



**NICOLAUS COPERNICUS
UNIVERSITY
IN TORUŃ**

Welcome Guide

**Nicolaus Copernicus University in
Toruń**

Academic Year 2019/2020

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Introductory word

Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń is a Polish, wide-profile public university. The mission of our university is to conduct research on the highest world level, provide education based on the latest achievements of science and to actively influence the living standards of the inhabitants of the Kuyavian-Pomeranian region. The university also conducts educational and cultural activities aimed at people of different ages and at different stages of education.

What is important for our academic community are values is the pursuit of truth, integrity in its search, freedom of research, high quality of education and openness to the diversity of philosophical and cultural backgrounds.

You are cordially invited to study at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń. There are more than a hundred programmes and a creative, friendly atmosphere.

JM Rector Prof. dr hab.
Andrzej Tretyn

Introduction

How should I use this guide?

This guide is designed to answer questions that are born in the mind of a newly adopted student at the stage of admission until the beginning of the studies. We have gathered here all basic information you will need before your arrival at the university and after the start of your studies. Thanks to this, you will save time, you will be well prepared to start your studies, a course or Erasmus exchange at NCU. You will also know where you have to go to get more detailed information. So, before you go ask your Dean a question, read this guide, maybe you will find what you were looking for. We are glad that you chose Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń. We hope this will be an unforgettable experience for you. Good luck! :)

Where do I get the information?

Information on studies or short-term courses

If you are a new student for a full-cycle studies, you will find us here:
https://www.umk.pl/en/admissions/in_english/contact_us/

Information on exchange

If you came to us for the ERASMUS + exchange, go here:

<https://www.umk.pl/en/erasmus/contact/>

We are opening WELCOME CENTER for you. This is the first place where you should go to look for help. You will find information such as:

Where to submit documents?

Where is the Erasmus + office?

Where is my department?

Where do I make a photocopy diploma?

You can find Welcome Center in the [RECTORAT on the ground floor](#). The Welcome Center will be available to you from September to November.

You can obtain all information related to your arrival in the ERASMUS + office by contacting incoming@erasmus.umk.pl (+ 48-56) 611 4928. For outgoing students contact: outgoing@erasmus.umk.pl, phone number (+48-56) 611 4788.

More details can be found here: <https://www.umk.pl/en/erasmus>

Faculty coordinators:

https://www.umk.pl/wspolpraca/erasmus_plus/koordynatorzy/koordynatorzy/

Information on study programme and student's rights and duties

The information on study programme and student's rights and duties is provided by the Dean's Office. Check the addresses on Faculties' websites:

<https://www.umk.pl/en/university/faculties/>

The contact to academic teachers can be found in USOS.

Registration of stay (in Polish: 'zameldowanie')

You are coming to Poland to study, so your stay in Poland will last more than 30 days. If you know that after graduation you will return to the country where you live permanently, for the duration of your stay in Poland register your temporary residence.

In order to complete the registration obligation, you have to receive a document from the Student's house (temporary residence registration form), fill it out (you can ask for help from the Student's house office), and then head to the City Hall Office with a valid passport (the nearest information point is at a shopping mall Plaza, on Broniewskiego 90 Street, 1 Floor, open Tuesday – Saturday: 09.00-16.30).

If you live in a private apartment, you must have a rental agreement with the owner's permission for registration.

Fee for the certificate of residence for temporary stay costs 17 zlotys.

Legalization of residence – non-EU citizens

You will get a student visa for your studies. When your visa expires, you can apply for a TEMPORARY RESIDENCE CARD so that your continued stay at the university is legal. In order to obtain a temporary residence permit, you must go to Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship office in Bydgoszcz. The unit dealing with the issuance of a residence card is the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship Office - Kujawsko – Pomorski Urząd Wojewódzki w Bydgoszczy

(link:

<https://www.bydgoszcz.uw.gov.pl/pl/wydzial-spraw-obywatelskich-i-cudzoziemcow.html>).

THE OFFICE HAS AN ELECTRONIC QUEUE SYSTEM, WHICH MEANS THAT IF YOU WANT TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION, YOU MUST FIRST REGISTER FOR A SPECIFIC DAY AND TIME OF YOUR VISIT TO THE OFFICE. DURING REGISTRATION YOU GET A NUMBER.

Picking one ticket with a number entitles you to one case (filing a single application).

Every downloaded number from the railway system is summoned only once.

If the called out client does not approach the appropriate room, the downloaded number will be closed.

Registration -> <http://webqms2.pl/kpuw/public/>

Important! REQUEST FOR A RESIDENCE CARD MUST BE FILED EARLY DUE TO THE A LONG WAITING TIME FOR THE PERMIT - **NO LATER** THAN ON THE LAST DAY OF LAWFUL STAY IN POLAND. FAILURE TO MEET THE DEADLINE THREATENS WITH THE OBLIGATION TO LEAVE POLAND AND DISCONTINUE THE STUDIES (STAY IN POLAND WILL BE ILLEGAL IN THIS CASE).

After you file the application, your stay is legal even after the expiry of the visa. However, if you leave the country and want to go back to studies, you must apply for another visa.

If you take up or continue studies, in order to receive your residence card, you must prepare a:

- Completed application form in accordance with the instructions (<https://cudzoziemcy.gov.pl/en/files-to-download/>)
- Current Photograph – 4 photos, size 45x35mm made in the last 6 months (requirements the same as for passport photo)
- Copy of a valid travel document (and an original for verification)
- Certificate confirming admission to studies on the required form (from the Dean's office)
- Evidence of tuition fee payment (or a certificate of being a scholarship holder or that you are studying on a non-payment basis)
- Documents confirming the possession of funds to cover the costs of subsistence and return home (monthly min. 701 zlotys)
- Proof of health insurance (insurance must also cover medical expenses)
- Proof of payment for issuing the card to the account indicated by the office
- A certificate from the Tax Office on the lack of fiscal arrears may also be required

When submitting a request, you must have both the originals and copies of the above mentioned documents with you to make an appointment. Your fingerprints will be downloaded when submitting your application. Documents issued in a foreign language should be translated – only translations made by a sworn translator are accepted.

Fees:

Fee for granting a residence permit: 340 zlotys has to be paid to
Urząd Miasta Bydgoszczy Wydział Podatków i Opłat Lokalnych
Bank Account No.
52 1240 6960 3892 1000 0000 0000

Fee for issuing a residence card: 50 zlotys to Kujawsko-Pomorski Urząd Wojewódzki w
Bydgoszczy Biuro Finansowo-Inwestycyjne
Bank Account No.
56 1010 1078 0000 4222 3100 0000

Note: The Office will check the progress of the studies EACH SEMESTER even after issuing the temporary residence permit! If there is no progress in learning, the permit will be withdrawn!

The card can only be collected in person.

Where can I file the application?

Oddział Zezwoleń na Pracę oraz Rejestracji Zaprośzeń i Obywateli UE
in Wydział Spraw Obywatelskich i Cudzoziemców
accepting applications – building B, III floor, room 33
Konarskiego 1-3 Street, 85-066 Bydgoszcz

More information:

<https://udsc.gov.pl/en/cudzoziemcy/obywatele-panstw-trzecich/karta-pobytu/informacje-o-dokumentach/>

<https://udsc.gov.pl/en/cudzoziemcy/obywatele-panstw-trzecich/chce-przedluzyc-swoj-pobyt-w-polsce/zezwolenie-na-pobyt-czasowy/studia-i-nauka/studia/>

IMPORTANT – If you have Karta Polaka, you do not have to legalize your stay – your residence is legal basing on the card.

The residence card entitles you to travel around the Schengen zone.

Registration of residence-citizens of the European Union

If you are a citizen of the European Union, the European Economic Area or Switzerland, you are required to register your stay no later than the following day after 3 months from the date of entry into the territory of Poland. The application for registration of residence has to be filed in person at the Urząd Wojewódzki – in Wydział Spraw Obywatelskich i Cudzoziemców.

Required Documents:

- An application form for registering residence of a citizen of the European Union (the form to be completed is available here: <https://udsc.gov.pl/en/cudzoziemcy/obywatele-ue-oraz-eogszwajcarii-i-czlonkowie-i-ch-rodzin/wymagane-formalnosci/obywatele-ue/zarejestrowanie-pobytu/>)
- A valid travel document or other document that confirms your identity and citizenship
- A certificate confirming admission to studies on the required form (from the Dean's office)
- A proof of health insurance (insurance must also cover medical expenses)
- A written statement of the possession of sufficient financial resources for maintenance

NO FEES ARE CHARGED FOR REGISTERING YOUR STAY AND ISSUING A CERTIFICATE OF EU CITIZEN REGISTRATION.

Visit:

<https://udsc.gov.pl/en/cudzoziemcy/obywatele-ue-oraz-eogszwajcarii-i-czlonkowie-ich-rodzin/wymagane-formalnosci/obywatele-ue/zarejestrowanie-pobytu/>

<https://cudzoziemcy.gov.pl/en/>

To file an application go to Voivodeship Office:

Kujawsko – Pomorski Urząd Wojewódzki
Wydział Spraw Obywatelskich i Cudzoziemców
Oddział Legalizacji Pobytu Cudzoziemców
Konarskiego 1-3 Street
85-066 Bydgoszcz
phone number: 52 349-7348
e-mail: cudzoziemiec@bydgoszcz.uw.gov.pl
<https://udsc.gov.pl/en/lista-urzedow-wojewodzkich/>

Medical assistance

In case of illness, take your ID or passport with you along with Student's ID card and proof of insurance covering the costs of medical treatment.

If you are a citizen of the European Union or the European Economic Area, you are entitled to free healthcare on the basis of your **EHIC** (European Health Insurance Card), which you must obtain in your country of residence prior to your arrival to studies. The EHIC entitles you to a doctor's visit in public healthcare establishments within the European Union. However, the card does not cover all services that are provided free of charge in your country. Be prepared to cover certain costs. In your country of residence, you can also purchase a private insurance policy valid in the territory of Poland.

If you are a non-EU citizen, you must purchase private insurance policy against sickness, accidents and death before your arrival to Poland. Usually non-EU foreigners must pay for medical care. The cost incurred is then reimbursed by the insurance company. Another possibility (after obtaining the student ID card) is signing an agreement with the **National Health Fund (Narodowy Fundusz Zdrowia - NFZ)**. The NFZ is an institution dedicated to financing health services. The cost of monthly contribution amounts to circa **50** zlotys per month.

