

PRISHTINA INTERNATIONAL SUMMER UNIVERSITY 2025

Information Guide for Applicants

Thank you for your interest in the Prishtina International Summer University.

Please carefully read the instructions, arrangements and further information related to the Prishtina International Summer University below. This will increase the efficiency of the communication between you and the organizers of the *Prishtina International Summer University*. In addition, it will serve to bring your expectations better in line with the situation in Prishtina. Moreover, carefully reading through the information below will enable you to submit a better application, increasing your chance of being selected.

The Prishtina International Summer University is the largest international project which aims to contribute to the restructuring and reform processes at the University of Prishtina, to increase the internationalization in the University of Prishtina and stimulate cooperation between UP and regional universities. Its staff is working extremely hard to make it a well-functioning academic institution serving the Kosovar society in a way that many universities around the world already do.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THIS DOCUMENT, PLEASE EMAIL US AT:

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1. Introduction

In the summer of 2025, the University of Prishtina “Hasan Prishtina” (UP) will organize the 24th edition of the Prishtina International Summer University.

The Programme will bring together local & international professors and lecturers for a two weeks’ period and will provide 16 credited courses covering a wide range of study fields. In addition, public discussions, lectures etc., will be organized on prominent issues on Kosovar and (South) East European societies. Recreational events and excursions will also be organized for students and staff.

Prishtina International Summer University 2024, hosted approximately 300 students. In this year’s Programme, approximately 300 participants will be accepted, out of which 150 from Kosovo and 150 participants from abroad. A list of courses is available in our web-site.

2. About the University of Prishtina

University of Prishtina (UP) was founded in 1970 and today has 14 faculties and approximately 30,000 students. University of Prishtina as a public university and as the oldest and largest university in the country, considers its integration into the European Higher Education Area a target of vital importance for the university, the country and society as a whole. Thus, UP one of the first universities in the region that started reforms in all levels, in accordance with the Bologna Process. The successful implementation of the ECTS credit system, the introduction of curricular reforms and new cycle degrees (Bachelor, Master and Doctoral) are indicators of the commitment of the University of Prishtina to fulfil the objectives within Bologna action lines, including establishing an external and internal quality assurance system, which is a pillar of the Bologna Process

3. The Programme

3.1. Class Size

In order to guarantee the quality of the course and the necessary space for each student, the number of participants for each course is limited to approximately 20 students per class/course. This limitation will also ensure the possibility of interactive participation. Each student can participate in one course only. All courses will be co-taught by a visiting professor and a professor from the University of Prishtina.

3.2. Teaching Schedule

The *Prishtina International Summer University* will be held from ***Monday, the 7th of July, to Friday, the 18th of July 2025***. The courses will last for 10 teaching days, and will have approximately 3 classes each day. In general, courses will be scheduled from early mornings starting at 9:00 AM. An introduction day is organized for all international professors and students on the ***6th of July, as we expect international participants to arrive in Prishtina on the 5th and on the 6th of July***.

There will be no classes on Saturdays and Sundays, therefore, these days will be devoted to recreational activities. Furthermore, public forums and discussions will take place in the evening during regular teaching days.

3.3. Language of Instruction

The *Prishtina International Summer University* courses will be taught only in English. When filling your application, you are kindly asked to answer honestly questions about your level of understanding of English language.

3.4. Background of Participants

Out of the approximately 20 participants selected for each course, approximately 10 will be local and 10 international students. Inevitably, participants in your course will differ in academic level and English language proficiency, as well as regarding gender, age, country of origin, religious background, work experience, etc. This is both a challenge and an opportunity. Mutual respect and understanding is therefore indispensable.

3.5. Literature

Various materials will be used in class. Generally, each course will have its own course book and an additional text comprised of essays, chapters, etc. Next to the required literature that you will have to study for the course, a list of optional, complimentary reading will be available.

The *Prishtina International Summer University* will provide all required reading materials to the participants at the beginning of each course. Literature and other materials remain *Prishtina International Summer University* property until the end of the Programme.

3.6. Access to Libraries and Internet

Wireless access will be available at the Dorms. Internet will be available also in the university campus.

