

---

# Security Studies

---

The Master Program of Security Studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences of Charles University in Prague has been set up relatively recently – it has been offered since the academic year of 2007/2008. It demonstrates the Department's reaction to a longstanding and widely spread academic trend which regards Security Studies as a separate study program. This is further supported by the prominent position of the security issues within contemporary international politics.

The history of Security Studies dates back several decades. Its form and focus have dramatically changed over time. During the Cold War the field was closely connected to War Studies and Science and focused on the questions of nuclear armament, disarmament and potential confrontation of the superpowers. In the post-Cold War period, Security Studies underwent a significant transformation which, under the influence of the widely spread understanding of security as a term, not only started to show an interest in military matters, but also in topics such as the environment, human security, ethnic conflicts, disputes over natural resources and power engineering. The field's current form has been shaped by this dynamic development.

At the FSV UK the Security Studies program was launched as cooperation between the Political Studies and International Relations Institutes. The core program comprises lectures led by the members of the Department of International Relations, which to a certain extent has influenced the focus of Security Studies on the questions related to international politics. The Department was set up thanks to great support from the [Prague Security Studies Institute](#) which provided a means to set it up quickly, assisted in the enhancement of international contacts and cooperation with institutions working in the field of security.

Since its establishment the Security Studies Department's aim has been a progressive approach to education based on – among other tools - a reduced number of lectures and increased number of seminars. Department members thus have more time to dedicate to presentations, discussions and simulations rather than unilateral presentation of information easily accessible elsewhere. Quite logically such an approach requires thorough prior preparation on behalf of the students, i.e. extensive reading of recommended literature and sources. The main aim is to make the learning process more effective through a greater involvement on behalf of the students, enabling them to present their opinions and knowledge.

Supervisor of the programme: [doc. PhDr. Běla Plechanovová, CSc.](#)

Coordinator of the programme: [Mgr. Tomáš Kučera, Ph.D.](#)

## State Exam Topics

[Security Theories](#)

[Current Security Threats](#)