To sign the agreement on voluntary insurance go to:

National Health Fund (NFZ) in Toruń
Szosa Chełmińska 30 Street
more information: www.nfz.gov.pl
56 65-82-600 56 65-82-605
fax 56 65-82-621

e-mail: torun@nfz-bydgoszcz.pl

Hospitals in Toruń

Wojewódzki Szpital Zespolony im. Ludwika Rydygiera Toruń, Świętego Józefa 53/59 Street
<http://www.wszcz.torun.pl/index.php/60-o-szpitalu/256-provincial-polyclinic-hospital-in-torun>

Specjalistyczny Szpital Miejski im. Mikołaja Kopernika in Toruń, Batorego 17/19 Street
www.med.torun.pl

Szpital Obserwacyjno-Zakaźny (a hospital for infectious diseases) Toruń, Krasińskiego 4/4A Street
www.zakazny.hosp.torun.pl

In case of a sudden illness or deterioration of the state of health:

MIEJSKA PRZYCHODNIA SPECJALISTYCZNA Uniwersytecka 17 Street, building A (from the parking lot) contact: 56 611 99 42, on weekdays open since 18:00 to 7:00 the following day and on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.
<http://www.mps.torun.pl/>

LECNICE CITOMED Sp. z o.o., Marie Skłodowska-Curie 73 Street (GP, pediatrician), contact: 56 658 44 44 7:00-18:00 56 658 44 55 7:00 -18:00 56 658 44 22 - for private visits
<https://www.citomed.pl/en>

Pharmacies

- Pharmacy Dbam o Zdrowie (DOZ), Lelewela 29/43 Street (Bus stop: Kościuszki) – Open 24/7
- Academic Pharmacy NOWA FARMACJA – Gagarina 87 Street – not far from Od Nowa
- Super-Pharm- Czerwona Droga 1 Street – next to Cinema City

Emergency numbers

- EMERGENCY NUMBER **112** - Europe emergency number
- AMBULANCE **999**
- POLICE **997**, Police station-Downtown, Polskiego Czerwonego Krzyża 2 Street phone number: **56 641 24 52**
- FIRE BRIGADE **998**
- MUNICIPAL POLICE **986** address: Grudziądzka 157 Street

If you are a witness of a devastation, assault, brawl, theft or vandalism, call 986 or 997

DO NOT call an ambulance because of a condition such as a cold, flu. Instead, go to a doctor or ask for a home visit.

Although Toruń is usually a safe city, it is better to avoid moving around unfamiliar areas alone. Be careful at events, do not enter into discussion with aggressive strangers or those who are under the influence of alcohol. In public transport vehicles, keep your bags or backpack close, in sight.

Do not drive under the influence of alcohol on the Bulwar Filadelfijski area, close to the bank of the river. Do not cross the pedestrian crossing on a bike, get off it in places that do not have a red line for bicycles. When moving around the roadways or in poorly lit areas, wear reflective elements mainly in autumn and winter, but also after dark.

Always carry your passport and visa (if applicable) in the event of a border guard control. Report all cases of discrimination and unequal treatment e.g. to the guardian of the year. To be able to drive a car, you must have a valid driving licence. You can get it in Poland or use a driving licence if it was issued in the EU. If you have a driving licence from outside the EU, you must apply to the relevant authorities to obtain a driving licence valid in Poland. In Poland there is right-hand traffic.

What can you get a ticket/fine for?

- Not using safety belts in the car – 100 zlotys
- Not validating a ticket in a public transport vehicle – 85 zlotys
- Using your mobile phone while driving a car (holding it or texting)– 200 zlotys
- Drinking an alcoholic beverage in a public place – 100 zlotys
- Disturbance of night time quiet period (since 22:00-6:00) - 100 - 500 zlotys
- Walking through the pedestrian crossing on the red light may be punished with a ticket of 100 zlotys

Do not drive under the influence of alcohol or intoxicants! Take a TAXI or use public transport.

What should I remember before my arrival?

If you have already been enrolled, you have paid for the first semester and received an invitation letter from the university – remember the following:

Visa

If you are a citizen of the European Union, an EFTA area or a national of one of the countries listed on the page, you do not need a visa. However, to get to another country, you need a valid travel document, and if your stay is to exceed 3 months, you need to register your stay

in the Voivodeship Office in Bydgoszcz (Urząd Wojewódzki w Bydgoszczy, look: REGISTERING your stay).

All persons outside the EU and EEA must have a valid visa if they are staying in the country for more than 3 months. You have to apply for visa in the Polish consulate or embassy in the country of residence. In addition to the above mentioned documents, an insurance policy valid in the territory of the Republic of Poland for at least the first year of study should also be included.

Necessary documents for the issuance of a student visa:

- Application Form
- Passport Photos
- Means of subsistence and documents confirming the financial resources for travel, the stay and for studies
- Health insurance
- Document confirming the purpose of the stay (invitation letter from the University) together with the proof of the tuition fee payment
- Confirmation of accommodation and payment
- Confirmation of payment of the visa fee

The required documents may vary depending on the country, more information can be found on the consulates' websites.

EXCHANGE OF MONEY IN THE CANTOR

Remember to exchange your currency for Polish zlotys or at least to Euros. Currency exchange bureau (in Polish: Kantor) can be found at any airport or railway station.

Currency exchange bureau in Toruń: <https://kantor-torun.pl/>

1 zloty = approx. 4.3 Euros

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU?

Remember to take the most necessary things with you:

- Valid passport or other identity document,
- Polish visa,
- Debit card, cash exchanged in currency exchange bureau (approx. 150 zlotys for small expenses and September accommodation),
- Necessary electronic equipment
- Insurance policy (insurance for the duration of the study is compulsory),
- Important phone numbers,
- Flight tickets,
- Original invitation letter from the university with confirmation of accommodation
- Contact details of the admission office, the dorm and the Embassy or Consulate of your country in Poland,
- Originals of the documents required to undertake the studies,
- Medicines (if you take some permanently) with a copy of your medical card.

Remember to make copies of important documents and keep them separate in case of lost or stolen luggage. Be careful, do not leave your purse/backpack/luggage out of sight. Pay special attention to it in public transport vehicles and stations.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Be sure to bring all the original documents required to take up studies and show them in the admission office in Rectorat (before you arrive, make sure which room you have to go to - write an email to studywithncu@umk.pl).

- The most important document entitling to take up studies is a secondary school diploma or bachelor's degree diploma. The certificate or diploma must also be accompanied by a document containing grades from examinations and subjects. All documents have to be translated into Polish or English by a sworn translator if the diploma is in a language other than Polish or English. The certificate or diploma must have an attached Apostille or has to be legalised by the relevant authority before the studies (see below). When you have to have apostille or legalization? Here is the list of countries that issue Apostille: <https://www.hcch.net/en/states/hcch-members>

Apostille may be issued by:

- Ministry of Education,
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
- Ministry of Justice.

List of Apostille issuing units:

<https://www.hcch.net/en/instruments/conventions/authorities1/?cid=41>

Legalization is made by:

- Polish Consul,
- The educational authority of the country in which the diploma or certificate was issued,
- A diplomatic or consular facility accredited in Poland in the country where the certificate or diploma has been issued.

Recognition of a foreign secondary school diploma/certificate

Some of the certificates are already recognised in Poland by law and do not require additional procedures for the purpose of studying. This includes certificates issued in the EU, OECD and EFTA member states and those with which Poland has international agreements on recognition of education (e.g. Ukraine, Belarus, China).

Certificates issued in other countries require an additional procedure to allow you to take up higher education in Poland. Such decisions shall be issued by a **superintendent** (kurator

oświaty). In the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship, the certificate recognition is made by the Ministry of Education in Bydgoszcz.

Read this:

<https://www.gov.pl/web/edukacja/recognition-of-foreign-school-certificates-and-diplomas-in-poland>

Application forms: <http://www.bip.kuratorium.bydgoszcz.pl/?cid=62>

- Another required document is a certificate of Polish language proficiency at least at B1 level according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages education in case of applying for studies conducted in Polish.

If you apply for English language studies, you must provide a certificate of English language proficiency at least at B2 level. English language documents include m.in. FCE, CAE, TOEFL – at least 87 points, IELTS 6.0.

PREPAYMENT FOR A STUDENT'S HOUSE

If you have expressed your willingness to live in a dorm while registering for studies, please make sure to make a prepayment for the student's house amounting to 270 zlotys to bank account number **73 1160 2202 0000 0003 7691 8210** to reserve a room prior to your arrival for studies. In the title do not forget to provide your **name, surname, programme** and note "**dorm prepayment**". Before arrival, make sure in which dormitory you will live and how to get there. If you will arrive in September, you will have to pay in cash at the reception in your student's house for each day of the stay. Write to: studywithncu@umk.pl

No prepayment equals no reservation.

Our department does not handle allocations in rooms.

Erasmus +

For Erasmus participants, you must pay a **deposit** in the amount of the **monthly dorm fee**. Before departure you will receive a deposit at **KASA** (Rectorat building, I floor).

CHECKLIST I – tick what you've already done

BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL AT THE UNIVERSITY

A few things to consider before leaving the house:

Take the time to prepare yourself emotionally for the stay in a foreign country. This means a new place, new people, new experiences that can be quite difficult.

What to do before leaving:

- Get a Student visa (if applicable)
- Verify if the travel document is valid.
- Pack your Passport and student ID card (if you have it) in a zipper bag to prevent damage
- Make an appointment at a dentist/ophthalmologist
- Take care of vaccinations and medications you use
- Prepare a file with important documents:

-Invitation from the University

-Proof of health insurance/travel Insurance

-Identification document (with photo)

-Driver's license, passport

- Tell us about your arrival date:

[-studywithncu@umk.pl](mailto:studywithncu@umk.pl)

[-incoming@erasmus.umk.pl](mailto:incoming@erasmus.umk.pl)

Pack:

- Important Documents
- Debit and credit cards
- A small amount of Polish currency
- Health and Accident insurance - ensure that health insurance is valid and check its validity on the territory of Poland
- Copies of medical reports and disease history
- Airline, bus or train tickets (if applicable)
- Confirmation of accommodation
- Your name is written in Latin alphabet
- Contact (names and phone numbers) to relatives or friends in case of emergency
- Necessary electrical equipment and Chargers
- Driving licence
- Adapters for electrical equipment
- Suitable clothing
- Towels
- Contact details for:

-NCU

-Your embassy or consulate in Poland

-Your student house or accommodation provider

- Download this guide to your phone

We strongly recommend that you do not place all your personal documents translated into English or Polish (passport, money, documents, valid addresses and phone numbers) in one bag. Keep them with you in your hand luggage, but separated. It is advisable to have photocopies of all important documents and contact numbers. For starters you will need cash (about 150.00 zlotys) or credit card for instant expenses.