3.7. Teaching Methods

Your course will be instructed in various ways. Work-groups, lectures, discussions, presentations and fieldwork may be part of your course's teaching methods. The exact teaching methodology is indicated in the course Programme in this brochure. In general, you should expect less traditional, more informal interaction between the professors and yourself. Highly interactive teaching methods will be encouraged, which stimulate critical thinking and promote challenging discussions.

3.8. Public Forums

Forums are organized to stimulate interdepartmental discussion of current events on an academic level and to stimulate discussions among visiting professors, local academic staff and students on issues raised at the *Prishtina International Summer University*.

Forums and discussions that are part of the *Prishtina International Summer University*, Programme will be conducted in English language with consecutive translation into Albanian. Professors of the *Prishtina International Summer University* will participate, as well as professors of the University of Prishtina & representatives of local and international organizations. Attendance at these forums is not MANDATORY. As the name suggests, the forums will be open to the public at large for participation.

The speakers in each panel will consist of 3 or 4 experts/representatives from different backgrounds. An independent chairperson will conduct the discussions. The forum begins with each panel member in turn giving a short introductory speech on the topic and their point of view. This should be followed by a discussion, first among the panel and later opened to members of the audience, who may direct their questions/comments to one or more members of the panel. All questions and comments should be directed through the chairperson, who is also able to pose questions to the panel.

3.9. Excursions and Field Work

Some courses will include excursions and fieldwork that will be organized and scheduled by the co-professor. This will be programmed in a way that is the most convenient and practical for the course participants and visiting professor and are not restricted to class hours.

3.10. Examination

Depending on your course, various ways of examination might be chosen by your professor (e.g. oral examination, written exam, presentation, paper, etc.). He/she will inform you on the specifics at the beginning of the course. During the course, the professor might give you various assignments. These assignments will count towards your final mark. An examination is held at the end of each course.

3.11. Certificates & ECTS Ratings

Participants who attend 80 % of their classes, pass course assignments and examinations, will receive a “Prishtina International Summer University Certificate” compatible with European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). You are kindly invited to check with your home institution if this kind of certificates are accepted. In most cases, you may transfer gained ECTS credits at the Prishtina International Summer University to your studies at your home institution.

The certificate includes brief course description, the number of ECTS credits gained and grade assigned to participant. The certificate will state the participant’s name and will be signed by the *Prishtina International Summer University* visiting professor and co-professor. The certificates are designed according to the EC standards.

3.12. Number of credits for each course

All participants who will successfully complete the *Prishtina International Summer University* courses will receive 4 (four) ECTS credits. The number of ECTS credits for each course are listed in *Prishtina International Summer University* brochure. ECTS credits for all *Prishtina International Summer University* courses are calculated based on the student’s workload: number of average student working hours in order to achieve course objectives. Student workload includes also classroom hours, individual studies, and field work and so on. The rule applied for transferring the student’s workload in to ECTS credits is: 25 hours of student workload is equal to 1 ECTS credit. For example, if a course has 4 ECTS credits, average student needs to spend 4×25 working hours = 100 working hours in order to reach the course objectives.

3.13. Grading

The grading system applied at *Prishtina International Summer University* courses is the one recommended by ECTS grading system. The grade on the participant’s certificate indicates the success of the participant compared to their peers in the course.

Grades should be awarded by visiting professor based on assessment activities that may include: examinations, written assignments, presentations, participation on discussions, individual or group project.

4. Programme FEE

Tuition fee for Prishtina International Summer University is **100 Euro**, which includes courses, accommodation at University of Prishtina. Dormitories and three daily meals at student's canteen - The tuition does not include obtaining visa (if needed) health insurance and travel expenses from your country to Kosovo.

4.1. Scholarships

The Prishtina International Summer University distinguishes **three** categories of non-Kosovar participants: Participants that are entitled to a scholarship, those that are not and international students. If you are a student in one of the eligible countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia), you will automatically be considered for a scholarship.

Be aware that awarded students must attend at least 80% of their classes. If you fail to meet this requirement, your scholarship will be discontinued and your accommodation will be cancelled.

For all those who are awarded with a scholarship, the following benefits apply:

1. Free accommodation in the university dormitory. Room shared with another student.
2. Students will receive three daily meals at the student's canteen.

*Please note that you should be a student in one of the scholarship countries to be eligible for a scholarship. For instance: A Dutch student studying in Bosnia will be able to apply for a scholarship or an Albanian student studying in Greece will not be able to apply for a scholarship.

