0	1	3
UČG118	Geography	O	2	1	0	3
UČG119	Educational pedagogy	O	2	1	0	3
UČG120	Informatics 1	O	2	0	1	3
UČG121	Culture of Kinesiology 2	O	0	0	2	1
UČG122	Civil education	M	1	1	0	2
UČG123	Croatian traditional music	M	1	0	1	2
UČG124	Choral Singing 2	E	1	0	1	2
UČG125	National Parks in Croatia	E	1	1	0	2
UČG126	Mediums of Contemporary Visual Arts	E	1	0	1	2
	<b>III SEMESTER</b>					
UČG201	Psychology of Studying	O	2	1	0	4
UČG202	The syntax of the Croatian Standard Language	O	2	1	0	3
UČG203	English for Academic Purposes 1	O	1	1	0	2
UČG204	Mathematics 3	O	2	0	1	3
UČG205	Overview of the History of the Croats	O	2	1	0	3
UČG206	Basic Music Theory	O	2	0	1	3
UČG207	Philosophy of Education	O	1	1	0	3
UČG208	Culture of Kinesiology 3	O	0	0	2	1
UČG209	First and Second language Acquisition	M	1	1	0	2
UČG210	Ecology	M	1	1	0	2
UČG211	Choral Singing 3	E	1	0	1	2
UČG212	Animated Film, Comic and Illustration	E	1	0	1	2
UČG213	Overview of World Literature	E	1	1	0	2
	<b>IV SEMESTER</b>					
UČG214	Family Pedagogy	O	2	1	0	3
UČG215	English for Academic Purposes 2	O	1	1	0	2
UČG216	The Lexicology of the Croatian Standard Language	O	1	0	1	2
UČG217	Mathematics 4	O	2	0	1	3
UČG218	Visual Art Culture 1	O	2	1	0	3
UČG219	Music Culture	O	2	1	0	3
UČG220	Basic Concepts in the Theory of Literature	O	2	1	0	3
UČG221	Informatics 2	O	2	0	1	3
UČG222	Culture of Kinesiology 4	O	0	0	2	1
UČG223	Croatian Language Heritage	M	1	1	0	3
UČG224	Choral Singing 4	E	1	0	1	2
UČG225	Integrated Language Skills in English	E	1	0	1	2
UČG226	Picture book	E	1	1	0	2
	<b>V SEMESTER</b>					



UČG301	Didactics	O	3	1	0	4
UČG302	Inclusive Education	O	2	1	0	3
UČG303	Fundamentals of Kinesiology	O	2	1	0	3
UČG304	Genres in Children's Literature	O	2	1	0	3
UČG305	Scene Culture	O	2	0	1	3
UČG306	Visual Art Culture 2	O	2	0	1	3
UČG307	Music Practicum 1	O	0	0	2	2
UČG308	Pedagogical Practice 1	O	0	0	4	2
UČG309	Regional Literature	M	1	1	0	3
UČG310	Graphical Communications	E	1	0	1	2
UČG311	Choral Singing 5	E	1	0	1	2
UČG312	Elementary games for pupils in the first four grades of primary school	E	1	0	1	2
	<b>VI SEMESTER</b>					
UČG313	Psychology of Teaching	O	2	1	0	3
UČG314	Psychology of communication	O	2	0	1	3
UČG315	Croatian Children's Literature	O	2	1	0	4
UČG316	Introduction to Probability and Statistics	O	2	0	1	3
UČG317	Media Culture	O	1	1	0	3
UČG318	Music Practicum 2	O	0	0	2	2
UČG319	Methods of Working with Pupils with Special Needs	O	1	0	2	3
UČG320	Pedagogical Practice 2	O	0	0	4	2
UČG321	Visual Interpretation of Children's Literature	M	1	0	1	3
UČG322	Natural Heritage valorization in Tourism	E	1	1	0	2
UČG323	Choral Singing 6	E	1	0	1	2
UČG324	Children's Literature in English	E	1	1	0	2
	<b>VII SEMESTER</b>					
UČG401	Methodics of Croatian Language 1	O	2	2	0	4
UČG402	Methodics of Mathematics 1	O	2	0	2	3
UČG403	Methodics of Natural and Social Sciences 1	O	2	0	2	3
UČG404	Methodics of Visual Art Culture 1	O	2	0	1	3
UČG405	Methodics of Music Culture 1	O	2	0	1	3
UČG406	Methodics of Kinesiology 1	O	2	0	1	3
UČG407	Pedagogical Practice 3	O	0	0	4	2
UČG408	Natural heritage of Croatia	M	1	1	0	3
UČG409	Study of children's art creativity	E	1	0	1	3
UČG410	Choral Singing 7	E	1	0	1	3
UČG411	Regional History	E	1	1	0	3
	<b>VIII SEMESTER</b>					
UČG412	Methodics of Croatian Language 2	O	2	0	2	4
UČG413	Methodics of Natural and Social Sciences 2	O	2	0	1	3
UČG414	Methodics of Mathematics 2	O	2	0	2	3
UČG415	Methodics of Visual Art Culture 2	O	2	0	1	3
UČG416	Methodics of Music Culture 2	O	2	0	1	3

UČG417	Methodics of Kinesiology 2	O	2	0	1	3
UČG418	Pedagogical Practice 4	O	0	0	4	2
UČG419	Croatian Fine Art Heritage	M	1	1	0	3
UČG420	Choral Singing 8	E	1	0	1	3
UČG421	Chamber music 1	E	1	0	1	3
UČG422	Out-of curriculum and out-of school kinesiological programme	E	1	0	1	3
	<b>IX SEMESTER</b>					
UČG501	Methodics of Mathematics 3	O	2	0	2	3
UČG502	Methodics of Croatian Language 3	O	2	0	2	3
UČG503	Methodics of Natural and Social Sciences 3	O	1	0	2	3
UČG504	Methodics of Visual Art Culture 3	O	1	0	2	3
UČG505	Methodics of Music Culture 3	O	1	0	2	3
UČG506	Methodics of Kinesiology 3	O	1	0	2	3
UČG507	Methodology of Research in Education	O	2	0	2	3
UČG508	Open space education	M	1	0	1	3
UČG509	Methodology of work in combined classrooms	I	1	0	1	3
UČG510	Chamber music 2	I	1	0	1	3
UČG511	Reading of Required Readings	I	1	1	0	3
	<b>X SEMESTER</b>					
UČG512	Master Degree Research	O	0	0	0	24
UČG513	Pedagogical Docimology	O	1	1	0	3
UČG514	Spiritual Culture	O	1	1	0	3