What should I do when I arrive?

All formalities relating to the full-cycle studies or Erasmus+ exchange shall be carried out in the Rectorat building, in the admission office or in the Department of International Cooperation..

All formalities related to the studies are managed by the Dean's Office. Each faculty has a Vice-Dean for Student Affairs and they make all the decisions in student matters.

- Show original documents such as secondary education certificate or diploma, language certificate, passport, a visa (and/or documents application for discount of the tuition fee if you are in a difficult material situation) in Rectorat's admission office. Collect the decision on being accepted to NCU! **Lack of original documents results in removing from the list of students.**
- Deliver the decision of the superintendent on recognition of the foreign certificate until the end of the winter semester.
- Take part in the Welcome Days, the Orientation Week (Erasmus+), the inauguration of the academic year, the department's immatriculation (the student's oath) and the organizational meetings with the guardian of the year – you will find out there e.g. how to register for a class or how to take a library course.
- Open a bank account (optional).
- Check-in at the dorm, pay the fee for the first month of accommodation in the student house to the account indicated in the USOS (270 zł is only a prepayment, upon arrival you will have to pay the rest of the amount).
- Check in at the City Hall information point after receiving an application form from the student house – you will receive a **PESEL** number after checking-in (if you are 18 years old and above).
- Go to the Dean's Office to be entered into the USOS system. You will get an index number.
- Install the EDUROAM certificate to gain access to the Internet.
- Create an account in the USOSweb, upload your photo in digital version.
- Apply for a student ID card in the Dean's Office and pay for it to the indicated account.
- Register for classes in USOS.
- If you have not purchased an insurance policy, sign an agreement for voluntary insurance in the NFZ (National Health Fund) - insurance is obligatory.

Remember! If you have doubts about the points above, please email us at studywithncu@umk.pl! In the following part of the guide we will explain everything to you ☺

CHECKLIST II – tick what you've already done

WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE UNIVERSITY

Upon arrival

- Contact your family and friends at home to let them know that you've arrived safely
- Find a place to stay and check-in. Explore the closest area.
- Find out where your local supermarket is and buy food. Try to use public transport.
- Make sure you have the necessary items for your new home (kitchen equipment, bedding).
- Take part in Welcome Days or Orientation Week.
- Maintain a positive attitude.
- Inform the University's admission office and the Department of International Cooperation about your arrival.
- Make sure you've uploaded all the missing documents in the Dean's office.
- Open a Polish bank account (optional).

Upon arrival please bring all documents to the admission office (THIS does not APPLY TO ERASMUS STUDENTS):

- Passport and Visa
- Secondary school certificate with transcript of grades (for bachelor studies or long-cycle studies)
- Bachelor's degree diploma with transcript of grades (for second degree studies)
- For studies in English: a certificate of English language proficiency or a certificate that confirms that the language of instruction in your school was English
- For studies in Polish language: certificate confirming the knowledge of Polish language
- A medical certificate stating that you can study in your chosen course of study (if required)
- Health Insurance and accident insurance
- A signed personal data form printed from the Dream Apply system
- Confirmation of payment for the first semester of studies

If you do not want to live in a student's house, you can rent an apartment or a room. Be sure to:

- Read carefully the lease agreement before signing it
- Check the property before signing the contract
- Photograph any noticed damage
- Make sure you have received a copy of the lease agreement
- Pay attention to details about the end of the lease
- Pay attention to the area
- Check if there is a central heating
- Do you work with kitchen appliances such as washing machine and dishwasher?
- Are the pots, pans and kitchen equipment in good condition?
- Does the shower work properly?

- How close is it to NCU?
- How close is public transport?
- See what's nearby (shops, hospitals, parks, etc.)

Photo to student ID card

Remember that the same photo will be on your student ID card and you will have to bring exactly the same photo to the admission office upon arrival.

Your profile picture must be:

- In colour
- Of the minimum allowed resolution - 600 x 800 pixels
- Taken in the last 6 months reflecting your current appearance
- Taken on white background
- Full face facing directly towards the camera
- Eyes opened
- The face is approximately 70%-80% of the total area of the photo
- If the headgear is worn for religious or medical reasons, the face may not be covered

Your profile picture MAY NOT be a:

- Selfie
- Photo of a printed photo (e.g. from a passport)
- Greater than 2 MB
- Together with a friend
- At a party or with a pet
- Older than 6 months
- With painted face
- With sunglasses, baseball cap or other objects that make it difficult to identify

HOW TO OPEN A PERSONAL ACCOUNT IN THE POLISH BANK?

If you are paying tuition fee for the studies or you are receiving a scholarship, opening a bank account in the Polish bank is very useful. What is more, if you open an account in a Polish bank, you will avoid additional fees charged during ATM transactions. Here are some tips for opening your own bank account.

Consult your bank advisor and determine your situation. Say that you are a student or participant in a course or exchange. Show a document entitling you to reside in Poland (visa, permanent or temporary residence card), give your status (resident, EU Citizen, citizen of a non-EU country)

Find out what documents are necessary to create a personal bank account, whether the bank requires a PESEL number, whether the employees speak English, Russian, etc.

Some of the requirements for opening a bank account (each institution determines its own requirements):

- Address of residence (correspondence) in the territory of Poland
- PESEL Number
- Passport number and series with expiry date
- You have to be 18 years old

After completing your studies, remember to close your bank account if you are going to leave the country.

Popular Polish banks:

- Millenium
- Mbank
- PKO BP

Bank opening hours are usually 9 -17.

USOS (University Support System of Studies) - in the USOS system you will have assigned an individual account number, to which you will have to transfer all further payments for the studies, the student's ID and accomodation.

What to take care of in connection with the studies?

Higher Education System in Poland

First-degree studies are divided into undergraduate (bachelor) or engineering studies. The duration of undergraduate studies is 3 years (6 semesters) and engineering studies last 3.5 years (7 semesters). After obtaining a Bachelor or Engineer degree, you can apply for a second degree studies.

In order to undertake undergraduate or engineering studies, you have to have a secondary school certificate. This certificate must allow you to undertake studies in the country where it was issued.

Second degree studies are graduate (master) studies. They last 2 years (4 semesters) or 1.5 years (3 semesters) for engineering studies. In order to apply for these studies, you must have at least Bachelor degree which entitles you to undertake studies in the country where the diploma was issued. After graduation, you will obtain a Master degree.

Specific programmes such as law, theology, medicine, graphics, veterinary medicine and psychology last 5 years (10 semesters) sometimes up to 6 years (12 semesters). These are long-term Master's degree studies that you can apply for if you have a secondary school diploma. Master degree is obtained after graduation.

To apply to doctoral school, a master degree is required. Education in doctoral school lasts 4 years (8 semesters). Admission to a doctoral school takes place in a form of a competition. Education is free and the doctoral student is entitled to a scholarship.

Doctoral schools at NCU:

- Academia Copernicana
- Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences
- Doctoral School of Humanities, Theology and Arts
- Doctoral School of Medical and Health Sciences
- Doctoral School of Social Sciences

More information: <https://www.umk.pl/en/research/doctoral-schools/>

ECTS - European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System

It is a set of procedures adopted by European universities as defined by the European Commission. The Credit Transfer and Accumulation System aims at harmonizing the rules for passing the stages of studies to allow to undertake studies at other European universities. To complete the year of study, you must obtain 60 ECTS credits, i.e. 30 ECTS per semester.

Study Plan and Programme

Study programmes can be found on the websites of the Faculties. They contain learning outcomes, individual courses, ECTS points, the number of hours per course in a semester, the method of obtaining a credit. You can also ask about the study program in the Dean's Office.

Grades

At NCU there is a following scale of grades: 2, 3, 3.5, 4, 4.5, 5. Grade 2 is a failing grade (it equals failing a course/an exam). Some classes and lectures may also end with a pass, i.e. ZAL as pass and NZAL -not passed. All grades can be found in your USOS account under Student's Section.

Academic Calendar

The academic year begins on October 1. Usually the official inauguration of the academic year is held on that day. The academic year is divided into 2 semesters - winter and summer semester. The winter semester lasts from October until the end of February. The summer semester lasts from the end of February to the end of September (along with retake session)

February 19 is the University Holiday in honour of the patron of the NCU, Nicolaus Copernicus birthday. The detailed organisation of the academic year can be found here:

https://www.umk.pl/en/admissions/calendar_2014/

Under the link above you will also find information on which days are class-free..

REMEMBER! Do not book a ticket back home on the last day of classes or a day after the classes finish. Have in mind exam session! You can leave home only after exam session is over.

USOSweb – Creating an account and registering for classes

USOSweb (or USOS) is used e.g to register for classes, track grades or classes schedule. To log in to USOS, you must have a login (an email address consisting of an album number and @stud.umk.pl) and a password. The first time you visit the Dean's Office, you will receive the album number. With it, you will be able to create an account in USOS:

https://skrypty.uci.umk.pl/skrypty/konto/tresc_erasmus.php

If you have problems with your registration, ask your colleague or a person from the Dean's Office for help.

You can also use the USOS UMK mobile app. Download the free app from the Google Play store. To use the application correctly, a NCU account is required.

An account in USOS is used, among other things, to allow a lecturer to insert your grades.

To register for classes, log in to USOS account. Then find STUDENT'S SECTION tab (top bar) and click REGISTRATION. Find your faculty and put selected courses into your cart. It's like online shopping ☺

Gray cart color means that there is no access to registration, green in turn means that registration is available. With some courses you will need to select a group.

Registration for general university lectures - you will have to attend a general university lecture later during your studies. After logging in to USOS, click NEWS, then REGISTRATION CALENDAR. Select NICOLAUS COPERNICUS UNIVERSITY in TORUŃ and choose a lecture you're interested in. Remember that the number of ECTS credits has to be equal to the amount of ECTS in your studies plan for general university lecture.

E-mail and Internet access

USOS Email – You also have an individual mailbox in your USOS account. Be sure to keep checking your inbox (and your private email). This is where you can receive important notifications from lecturers.