A) Regional Students (Albania, BiH, Montenegro, Macedonia, Serbia) Participants who do not receive scholarship will have to cover all costs affiliated with their participation themselves, i.e. travel, visa, etc. But you will be provided with free accommodation at Dorms.

B) Self-Financing, 100 Euro, including courses, accommodation at Dorms and food)
- The tuition does not include obtaining visa (if needed), health insurance and travel expenses from your country to Kosovo.

5. Application & Selection procedure

5.1. Applying

Students can apply online via: <https://unvp.uni-pr.edu/>

5.2. Selection

All the applications will be handled by the University of Prishtina. In consultancy with the international and local professors, the final selection of students is based on several criteria:

Selection criteria

Firstly, all applications are tested on eligibility, meaning:

1. Does your present cycle/field of studies match with the course you apply for?
2. Is the selected course relevant to your education at your home university?
3. Do you master the language required to follow the course?

After the application deadline has passed, UP will immediately start the selection process. The outcome of the selection will be available two - three weeks after the application deadline. There are three types of possible outcomes:

1. You are not selected

You will be notified by Prishtina International Summer University via email. We will keep your personal data on file, in case suitable future opportunities arise for which you could re-apply.

2. You are selected

You will be notified by Prishtina International Summer University via email for which course you have been selected (please note that you can only be selected for one course). You will receive a participation contract which includes information on the course that you have been selected for. You are required to email or scan back this contract (signed) within **one week**.

3. Waiting List

According to our experience a certain number of selected participants will decide not to participate therefore, we will fill in the eventual vacancies with participants in our waiting list. As soon as all places are confirmed, all applicants on the waiting list will be informed on their rejection.

You can check your status on the website, starting from one week after the application deadline. If you are accepted, you will have precisely one week to confirm your participation by sending back the participant contract emailed to you upon your acceptance. If you do not respond within the time frame, you will be automatically rejected.

6. Travelling to Prishtina

Participants are expected to arrive 1-2 days before the start of the course they are assigned and departure 1 day after the course end. If this causes any problems in your travelling schedule, please inform us in advance.

6.1. Participant Mailing List

Approximately 150 participants of *Prishtina International Summer University* will be non-Kosovars. There might be other participants from your countries that you would like to travel with. A mailing list of participants will be launched as soon as the final selection will be available. After you receive the acceptance letter from Prishtina International Summer University and you have confirmed back your participation, you will be added to the mailing list, therefore you will receive automatically all updates and information regarding the Summer University.

6.2. Travel Documents

Citizens from some countries are required to have a visa to enter the Republic of Kosovo. If you travel to Prishtina through Serbia, Montenegro, or Macedonia, you might be asked to have a transit visa. **Please check the regulations as requirements may change and differ between countries!**

<http://www.mfa-ks.net/?page=2.157>

Please check for each country that you plan to travel through if you need visa and take into consideration that the process visa application can take up to several weeks!

6.3. Insurance

Prishtina International Summer University does not cover costs of (additional health, molest or travel) insurance. *Prishtina International Summer University* has no obligations concerning social and/or health insurance and cannot remain responsible for loss of personal goods, for accidents or injuries during and outside the activities related to the Prishtina International Summer University. You are recommended to be in good health when travelling to Kosovo. Please also check the validity of your health and travel insurance for Kosovo. If you apply for the summer university, you accept these terms and state that you will take care of your own health insurance.

6.4. Getting to Prishtina: Plane / Bus

We recommend two means of transportation to get to Prishtina: by bus or by plane.

By Plane:

Prishtina Airport is located approximately 10 km from Prishtina city. Take a taxi or the Airport bus from Prishtina International Airport to the Students Center (Dormitories) You can also arrive in Prishtina traveling from Tirana Airport, then take the bus from Tirana to Prishtina which will cost you about 20 €.

A good alternative is also to fly to Skopje airport. From Skopje bus station to Prishtina, takes 2 hours by bus (bus ticket costs 10, €).

7. Arrival in Prishtina

The Dormitories are located between Ulpiana and Sunny Hill neighborhoods.

If you arrive at the bus station, take a taxi, which should cost you no more than 3 €. Before getting in the taxi, agree on the price with the driver. If you arrive at Prishtina airport, you can take a taxi. It will cost about 20, €.

