

# Jagiellonian Language Centre *accredited by*



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*Jagiellonian Language Centre*

The Jagiellonian Language Centre (JCJ) is an interfaculty unit at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków. There are two types of courses taught in the Centre: a limited number of commercial courses for university staff and students as well as the general public, and a large number of courses for university students, which are an integral part of the university curriculum. The Centre teaches 11 languages to about 11,000 students yearly and operates at over 10 university venues within the Old City of Kraków and the modern university campus.

The Jagiellonian Language Centre is the first academic unit in Poland to have been accredited by EAQUALS, an international organisation. The main aim of Eaquals is to encourage and accredit high quality in language teaching and learning in various educational contexts. To support this aim, Eaquals has established a demanding but transparent set of standards which are verified during a rigorous quality assessment process. An Eaquals inspection is the main element of this process.

Eaquals has been granted Participatory Status by the Council of Europe and contributed to the Council's projects, for instance the Common European Framework for Languages (CEFR). Eaquals is consulted by the European Commission in relation to language education and has Liaison Status with two International Standards Organisation (ISO) committees (from the Eaquals brochure).

In November 2015, after a three-year-preparation period, an audit by Eaquals inspectors was carried out in the Centre. The inspection verified 50 standards in 12 different categories, including teaching and learning, course design, management and administration, academic resources, internal and external communications, staff profiles, staff employment terms, quality assurance, learning environment, assessment and certification, and client services.

The accreditation panel decided that the Centre meets all the standards to become its accredited member. This is the first time an international accreditation has been

granted to a language centre at a Polish institution of higher education. The accreditation not only assures quality in the language courses it offers but also places the Centre among the international elite of institutions for which language teaching and learning are of primary importance, for instance the British Council, the Goethe-Institut, Instituto Cervantes or the Oxford University Press to mention a few. It also means the participation of JCJ in the international and local – Polish – public debate concerning language policy both in secondary and in tertiary education, an issue that surely requires careful consideration these days...



**The Centre teaches 11 languages to about 11,000 students yearly:**

English  
German  
Russian  
French  
Spanish  
Italian

Norwegian  
Japanese  
Esperanto  
Greek  
Latin