Eduroam - Eduroam is a network that allows you to safely use the free internet, it is meant for students, employees and guests of the UMK. Every NCU employee and student with an account on one of the NCU servers can join the WiFi network.

Eduroam Certificate Installation Guide for UMK students and doctoral candidates:

https://www.uci.umk.pl/index.php/eduroam:Main_page

Student ID Card

When an employee of the Dean's Office enters your data into USOS, your individual album number is generated. This album number will also appear on your ID card, which you will only receive when you have an account in USOS.

ELS, i.e. the Electronic Student Card, is also a library card allowing access to the NCU library and information system.

Student ID Card (a duplicate of a student ID in case of losing the original ID) will be issued at your request by the Dean's Office.

You have to apply for the student ID card at the Dean's Office after the start of the studies and after creating an account in the USOS system. The photo for the student ID card is downloaded from USOS system, but first it must be accepted by the NCU UCI (informatics Centre). If the photo meets the requirements, the ID card will be sent to print.

The fee for student ID card is 22 zlotys and should be paid as soon as possible to the account generated in the USOS system after logging in, available under **Payment** section. Be patient, the waiting time for the card can take up to 2 weeks from the moment of applying.

Remember that your ID card has to be valid! Every semester you will have to go to the Dean's Office for an electronic extension and a sticker confirming that your student ID is valid.

Absences in classes

The academic teacher/lecturer shall determine the accepted amount of unjustified absences. Please note that for any other absence you will have to provide e.g. medical certificate to be justified. Too much absences in classes may result in a lack of credit. At the university, most classes (except for some lectures) are mandatory and an attendance lists is checked.

Study Regulations

Read the study regulations before the start of studies or before going to the Dean's office with a question. The study regulations determine what to do if you fail to get all the credits. You will also find information on:

- The rights and obligations of the student,
- The conditions of attending classes and obtaining credits for the semester/ academic year,
- The conditions for partially conducting studies at another university,
- The conditions of changing the university or programme of studies,
- The conditions of a Dean's leave,
- The removal from a student list,

- Resuming studies,
- Dissertation and diploma examination,
- Graduation

You can find study regulations on the website, under document's section:

<https://www.umk.pl/en/admissions/>

Library, Xerox point

NCU LIBRARY

Many publications are in the so-called **free access** or in the **reading room**. Remember that you cannot bring food, jackets and bags to free access space (you can leave the bags in the locker on the ground floor and your jacket in the cloakroom). Set your mobile to silent to prevent disturbing other students. On the second floor of the library, there are comfortable sofas and tables for students who want to learn in silence.

How do I borrow a book?

Log in to the Central Authentication Service (<https://login.umk.pl/login>). After logging in, locate the library. There, look for the selected book by typing the author or title into the search bar. Once you've found what you're interested in, check availability (PL: sprawdź dostępność) and order. When the green bar appears, the book awaits you and you can go to the right library. If the book you need is currently unavailable, you can click "podłącz się". This means that you are queued waiting for the book.

Remember! If you forget to hand over the book within the deadline, the system will charge 20 grosze per day of delay. So don't forget to use the loan **extension** option by logging in to your own account. If someone is waiting in a queue for the book you have loaned, you'll need to return it.

You will pay the fee on the first floor of the main library where you usually borrow a book, by the designated window. The fees for borrowed books from the Faculty libraries must be paid in these libraries.

Destroying a book – if you happen to destroy or lose a rented book, you'll need to buy back the same or newer edition of the book. If this is not possible, you must pay the amount charged by the library.

Faculty Libraries – In addition to the main library in each faculty, there are also faculty libraries. Important! You must settle the matters with the library before completing your studies. Otherwise, it may end up with withholding the diploma until the debts are settled.

You can find more information at: <https://www.bu.umk.pl/web/eng/>

Photocopying/Xerox point

A Xerox point is a place where you can copy notes or print them from a flash drive for a small fee.

Closest xerox (in Polish: ksero) points:

Ksero Uniwerek, Jurija Gagarina 152 Street and Franciszkańska 5 Street (near Collegium Maximum)

Departments also have their own xerox points.

PE classes

PE classes are compulsory for all students, and the offer of classes is very wide. Everyone will find something for themselves. Each student registers for PE by choosing a discipline, an hour, a day, the place where the classes take place adjusting to studies plan.

Registration is done via token registration (<https://rejestracje.umk.pl/?lang=en>). The order of registrations is important.

Foreign language classes - Lektorat

The study plan also includes compulsory foreign language classes (called in Polish: Lektorat)

You do not have to take part in foreign language classes if you:

- pass an exam
- have a certificate of language proficiency at the appropriate level

For more information visit:

<https://spnjo.umk.pl/en/student/registration/token-registration/>

Registration for foreign language classes : <https://rejestracje.umk.pl/?lang=en>

Health and Safety course - BHP

At NCU you have to take a mandatory Health and safety course via MOODLE UMK platform, available after logging in to the CENTRAL AUTHENTICATION POINT->

<https://moodle.umk.pl/BHP/course/view.php?id=726>

There you need to find the appropriate course for English speaking students. A test awaits you at the end of the course. You must approach the test until the end of October. If you do not pass the course, you may not pass your semester. You have **two** approaches to the test. You can get a PASS (ZALICZENIE) for your BHP course.

Tuition fee for full-cycle studies

The deadlines for tuition fee payment for subsequent semesters are determined by the Resolution of the Senate on payment for educational services at the university. If you are studying on a payment basis, **be sure to familiarize with the deadlines and terms**. In your

USOS account you will find information about the payment due for the next semester and the account number where you will have to transfer further payments.

If you have applied for a reduction of your tuition fees, be sure to bring or send us:

-an application form

-a confirmation of a difficult material situation (e.g. a receipt of family income) translated into Polish language

-a completed and signed statement of taxpayer (in Polish: oświadczenie podatnika) available here:

<https://www.umk.pl/kandydaci/cudzoziemcy/w-jezyku-polskim/odp%2atno%9b%4%87/>

-an application for NIP number signed by the parent (for minors)

In a case of a reduced tuition fee for the studies, a statement from the taxpayer has to be provided to admission office for the IRS (in Polish: Urząd Skarbowy). The statement must be completed in order to receive an administrative decision on reduction of the tuition fee). NCU sends a document called the PIT-8C to the correspondence address given in the statement (address in Toruń, your student's house). After you receive PIT 8C, it is necessary to submit the annual tax return declaration to the IRS on the e-PIT website (electronic tax return form): <https://www.podatki.gov.pl/pit/twoj-e-pit/>.

If your data is not in the e-pit system (because it is the first time you get such a document) you should go to the IRS in person in order to submit the annual tax return declaration. You must watch the deadline. Otherwise, the IRS will charge a penalty.

IRS in Toruń

I Urząd Skarbowy w Toruniu

Szosa Chełmińska 34/36 Street

PESEL

You will receive an identification number called PESEL during compulsory registration of residence at the City of Toruń information point. You will need a PESEL to e.g. create a bank account, rent an apartment, receive a reduction in tuition fee for the studies or sign insurance agreement in the NFZ.

NIP

Minors (up to 17 years of age) must have a parent-signed request for a NIP number, which is required if the tuition fee is reduced. You should go to the IRS in Toruń with an application to receive NIP number.

Scholarships

Foreign students can benefit from a wide range of scholarships from the Polish Government (Banacha, Kalinowski, Łukaszewicz scholarship), as well as scholarship from the Mayor of Toruń or the Erasmus+ scholarship.

Foreigners who have the right to study without tuition fee (e.g. with Karta Polaka, from European Union) are entitled to apply for a social scholarship and a student loan.

For more information about scholarships, ask your Dean's Office.

Foreigners from countries outside the EU/EEA (and Switzerland) can apply for Rector's scholarship for academic performance and outstanding achievements. Applications must be submitted in Rectorat. Rules for applying for a scholarship are under the link:
<https://www.umk.pl/en/admissions/scholarship/>

NAWA scholarships: <https://nawa.gov.pl/en/students/foreign-students>

What to remember before leaving?

After completing your studies, before returning to your country:

- Return books to the main and faculty libraries
- Settle overdue fees
- Close bank account
- Tell your dorm manager about your departure date (preferably one month before departure)
- Complete a survey in USOS
- Find out in the Dean's office what formalities must be settled before graduation and before departure
- Collect your original documents back from the Dean's office
- Return Student ID Card

FOR ERASMUS +

- Remember to return the Yellow Chart in the Erasmus+ office
- Make sure that the Learning Agreement and the changes to the Learning Agreement are signed by the NCU faculty coordinator and at your university
- Tell your dorm manager about your departure date (preferably one month before departure)
- Fill in the Erasmus + stay assessment form

-Forward the Transcript of Records printed from USOS to the Dean and then collect it from Erasmus+ office

-Collect a deposit from KASA (Rectorat, I Floor)

-Collect Certificate of Attendance from Erasmus+ office

CHECKLIST III – tick what you've already done

BEFORE DEPARTURE

What to do before leaving:

- Return books to the library
- Pay for the studies and settle other payments
- Close bank account
- Tell your dorm manager about your departure date
- Complete a survey in USOS
- Find out in the Dean's office, what formalities must be completed before graduation and before departure
- Collect your original documents from the Dean's office
- Return Student ID Card

For Erasmus+

- Remember to return the Yellow Chart in the Erasmus+ office
- Make sure that the Learning Agreement and the changes to the Learning Agreement are signed by the NCU faculty coordinator and at your university
- Tell your dorm manager about your departure date (preferably one month before departure)
- Fill in the Erasmus + stay Assessment form
- Forward the Transcript of Records printed from USOS to the Dean and then collect it from Erasmus+ office
- Collect a deposit from the KASA (Rectorat, I Floor)
- Collect the Certificate of Attendance from Erasmus+ office

Pack:

- Important Documents
- Debit and credit cards
- Airline, bus or train tickets (if applicable)

What you have to know? (Savoir-vivre)

Salutations-

Be sure to properly address the university administration both in email correspondence as well as in direct contacts. We use the form "you" exclusively in friendly relationships. In an academic environment, especially when asking the faculty's and the university's authorities, we are using a courtesy form, ie.

-Dear Sir/Madam – the most versatile form

-Dr - Doctor

-Dr hab. – Professor

-Prof. – Professor

-Dean – Mr. Dean

-Prodziekan – Mr. Dean

-The Rector - Mr. Rector (in the official letters write **JM Rector** and underneath **Prof. dr hab. and name**)

-Vice-Rector - Mr. Rector

How to write emails?