Upon arrival at the Helpdesk, you will receive an information package consisting of a basic city map, an information booklet, your course schedule and the ID Card.

The ID card contains: Your first and last name; country, the name of your course; your personal ID number.

Please carry your ID card with you all the time. Your logistic officer will use it to check your attendance in the class. It will also serve as your entrance ticket to special Summer University parties and other social events.

With this ID card, you will proceed to the university dormitories (located on walking distance), where you will be allocated a room.

If you wish to contact your diplomatic office before arrival in Prishtina, you can do so.

7.1. Preparatory Readings on Kosovo

We strongly suggest you well prepare your stay by reading on the area before your arrival. To prepare for your stay in Kosovo, the organization would like to draw your attention to the following publications:

- Judah, Tim, 'Kosovo: War and Revenge', Paperback - 368 pages (March 2001) Yale UP; ISBN: 0300083548.
- Malcolm, Noel, 'Kosovo: A Short History', Paperback - 492 pages (July 1999) HarperCollins (paper); ISBN: 0060977752.

8 Local conditions in Prishtina

8.1. Safety

The situation in Republic of Kosovo is stable. Kosovo Police, KFOR and EULEX Police are in charge of taking care of security in Kosovo. Prishtina is considered to be one of the safest capital cities in Europe. However, you are strongly suggested to take care for the fact that you might be in Kosovo for the first time.

8.2. General Conditions & Health

Living conditions have improved, however, are not yet comparable with Western European standards. Health care, public transport, supermarkets, etc. are available. Local health care services are offered by Health Care Centre (QKU) and from ambulances which are available in each part of Prishtina city. You are kindly asked to contact your health insurance company before visiting Republic of Kosovo to assure that your coverage is guaranteed.

8.3. Living Expenses – Food and Local Transport

General living expenses are considerably lower than those in Western Europe. There are many possibilities for having a (cheap) meal in Prishtina. A simple lunch will cost you about 7-10€. Sandwiches cost up to 3-5 €. For a good dinner in a restaurant, you can expect to pay 25-30 €. Vegetarian food is also available. Omelette, fried cheese, vegetarian pastas and pizzas and vegetable stews are available in most of the restaurants.

Please note that vegetarian meals are generally not available at the student restaurant. Buses are very reasonably priced (one-way tickets to a destination within Kosovo: maximum 8, €. Taxis are also affordable and almost any trip within the city will not cost you more than 3,50- 5 €.

8.4. Climate & Environment

Summers are usually very warm in Kosovo. During the summer the temperature easily rises above 30 degrees Celsius in the afternoon. Evenings and nights can become much colder, and extra clothing is needed.

8.5. Water & Electricity

The provided electricity from standard European Wall-sockets is 220 V. In summer time, problems with the water supplies in dorms may occur. It is likely that, during certain hours of the day, no tap water will be available.

8.6. Currency

The local currency is Euro. It is advised to use cash, since the usage of credit cards is limited. Cirrus, Maestro, Visa Electron, Visa Card or Master Cards can be used to withdraw cash. You can exchange foreign currency at the Western Union office, by the Grand Hotel off Mother Theresa Street. You can also exchange money in any bank in Prishtina.

8.7. Accommodation & Food

University of Prishtina will make housing arrangements for all non-Kosovar participants. Participants will stay at the university dormitories. For each participant, there is one bed in a room shared with one other Prishtina International Summer University participant. Bathrooms are located on each floor. Conditions are not luxurious, but acceptable. The water situation is expected to be optimal. The organization will arrange accommodation to cover the time of your course, plus 1-2 days preceding and/or following your teaching period if necessary (depending on the dates of your arrival and departure). If you intend to arrive more than 1-2 days earlier or leave more than 1 day later, please inform us in a timely manner.

8.8. Medical Emergencies-Emergency phone numbers

Local health care services are offered by Health Care Centre (QKU) and also from ambulances which are available in each part of Prishtina city. There are also offered services in the private clinics in Prishtina. You are kindly asked to contact your health

insurance company before visiting Republic of Kosovo to assure that your coverage is guaranteed.

Emergency numbers in Prishtina are:

Police: 92 (landline),

192 (cell phone),

922 (dell phone)

Fire Department: 93

Ambulance:

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9. PRISHTINA INTERNATIONAL SUMMER UNIVERSITY

Correspondence

Should you require any further information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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