First of all, use salutations and titles such as "Dear Doctor/Professor/Dean" and full name. In the subject of the email, please briefly write what the mail is about. Emails should contain concise information. The email should be ending with the phrase "Respectfully/Sincerely" and your full name. It is also worth providing the year of studies, the programme and the number of the student's album (ID card).

Emails should be sent from the official UMK addresses.

Do not use the salutation Hello/Hi.

Academic Quarter

Tolerated time of lecturer being late for classes - you have to patiently wait for the lecturer, otherwise, you will have absence if you leave before that time. Sometimes they are on their way for classes, but someone may have stop them.

This also applies to you, but do not abuse this privilege! Not every lecturer tolerates being late for his/her classes ;).

ADVICE – WHAT TO DO AND WHAT NOT TO DO?

You must not listen to loud music in public transport.

The night-time quiet period is lasts from 22:00 to 6:00. During these hours, you should not disturb the neighbors with loud noises or parties, because the police can appear in your apartment and you can be punished with a fine.

Remember about courtesies - good morning, goodbye, excuse me and thank you are the basic phrases.

Before entering the office, knock on the door and wait for someone to invite you inside, do not enter without knocking.

It's a good idea to set an appointment with the office earlier, this way you will be guaranteed to be settle things.

Remember the deadlines for fees, meetings, classes, exams - failing to oversee deadlines can have consequences.

Do not be afraid to ask questions if you do not know or understand something.

Meet people from other countries. Studying abroad is the perfect time to get to know new cultures and to make great friends. Do not follow stereotypes.

If you miss your home and family, you feel the language barrier, you have a conflict with your roommate or a problem with connecting with Polish students – talk to the guardian of the year or someone from the office. Remember, you are not alone in this new place ☺.

How to improve Polish language skills?

LANGUAGE COURSES AT NCU

The Centre of Polish Language and Culture for Foreigners offers many possibilities. You can find there both annual and semester courses of Polish language, attend a summer school, individual lessons or take up an exam confirming the knowledge of Polish language.

For more information visit:

<https://www.umk.pl/en/university/learning-polish/>

<https://spnjo.umk.pl/en/courses/>

How can I stay in touch with the university?

After graduation, do not forget about us - send us photos, write to us about your achievements. Read what our UMK Graduate program looks like:

<https://www.umk.pl/en/alumni/>

What should I know about Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń?

NICOLAUS COPERNICUS UNIVERSITY IN TORUŃ

The university was founded in 1945. Its mission is to conduct research on the highest world level. The university has 16 faculties, of which 3 faculties are located in Collegium Medicum in Bydgoszcz. The university offers more than 100 programmes in Polish. At the moment there are around 22 thousand students at NCU, including over 800 from abroad.

NCU also conducts numerous research studies. We have almost 80 partners from bilateral agreements in more than 30 countries around the world.

We also have a **Centre for Astronomy** with an astronomical observatory, which is located in Piwnice, about 13 km from Toruń. The third largest radio telescope in Europe is located there.

<https://www.ca.umk.pl/en/>

The University Museum in Toruń is located at Plac Rapackiego 1, at Collegium Maximum. There are numerous works of art from all over the world donated by the emigrant Poles.

The *Od Nowa Club* is one of the largest and oldest student clubs in Poland. Concerts, events, festivals, welcome parties for new students are held here. In the club's headquarters there is also a student cinema ***Niebieski Kocyk***. You can buy tickets for concerts and other events organized in *Od Nowa* at the club's reception desk or through the club's website:

<http://odnowa.umk.pl/>

Patron

Nicolaus Copernicus

Nicolaus Copernicus (in Polish: Mikołaj Kopernik), born in Toruń on February 19, 1473 was a great astronomer and one of the greatest scientists in history. Copernicus studied Latin, mathematics, astronomy, geography and philosophy at the University of Kraków. His work *De revolutionibus orbium coelestium (On the Revolutions of the Celestial Spheres)*, in which he supported the heliocentric theory (the center of the universe is the sun, and around him circulates planets), began the Copernican revolution. For many years his controversial work was on the list of banned books. He died in 1543 in Frombork. To familiarize yourself with its history, it is worth visiting his family house located at the Kopernika 15 Street.

Faculties

(names valid from October 1, 2019)

Faculty of Biology and Veterinary Sciences

Faculty of Chemistry

Faculty of Pharmacy (Collegium Medicum in Bydgoszcz)

Faculty of Humanities

Faculty of Physics, Astronomy and Informatics

Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences

Faculty of Medicine (Collegium Medicum in Bydgoszcz)

Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

Faculty of Economic Sciences and Management

Faculty of History

Faculty of Health Sciences (Collegium Medicum in Bydgoszcz)

Faculty of Earth Sciences and Spatial Management

Faculty of Political Science and Security Studies

Faculty of Law and Administration

Faculty of Fine Arts

Faculty of Theology

<https://www.umk.pl/en/university/faculties/>

Centre for Modern Interdisciplinary Technologies – a research centre that aims to investigate and develop modern technologies. Detailed information <https://icnt.umk.pl/en/>

Student Houses

Toruń's campus has 11 Student Houses.

Student houses No. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 are in the city center very close to the beautiful Toruń's Old Town. The faculties nearby: Physics, Astronomy and Informatics, Mathematics and Computer Sciences, Languages (from 1 October Humanities) and institutes of Philosophy and Sociology.

Student houses No. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 are located within the university campus on Bielany district, near the University Library and Faculties.

For more information, see:

Department of Student and Employee Houses

Gagarina 41 Street, 87-100 Torun

Contact: 56 611-4380

email address: dh@umk.pl

https://www.umk.pl/en/accomodation/students_houses/

Monthly rates of payment for accommodation in DS range from 270 zlotys to 650 zlotys. You will be informed on the monthly fee for accommodation before academic year starts. For details ask dh@umk.pl

To book a room you must pay a prepayment of 270 zlotys to a designated bank account, that will be provided to you via email.

To prolong your accommodation (after academic year is over), you have to file an application in your Student's House and pay 200 PLN prepayment.

University Sports Centre

The University Sports Centre is located at Świętego Józefa 17 Street and is open 7 days a week. You will find here a swimming pool, gym, sports hall, fitness room, climbing wall, jacuzzi and sauna.

The Centre also organises sport and recreational events.

More information: <https://www.uks.umk.pl/en/>

Scientific circles and student organisations

The following link will inform you about the student circles and organizations:

https://www.umk.pl/en/students_life/organizations/

- Radio Sfera <http://www.sfera.umk.pl/> - You can click the buttons on the right and listen to the academic radio station.
- UMK TV - <http://tv.umk.pl/>

You can find there information, educational, scientific and cultural productions, as well as students' videos. UMK TV is created by the NCU Department of Promotion and Information, with the support of the student UMK TV editorial team.

- Student self-government-<http://www.samorzad.umk.pl/>
- Academic Choir-<http://www.chor.umk.pl/>
- Erasmus Student Network (ESN UMK)-<https://www.umk.esn.pl/>

Career Office - Biuro Karier

NCU's Career Office was created to help NCU students and graduates to choose their career path and to help them transition from the university to the labour market. It deals with m.in. organization of individual meetings with professional advisors, finding jobs and internships, organization of trainings and workshops raising skills, help in the selection of internship.

For more information, visit: <http://www.biurokarier.umk.pl/eng/>

What to know about Toruń?

HISTORY OF TORUŃ

Toruń, which is located in Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship, is one of the oldest and most beautiful cities in Poland. It received city rights in 1233, and in 1997 it was included in the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List, which is one of the reasons why many tourists from all over the world come to Toruń. You can admire the panorama of the Old Town from the viewing terrace from the left bank of the city. From here, you will see gothic buildings such as e.g. SS. Johns' Cathedral or Holy Spirit Church as well as the city's defensive walls. The number of inhabitants of Toruń reaches 200 000 people.

Toruń is a hometown of the patron of our university, Nicolaus Copernicus.

The Teutonic Order is a Christian order of the Knights, founders of the city of Toruń and who managed it until 1454. The headquarters of the Teutonic Knights in Toruń was a castle built in the 13th century. If you want to know more about the castle, read about it here: <http://www.visittorun.pl/233,12.html>

The symbol of Toruń is also gingerbread, a sweet pastry with more than 700 years of history, which has been very popular for years and is a compulsory tourist souvenir. Where to buy ginger cakes? http://www.kopernik.com.pl/en/24,39/dzial_our_waferie__.html

If you want to know more about Toruń, please visit:

<https://www.torun.pl/en>

<https://www.visittorun.com/en>

<http://www.visittorun.pl/>

Maps to download <https://visittorun.com/en/page/download>

How to move around Toruń?

MZK (BUS)

In Toruń, the urban transport service is offered by the MZK.

MZK offers single-ride, short-term and monthly, quarterly and semester tickets (for five month tickets, according to the school semesters).

To buy a MZK ticket, head to one of the MZK cash registers. The closest is at the bus terminus called pętla UNIWERSYTET - Szosa Okrężna 62-82 Street or in shopping centre Plaza.

Another way of obtaining tickets is to use mobile apps such as **jakdojade.pl** (here you can also check the timetable of buses) or **Mobilet** (<http://www.mobilet.pl/>).

The jakdojade.pl application will find you the nearest bus or tram stop and show your position on the map, so that the risk of missed a stop where you have to get off is very little

In the Mobilet application, after registering, you are given the option to make a transfer to the application from your bank account. After your account is credited, select the city and the type of ticket you want to purchase.

To get from the PKP central train station (Dworzec Główny) to the city centre, take bus number 11, 13, 14, 22, 27, 36. Bus 36 also stops by the university, at **Aula UMK**. Make sure you know where is your accommodation and faculty as not each one is located on the Bielany campus (the district of Toruń, which consists of Gagarina, Świętego Józefa, Szosa Okrężna street).

Please note that if you buy a single-ride or a short-term ticket, you must still VALIDATE it in the validator. Not having a ticket or student ID will be fined.

Where to buy tickets?

- at kiosk (newsagent's)
- in selected stores
- at MZK ticket office
- at the ticket machine (sometimes only in coins)
- from the driver (calculated amount)
- through the Mobilet app or jakdojade.pl

More information: <https://mzk-torun.pl/wersja-angielska>

Buses 15, 28 from the Odrozienia stop (near Cinema City) go directly to the main campus.

Normal ticket - 2.80 zlotys

Discounted ticket - 1.40 zlotys (for students with valid student ID)

Monthly Ticket - 42 zlotys (for students with valid student ID)

Semester Ticket - 190 zlotys (valid from the beginning of the school semester)

30-Minute ticket - normal – 2.80 zlotys (single-ride ticket applies), discounted– 1.40 zlotys (single-ride ticket applies)

60-Minute ticket - normal - 4 zlotys, discounted - 2 zlotys

90-Minute ticket - normal 5 zlotys, discounted - 2.50 zlotys

The ticket office is located m.in. At the UNIVERSITY bus and tram terminus (pętla), Szosa Okrężna 62-82 street.

On this page, you will find all timetables and means of transport: <https://en.e-podroznik.pl/>

While in Toruń, you can purchase tickets for a train, coach or plane in the travel agency KOMPAS (Kopernika 5 street, contact 56 65 22 901).

Taxi

56 1 9192 – Copernicus Taxi

56 1 9194 – Taxi Czwórka

0 692 270 782 Eko-Taxi Toruń

Bolt – Transport service ordered by the mobile application

After receiving the student ID card, you receive a 51% discount on public transport and trains. Be sure to always have the student ID card with your valid sticker you get at the Dean's Office, and show it before you buy a ticket and during ticket control.

TORVELO bikes

You can also use the **city bike**. To use, you need to register on the website <https://www.torvelo.pl/?lang=2>, and then pay a 10 zlotys deposit for the customer's personal account in the Torvelo system. After registration you will receive an email with login and PIN. The first 20 minutes are free of charge. Download **Free bike** app from Google app store.

Where to eat?

Where can you try the traditional Polish cuisine in Toruń?

Pierogarnia Stary Młyn

Gospoda Pod Modrym Fartuchem & Krajina Piva

Gęsia Szyja Tavern

However, if you do not eat meat and want to eat well, you can go to:

Krowarzywa Vegan Burger

Karrotka

Chwast Prast Vegetarian Bistro

Recommended Cafes:

Coffee and Whisky House

Cafe Lenkiewicz – A solid portion of ice cream with tradition

Central Coffee Perks - “Friends” themed coffee spot

You will find a good pizza:

Kolorowy Piec

Prova Gourmet

Grande Pizza & Pasta

Piccolo - the most often visited place with delicious home-cooked pizza and warm beetroot soup (barszcz)

Chleb i wino

Gluten Free:

Mistrz i Małgorzata

Luizjana

Chleb i wino

Near campus:

Adaś Bar (University Library and Collegium Humanisticum)

Budzik coffee (opposite the campus)

Mr. Capone Bistro (opposite the campus)

Manekin (opposite the campus)

Widelec - a great burger spot close Od Nowa

Where to shop?

SHOPPING IN TORUŃ

SHOPPING MALLS

Toruń Plaza Shopping and Entertainment Centre, Broniewskiego 90 Street

Shopping centre, where you will also find a supermarket, cafés, fast food restaurants, a gym, a cinema and a bowling alley. A 10-minute walk from the Bielany campus or by bus 26, 40, 34 from the Aula UMK bus stop.

Atrium Copernicus Shopping Centre Żółkiewskiego 15 Street

You can arrive there by bus 15, 40, 26 or tram 4.

Both in the Plaza and Copernicus shopping centres you can find drugstores - Rossmann or Hebe.

In the Atrium Copernicus there are also fast food restaurants, clothing stores, electronics shop, a store with sports equipment and a supermarket Auchan.

Żabka

A grocery store where you can also buy coffee or something hot to eat. Some of these shops are also open on Sundays. The shop located close to the Student Houses no. 7-11 is located at Gagarina 212-216 Street

PEPCO

A shop where you can buy household goods, ie. lamps, towels, clothes at very affordable prices. You can find this shop in the Plaza and Copernicus shopping centre.

Kiosk (newsagents)

Kiosks are most often near bus stops. You can buy not only tickets for public transport, but also newspapers, drinks, snacks, and add credit to your phone.

Souvenirs

Souvenirs from Toruń can be easily purchased in the center of the Old Town. Visit for example **EMPORIUM** Souvenirs at Piekary 28 street.

In Poland stores are **CLOSED ON MOST SUNDAYS.**

PURCHASING A MOBILE PHONE CARD

It's hard to imagine life without a mobile phone. When you arrive in Poland, a more convenient and cheaper way will be to use the local operator. You can purchase the so-called prepaid kit (a starter). Simply purchase a prepaid kit (available at kiosks, supermarkets or at the operator's lounge) and insert the card into your phone. Please note that according to Polish law you must first register your number. To do this, enter your ID or passport number and add your SIM card number. Registration can be done at the operator's lounge, a bank or at the post office. Popular mobile networks available in Poland:

- Play
- Orange
- T-Mobile
- Plus

Where to spend free time?

Pod Szybowcem. A stable - 4 Pułku Lotniczego 87 Street

Paintball ZINTEGRA Centrum - Bielańska 66 Street

Cybermachina - a bar for gamers, Łazienna 13 Street

Jump Arena Toruń - Polna 121 Street

Mentor Sport – ice skating rink, tennis, Szosa Chełmińska 177-181 Street

Champion Gym & Fitness - Bema 73-89 Street

Cinema City Toruń - Czerwona Droga 1 Street

Lucky Star Club – Bowling alley in C.H. Plaza Toruń - Broniewskiego 90 Street

Wilam Horzyca Theatre - Plac Teatralny 1 Street

Baj Pomorski Theatre - Piernikarska 9 Street

CKK Jordanki – Concert and Congress Hall - Aleja Solidarności 1-3 Street

Can U Escape? – Escape Room - Podmurna 101/5 Street

Student Clubs

KADR Student Club

NRD Club

Kredens Pub

Stars Club & Lounge

Toruńska Shot Bar

Krutoy Lounge - cocktail bar, shisha

What is worth seeing?

The Living Museum of Gingerbread - <https://muzeumpiernika.pl/en>

Leaning Tower

Old Town Hall and Nicolaus Copernicus Monument

Nicolaus Copernicus House - <http://muzeum.torun.pl/en/the-nicolaus-copernicus-house/>

Cosmopolis Fountain

Centre of Contemporary Art - <https://en.csw.torun.pl/>

Philadelphia Boulevard - Bulwar Filadelfijski

Dybów Castle

Planetarium - <http://www.planetarium.torun.pl/en>

Artus Court

Speedway Stadium "Motoarena"

Museum of Ethnography

Events in Toruń

KONTAKT – International Theatre Festival organized by Wilam Horzyca Theatre since 1991 has been able to view and promote the most interesting theatrical events from Central and

Eastern Europe and their confrontation with the theatres of Western Europe. The festival is held every year in May. More information: <http://festiwal.teatr.torun.pl/>

TOFIFEST – The International Film Festival is one of the most rapidly developing film festivals in Poland. It offers an overview of films made by filmmakers of professional independent films and short films as well as debuting directors. Every year, there is a premiere of over 100 films that were not displayed in Polish cinemas.

More information: <https://www.tofifest.pl/en/>

TORUN FESTIVAL OF SCIENCE AND ART – for several years, the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, the City of Toruń and the scientific society in Toruń organize the Festival of Science and Arts, which hosts many events such as presentations, lectures, debates, tours, exhibitions, workshops and competitions. Most of the events are prepared by the staff and students of the university. More information: <https://www.festiwal.torun.pl/>

BELLA SKYWAY FESTIVAL – this festival of lights is organized since 2009. During the festival, you will be able to admire the light installations presented on the architectural objects of Toruń created by many Polish artists as well as those from all over the world. The festival is held in the summer. More information: <http://www.bellaskyway.pl/en/>

PIERNIKALIA – known also as juwenalia, annual students' holiday held in May. During the Piernikalia, many concerts of famous Polish bands take place and students dress up according to the theme of the party and collect money from car drivers.

What do I need to know about Poland?

Full Name - Republic of Poland

Short name – Poland

Flag – Two horizontal stripes, white at the top and red at the bottom

Coat of Arms – White eagle with a crown on a red shield

Official Language – Polish

Political system – Democracy

Country Type - Parliamentary republic

Capital – Warsaw

Currency – ZŁOTY (PLN)

Area – 312 696 square kilometers

National anthem – Mazurek Dąbrowskiego

Time Zone - Central Europe

Religion – Catholic

Climate – Moderate

Calling code - + 48

Internet domain- .pl

Poland is located in the central part of Europe. It is surrounded by the Baltic Sea from the north, and the Sudetes and Carpathian Mountains in the south. The main river which runs through Poland is Vistula. A large number of Polish lakes are located mainly in Masuria. Our neighbours from the west are Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania and Russia (Kaliningrad Oblast). The climate in Poland is warm moderate transitional, the weather is changeable. The advantage of this climate and the position of Poland is the occurrence of four seasons.

Interesting facts about Poland

The Polish constitution was the first in Europe and the second in the world.

The castle in Malbork is the largest castle in the world.

Poland is the largest exporter of amber.

7 Poles won the Nobel Prize:

-Maria Skłodowska Curie

-Henryk Sienkiewicz

-Władysław Stanisław Reymont

-Czesław Miłosz

-Lech Wałęsa

-Wisława Szymborska

-Józef Rotblat

Polish astronomer Jan Hevelius published the first maps of the moon.

Foreign films are dubbed in Poland by one lector.

Max Factor cosmetics company was founded by a Pole, Maksymilian Faktorowicz.

Holidays

Holidays and non-working days

1 January – New Year's

6 January – Epiphany

March/April - Easter (Sunday-Monday)

1 May – Labor Day

3 May – Constitution Day

May/June – Corpus Christi (Thursday)

August 15 – The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

November 1 – All Souls' Day

11 November – Independence Day

25-26 December - Christmas

During these days no classes are held. The banks and shops are closed as well.

Other commemorative holidays

14 February– Valentine's Day

8 March – Women's Day

2 May – Flag Day

30 September – Boyfriend's Day

6 December – St. Nicholas' Day

Maintenance

Polish currency is Polish złoty. 1 zloty (zł) equals 100 groszy (gr). 1 zloty is about 4.3 euros.

You can exchange money for the Polish currency in the **KANTOR** (currency exchange point). Most shops, hotels and banks accept VISA, MASTER CARD and card payments. In the city; however, you will find many ATMs (on campus The ATM is located outside Rectorat, at the entrance to SPNJO).

A list of ATM addresses can be found at:

<http://www.karty.pl/bankomaty.php?miejscowosc=torun>

Prices of basic articles:

Bread – 3-5, 00 zł

Butter – 7 zł

Milk – 3 zł

Egg – 1zł

Lunch in the restaurant (1 person) – 20-70, 00 zł

Cigarettes – 17-25, 00 zł

Beer – 4 zł (in nightclubs and pubs approx. 10 zł)

Toothpaste-10 zł

Shampoo – 13 zł

Cinema Ticket – 16 – 32, 00 zł

Private medical visit (General Practitioner) – 100 – 250 PLN

Hotel room – 350, 00 zł

Weather

Poland is located in the temperate climate zone. There are 4 seasons in Poland, Spring (March-June), Summer (June-September), Autumn (September-December) Winter (December-March). In winter, temperatures are ranging from -20 degrees and days are very short, the sun is already down around 16:00. In summer the temperature does not exceed 35 Celsius degrees. In Autumn (October-December). It rains frequently and there are many cloudy days. Spring is warm, but the weather during this period (March-May) is very variable, and the average temperature is 16 Celsius degrees. When you arrive at university, don't forget to pack your warm clothes, hats and scarf!

Kitchen

Polish cuisine

Popular traditional dishes in Polish cuisine are bigos, pierogi (stuffed dumplings), gołąbki (cabbage stuffed with ground meat).

Preparation of traditional dishes takes a long time. For breakfast, we usually drink tea, sometimes with the addition of lemon. For lunch, the the most common addition to meat are potatoes and salads.

Religion

In Poland, Catholicism is the predominating religion (over 85%). The remaining percentage is mainly Orthodox Christianity, Protestantism, Jehovah's Witnesses.

Most Poles are going to church regularly on Sundays and church holidays. The academic church is the Holy Spirit Church (Kościół Św. Ducha) located in the Old Town, next to the Post Office building. The church, apart from the masses for NCU students and staff also offers events, meetings, discussion clubs.

You can find more information about Toruń's churches here: <https://diecezja-torun.pl/> (available only in Polish)

Other religious institutions located in Toruń:

Orthodox Church of St. Nicholas - Podgórna 69 street

Evangelical-Augsburg parish - Wały Generała Sikorskiego 14 street

Seventh Day Adventist Church - Idzikowskiego 1B street

Baptists Church - Poznańska 34 street

Pentecostal Church - Maria Curie-Skłodowska 65 street

Karma Kagyu Buddhist Meditation Centre - Warszawska 6B street

How to move around Poland?

PKP train is the most popular mean of transport in Poland. You can go to any major city in Poland. You can get from Chopin airport (Okęcie) to Torun in about 3 hours. From the airport to the central station Warszawa Centralna you can arrive by bus 175. SKM is a high-speed city rail on the WARSAW CHOPIN AIRPORT – WARSZAWA CENTRUM route.

Other airports near Torun:

Bydgoszcz, Gdansk, Warsaw-Modlin, Poznan

Tickets must be purchased at the cashier or from the conductor.

Timetables: <http://rozklad-pkp.pl/en>

Bus (PKS) – Bus station is located on Dąbrowskiego 8-24 street

PKS operates intercity and international transport.

You can get to NCU by trams **1** (from ALEJA SOLIDARNOŚCI or ODRODZENIA in the city centre) and **4** (from the ODRODZENIA stop by Cinema City). Exit at AULA UMK or UNIWERSYTET stop.

FlixBus is one of the carriers by which you can travel to larger cities in Poland and Europe.

What should I visit?

Cities worth visiting

Warsaw is the capital of Poland, its Old Town is inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage list.

Visit: The Old Town, the Royal Castle, Łazienki Park, Palace of Culture and Science, Presidential Palace, the Katyń Museum, the Warsaw Uprising Museum

<https://warsawtour.pl/>

Cracow is one of the oldest cities in Poland. The oldest Polish university, the Jagiellonian University, is located there. Cracow is known for the Legend of the Wawel Dragon (<http://www.krakow.travel/en/artykul/115/legenda-o-smoku-wawelskim>).

Cracow was also the capital of Poland until the 16th century.

Visit: St. Mary's Basilica, Kraków Cloth Hall, Wawel Castle, Barbican, Wawel Cathedral, Wieliczka Salt Mine

<http://krakow.travel/>

Poznań is the fifth largest city in Poland. The most recognizable symbol of the city are two squirting goats at noon at the Town Hall located in the picturesque Old Town. One of the largest universities in Poland, Adam Mickiewicz University is located in Poznan.

Visit: the Old Market Square, the Museum of Poznań History, Ostrów Tumski, Lake Malta, the Rogal Świętomarciński Museum.

<http://www.poznan.pl/mim/turystyka/>

Gdańsk is a city located on the Baltic coast. Gdańsk together with Gdynia and Sopot form a metropolitan area called the Tricity (Trójmiasto). The most recognizable element is the crane, a medieval port crane. St. Mark's Bazaar Dominica is a three-week fair, which takes place from 1260 years each year.

Visit: Neptune's Fountain, the Golden Gate, the Amber Museum, the Royal Way, Oliwa Zoo, Sopot Pier, Krzywy Domek

<https://www.gdansk.pl/en/>

Events and Festivals

Open'er is an annual music festival held in Gdynia in June/July, where concerts of famous pop, rock, rap stars take place.

Cracow Film Festival is a festival devoted to documentary, animated and short films. During the 8 days of the festival, spectators can see more than 250 films from Poland and the world and meet the filmmakers. Related events: Festival of Polish feature films in Gdynia, Warsaw Film Festival, Cameraimage.

Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity – a foundation leading a nationwide fundraiser for charitable purpose, e.g. purchasing medical equipment for hospitals. During the final collection of money, which takes place in January on a Sunday, concerts, competitions and a festive show of fireworks called “the light to the sky” take place. Anyone can volunteer.

Pol'and'rock is a festival organized by the Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity in Kostrzyno by Oder in July and August, where famous Polish and world artists are giving concerts. Debuting bands can send their albums and have a chance to play at the festival.

Famous Poles

Mikołaj Kopernik – astronomer, patron of NCU

Marie Skłodowska-Curie – physicist and chemist, laureate of the Nobel Prize for the discovery of two elements - polonium and radium

Fryderyk Chopin- pianist

Pope John Paul II

Andrzej Wajda - director

Lech Wałęsa – former president of Poland

Caroline Wozniacki - tennis player

Robert Lewandowski - footballer

USEFUL WORDS

ENGLISH	POLISH	PHONETIC TRANSCRIPTION
GOOD MORNING GOOD AFTERNOON	DZIEŃ DOBRY	JAYNE <i>DOH</i> -BRIH
GOOD EVENING	DOBRY WIECZÓR	<i>DOH</i> -BRIH <i>VYEH</i> CHOOR
HELLO/BYE	CZEŚĆ	<i>CHESHCH</i>
GOOD BYE	DO WIDZENIA	<i>DOH</i> VEE- <i>DZE</i> -NYA
EXCUSE ME	PRZEPRASZAM	<i>PSHE</i> - <i>PRAH</i> -SHAM
YES	TAK	<i>TAAK</i>
NO	NIE	<i>NYEH</i>
PLEASE	PROSZĘ	<i>PROH</i> -SHEH
THANK YOU	DZIĘKUJĘ	<i>JENG</i> - <i>KUI</i> -YEH
I UNDERSTAND	ROZUMIEM	<i>RO</i> - <i>ZOO</i> -MYEM
I DON'T UNDERSTAND	NIE ROZUMIEM	<i>NYEH</i> <i>RO</i> - <i>ZOO</i> -MYEM
I DON'T KNOW	NIE WIEM	<i>NYEH</i> <i>VYEM</i>
WHAT	CO	<i>TSOH</i>
WHERE	GDZIE	<i>GD</i> <i>JEH</i>
HOW	JAK	<i>YAK</i>
HOW MUCH	ILE	<i>EE</i> -LEH
TICKET	BILET	<i>BEE</i> -LET
STREET	ULICA	<i>OO</i> - <i>LEET</i> -SAH
WHERE IS ... GAGARINA STREET?	GDZIE JEST ... ULICA GAGARINA?	<i>GD</i> <i>JEH</i> <i>YEST</i> <i>OO</i> - <i>LEE</i> - <i> TSAH</i> <i>GA</i> - <i>GA</i> - <i>REE</i> -NAH?
I'M LOST	ZGUBIŁEM SIĘ- (masc.) ZGUBIŁAM SIĘ- (femin.)	<i>ZGOO</i> - <i>BEE</i> -WEM <i>SHEH</i> <i>ZGOO</i> - <i>BEE</i> -WAM <i>SHEH</i>
MY NAME IS	NAZYWAM SIĘ	<i>NAZYVAM</i> <i>SHEH</i>
WHERE'S THE TOILET?	GDZIE JEST TOALETA?	<i>GD</i> <i>JEH</i> <i>YEST</i> <i>TOALETAH</i> ?
I'D LIKE ...THIS	CHCIAŁBYM...TO	<i>H</i> - <i>CHOW</i> -BIM ... <i>TOH</i>

SMALL	MAŁY	<i>MA -WIH</i>
BIG	DUŻY	<i>DOOZH -IH</i>
STUDENT HOUSE / DORMITORY	DOM STUDENCKI / AKADEMIK	<i>DOM STOO- DENT -SKEE</i>
CINEMA	KINO	<i>KEE -NOH</i>

N.B. The phonetic description above has been developed to correspond the sounds of English and is only a very rough guide to Polish pronunciation.

Other useful words:

SHOPS & SERVICES

<i>APTEKA</i>	PHARMACY
<i>BIURO PODRÓŻY</i>	TRAVEL AGENCY
<i>GABINET STOMATOLOGICZNY</i>	DENTIST
<i>DLA PANÓW</i>	GENTS
<i>DLA PAŃ</i>	LADIES
<i>DWORZEC KOLEJOWY (PKP)</i>	TRAIN STATION
<i>FRYZJER</i>	HAIR DRESSER
<i>INFORMACJA</i>	INFORMATION
<i>KANTOR</i>	EXCHANGE/BUREAU DE CHANGE
<i>KASA</i>	CASHIER/TICKET OFFICE
<i>KAWIARNIA</i>	CAFE
<i>LEKARZ, PRZYCHODNIA LEKARSKA</i>	DOCTOR, CLINIC
<i>LODY</i>	ICE CREAM
<i>ODJAZD</i>	DEPARTURE
<i>OWOCE</i>	FRUIT
<i>POGOTOWIE RATUNKOWE</i>	EMERGENCY
<i>PRZYJAZD</i>	ARRIVAL
<i>RESTAURACJA</i>	RESTAURANT
<i>SKLEP</i>	SHOP
<i>SPOŻYWCZY</i>	GROCERY STORE
<i>SZATNIA</i>	CLOAK ROOM
<i>SZPITAL</i>	HOSPITAL
<i>WARZYWA</i>	VEGETABLES
<i>WEJŚCIE</i>	ENTRANCE
<i>WYJŚCIE</i>	EXIT

Important links:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NCUTorun/>

Instagram: umktorun

Twitter: @UMK_Torun

Doctoral schools: <https://www.umk.pl/en/research/doctoral-schools/>

Information for students: https://www.umk.pl/en/students_life/

<https://cudzoziemcy.gov.pl/en/>

<http://perspektywy.org/fundacja/>

<http://www.studyinpoland.pl/en/>

<http://copernicus.torun.pl/en/>

<https://udsc.gov.pl/en/do-pobrania/materialy-informacyjne-urzedu/>

<https://udsc.gov.pl/en/do-pobrania/wnioski/>

Dictionary

ABSOLWENT – a person who graduated from a university. <https://www.umk.pl/en/alumni/>

AKADEMIK / DOM STUDENCKI – this is the student's house (DS) or a dormitory.

ANKIETA USOS - a survey where you can express your opinion on the method of conducting classes. It is available during an exam session in the USOS system.

AULA UMK - an auditorium located near the Rectorat, dedicated to events and events such as an inauguration of the academic year, awarding diplomas, conferences, lectures).

BHP - an obligatory Health and Safety course.

BIBLIOTEKA - a library where you will find all the necessary resources needed for classes or for writing thesis.

BULWAR FILADELFIJSKI - PHILADELPHIA BOULEVARD - waterfront on the right bank of the Vistula River (from the Old Town's side).

CZESNE - this is a tuition fee for studying. Do not delay your fee for studying! We see everything in USOS. ☺

CZYTELNIA - reading room, a place which is usually a part of a library in which a student can silently read a book or use the time to learn.

DZIEKAN - a DEAN, supreme authority in the department/faculty making the most important decisions. If you have a problem; however, first go to the Dean's office.

DZIEKANAT – Dean's office is place where you solve the basic administrative and organizational problems of studying. Be sure to check the opening hours. You will receive there e.g. index number, ID card, card hologram, certificate proving that you are a student. Talk with a employee of the Dean's office, we are sure he/she will be able to help.

ECTS – European Credit Transfer System – ECTS points correspond to the amount of hours you need to spend on passing the subjects in relation to other subjects. The more ECTS this subject has, the more important it is. ECTS points will also be useful if you are going for an Erasmus exchange.

EDUROAM – Free WiFi for secure Internet access for students and NCU staff.

EGZAMIN - an exam, the most important test to pass the year. Often, a so-called "zerówka" is held before the actual first term. If you pass a "zerówka" you have passed you exam! However, if you will not pass "zerówka" or a first-term exam, cheer up! You still have a retake. Then there is still "warunek" and if that fails as well...you can repeat the year. In this case, please contact the Dean's Office.

ELANA TORUŃ is a football club in Toruń since 1968.

ERASMUS+ – international student exchange. If you have good grades, go ahead and go on Erasmus+ mobility.

ESN UMK - a student organisation that aims to support Erasmus+ students from abroad.

FREKWENCJA – attendance at classes is compulsory and checked regularly (unless the lecturer determines otherwise). At lectures, attendance list is usually not checked, but it is worth to appear there ☺

GET WELL TORUŃ (formerly Apator, Unibax) – Toruń's Speedway Club. If you want to go to a speedway match, you must head to the MOTOARENA tram stop.

GODZINY REKTORSKIE/DZIEKAŃSKIE - Rector's/Deans hours - these are class-free hours or days, established by the Rector or Dean of a faculty. They apply to all students.

IMMATRYKULACJA - IMMATRICULATION – a solemn oath of new students admitted to the first year of studies. From that moment you are officially a student.

INAUGURACJA - INAUGURATION of the ACADEMIC YEAR - the official start of the academic year usually held in Aula UMK.

IOS – Individual organization of studies – this is a facilitation for people who are studying two full-time programmes. Before you make your individual plan, talk to the lecturers about their requirements. The decision to grant IOS is made by the Vice-Dean for student affairs.

JO – in Toruń a substitute for the word "yes" or "really"?

JORDANKI – Culture and Congress Hall in Toruń in the city center.

JUWENALIA – since 2019 Piernikalia – annual student's holiday during which many concerts and events take place and students dress in various funny outfits according to the theme and collect money from car-drivers. Public transport is free for students. During Juwenalia, even Nicolaus Copernicus is dressed up ☺

KAMPANIA WRZEŚNIOWA – the period during which the exams are held.

KAMPUS is an area of NCU, where faculties are situated.

RESIDENCE CARD - or specifically temporary residence card is a document confirming your identity during your stay in Poland. It entitles you to stay in Poland and repeatedly cross the Polish border without the obligation to have a visa. Always keep it with you!

KOŁO/KOLOKWIUM/KOLOS - these are Polish names for a colloquium which is a test of knowledge and skills that takes place during classes or lectures.

KONWERSATORIUM - a conversation lab, classes involving the discussion of students with the lecturer.

KOPERNIK – Mikołaj Kopernik (in English Nicolaus Copernicus), a great scholar, astronomer, founder of the heliocentric theory and patron of our university ☺

KWADRANS STUDENCKI - a 15 minutes which is a waiting time for the lecturer. After this time, if there is no official information that the lecturer will be late, you are allowed to leave without having an absence, you will not suffer consequences.

LA – Learning Agreement – an agreement on the curriculum, a contract between a student, a home university and a foreign university defining the programme of activities and the number of ECTS credits awarded for completing these classes.

LEGITYMACJA STUDENCKA - STUDENT ID CARD – a proof that you are a student. Without the ID card, do not count on discounts. It's better not to lose it!

LEKTORAT – a foreign language course.

MOODLE UMK- an on-line learning platform available through a Web browser.

<https://moodle.umk.pl/>

ALBUM/INDEX NUMBER – An individual number that you receive in the Dean's Office. It is also on the student ID card and serves as a login to your account in USOS.

OBLAĆ - to fail a colloquium or an exam.

OBRONA - a thesis defense/diploma exam.

OD NOWA – the Academic Centre for Culture and Arts is a student club, which organizes not only events for students, but also other cultural events. There is also a cinema Niebieski Kocyk.

OLS – Online Linguistic Support – The OLS System provides an online language proficiency test and language courses for Erasmus + participants

OTRZĘSINY – initiation ceremony, a party for new students organized by the student self-government. A good opportunity to meet NCU students.

PRODZIEKAN – Vice-dean, an authority dealing with student and research affairs at the faculty.

PROMOTOR – an academic teacher who is your mentor during writing a diploma thesis.

REGULAMIN STUDIÓW - STUDY REGULATIONS – one of the most important documents, the source of knowledge for you. Check it out, it will answer a lot of your questions.

REKTOR – the highest authority at the university.

REKTORAT - RECTORAT - the building where the central administration and the Rector's office are located.

REPETA – repetition of the year ☹

SAMORZĄD STUDENCKI - STUDENT SELF-GOVERNMENT – it's worth tracking them on Facebook, they'll tell you about interesting events and events.

SEMINARIUM – classes that await us in the last year of first and second degree studies (i.e. bachelor and master), which serve to support students in writing thesis.

SESJA - EXAM SESSION held in February and June.

STAROSTA – a person in a given year who leads the group. This person represents the group, establishes contact with the class, provides important information to the group. Starosta is chosen by the students.

STARE MIASTO/STARÓWKA – otherwise the Old Town, the oldest part where the most precious monuments of Toruń are located at.

STYPENDIUM SOCJALNE - SOCIAL SCHOLARSHIP – You can apply for this scholarship if your income in your family is below the threshold. Ask at the Dean's Office if you can apply for the scholarship, not every foreign student can apply for it.

SUPPLEMENT - DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT - a document added to the diploma which includes a description of completed studies (information on the diploma, study programme, level of education, content of studies and results achieved).

SZOK KULTUROWY - CULTURE SHOCK – a part of the process of adapting to a new environment and a different, unfamiliar culture, as well as to a different style of teaching or work. Information about the cultural shock can be found here:
https://www.umk.pl/en/students_life/shock/

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS – the list of credits/transcript OF assessments, namely the list of subjects in which the Erasmus + student participated, together with the assessments and the number of ECTS credits awarded.

URLOP DZIEKAŃSKI - DEAN'S LEAVE – a break in studies lasting up to II semesters. The Dean grants the leave.

USOS – University Support System of Studies – your online index. Here you sign up for subjects, interact with lecturers, make payments, fill out surveys and check your grades. If you have a problem with your registration, ask for help in the Dean's Office.

https://usosweb.umk.pl/kontroler.php?_action=actionx%3Anews%2Fdefault%28%29&lang=en

WARUNEK – this is a conditional entry to the next year of studies, that is, the chance to pass the subject without repeating the entire year. Check the study regulations and how to apply for conditional credit.

WISŁA - Vistula river.

WYKŁAD - LECTURE – classes which consist mainly of verbal transmission of knowledge by the lecturer. Not obligatory, but beware, there are exceptions to the rule, so it can happen that the lecturer will check the attendance list.

ZALICZENIE - CREDIT- simply a PASS (USOS: ZAL). The opposite is NZAL i.e. not passing exercises.

ZERÓWKA – the opportunity to take the exam before the first term. The “zerówka” usually take place before the exam session, and the negative grade is not entered into USOS.

Abbreviations

-s1 – full-time bachelor studies (undergraduate)

-s2 - full-time master studies (graduate)

-n1 - part-time bachelor studies (undergraduate)

-n2 - part-time master studies (graduate)

-sj – long-cycle studies (5-6 years)

This guide was written with due diligence and the information contained there was valid at the time.

Author and translation: Agata Wiśniewska

Editing and support: Anna Salamończyk, Katarzyna Fus, Pavlo Barskiy, Agnieszka Polewczyńska

Photos: Andrzej Romański

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