




TEACHER EDUCATION FACULTY  
UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE



**WHY TEACHER  
EDUCATION  
FACULTY?**





## Why Teacher Education Faculty?

If you enroll at the Teacher Education Faculty, you will be trained for a responsible and important profession with a long-standing tradition in Serbia. Regardless of whether you opt for a pre-school or primary school teaching profession, you choose a calling that becomes your life, requires dedication to education and skills for shaping all aspects of a child's personality.



## Choose a profession, not a job

When you become a student of the Teacher Education Faculty, you become not only a part of a history of education that has its beginnings in ancient Greece, but also of the tradition of enlightenment in modern Europe. Throughout your working life, you will be using the famous Kant's maxim that has not lost its validity for so many centuries: *Have the courage to use your own reason!*

You will study in a building that is almost a century old and preserves the heritage of the old Teacher Training School which has served its mission for nearly 200 years, from the inception of the modern Serbian state. Many prominent names of Serbian culture taught at teacher training schools which preceded the establishment of the faculty: Miloš Đurić, the famous classical philologist and writer-philosopher; Miloš Šević, a pedagogue, literary critic and philosopher; painter Simeon Roksandić; Dušan Matić, a prominent poet of Serbian surrealism; historian Vaso Čubrilović, and many others.

Your future faculty was founded in 1993 and many generations of primary school teachers completed it successfully until 2007. That same year, the Faculty of Teacher Education merged with the Pre-School Teacher Training College into one institution. Since then, the students of the Teacher Education Faculty have been given an option to choose between two study programs: Primary Teacher Education Study Program and Pre-School Teacher Education Study Program.





# How to Prepare for Your Future Profession

Teacher Education Faculty offers programs which are a well-balanced combination of theoretical and practical knowledge necessary for working as a pre-school or primary school teacher.

Primary Teacher Education Study Program is offered in Belgrade and the Faculty departments in Vršac and Novi Pazar, whereas students can enroll at the Pre-School Teacher Education Study Program only in Belgrade. Teacher Education Faculty is fully accredited for three levels of higher education: undergraduate, master and doctoral studies. The undergraduate and master courses last 8+2 semesters and the curricula fully comply with the Bologna Declaration requirements, including the system of exam credits.

At our Faculty students have to complete programs that represent a well-balanced combination of theoretical and practical knowledge necessary for working as a pre-school or primary school teacher.

Both natural and social sciences are studied at the Teacher Education Faculty. Academic courses include courses in pedagogy and psychology, art, sports, and general education courses. Our curriculum is the result of a carefully created combination of different theoretical disciplines (didactic-methodological, pedagogical-psychological, school and general education subjects) and practice which has a significant place in the curriculum. The idea underlying such curriculum was to offer our students all the necessary knowledge and skills for becoming successful pre-school and primary school teachers.

Our syllabi are based on scientific knowledge, artistic creativity and pedagogical experience. Their objective is to develop professional skills important for future teachers in the areas of planning, organizing, carrying out and evaluating educational processes, as well as for solving problems in the classroom or a pre-school group, improving communication and understanding children's needs.

*„Primary school teachers adore life and are dedicated to children. They are people who start from the beginning over and over again in order to 'perfect' the subject content they teach. They enjoy teaching children, learning with children and from children. They laugh, cry, and share joy and sorrow with their pupils.*

*Believe me, primary school teachers are happy people! You won't find so much sincerity, love and imagination anywhere else”!*

**Svetlana Babić**, teacher in „Svetozar Marković“ primary school in Belgrade



Our academic courses are taught at nine different faculty departments



The Department of Serbian Language and Literature and Methodology of Serbian Language and Literature offers the following courses: Serbian Language, Literature and Culture; Literature for Children; Methodology for Developing Children's Oral Skills, Written and Spoken Expression, etc. There are also electives: Bible Study; Drama and Movement; Travel as a Form of Education and Culture; Fairy Tales, Readers and Learning from Readers, etc. For many years, the project entitled *Poetics of Serbian Literature for Children and Young People*, dedicated to exploring the works of prominent authors in this area, has been carried out successfully at this department. The department also organizes visits to literary meetings and cultural institutions, as well as lectures of renowned representatives of Serbian culture at our faculty.

The Department of Mathematics and Methodology of Mathematics Teaching offers, apart from studying math subjects, various activities in conformity with modern approaches to developing basic mathematical concepts in pre-school and primary school children. Students are introduced to contemporary math programs, encouraged to share their views with others, receive feedback, and present their knowledge in various forms at lectures, instructional practice, workshops and group work, as well as by doing term papers, modeling lesson activities and developing educational tools. In kindergartens and schools they become familiar with the current practice of initial mathematics education and they are given an opportunity to test and evaluate their own approach and application of academic knowledge. Renowned visiting lecturers from other universities frequently give lectures at this department.

Different didactic disciplines related to the planning, realization and evaluation of teaching process, the research of teaching and learning and modern educational technologies are studied at The Department of Didactics. The training of the future pre-school and primary school teachers to use digital technologies in the classroom is carried out across several subjects taught at this department. The courses particularly focus on building the students' practical skills necessary for using different types of educational software and digital media for monitoring and evaluation of pupils' learning.

Students will acquire the fundamental competences for teaching the subjects *Social, Environmental and Scientific Education and the World around Us* at The Department of Social, Environmental and Scientific Education Methodology. The instruction of the above-mentioned subjects, which are inherently integrative, provides pupils with the basic knowledge and concepts of biology, ecology, physics, geography and history. The academic course *Methodology of Environmental Teaching* prepares future teachers to work with children of age 3-7 on topics related to flora and fauna, natural phenomena, physical, emotional and social aspects of human beings. The department focuses on the integrative approach to academic content, planning and realization of outdoor activities, as well as learning through play.

The specialized courses at The Department of Pedagogy and Psychology provide our students with the elementary theoretical and practical knowledge of general, family and school pedagogy, human development through life, and relevant psychological aspects of teaching. After a success-



ful completion of these courses, students are expected to be able to implement fundamental pedagogical and psychological concepts in organizing teaching context and solving typical educational problems.

**The Department of Philosophy and Social Sciences** offers academic courses that enable students to acquire or expand their knowledge of the most important philosophical concepts pertaining to educational issues. Students will also learn about the fundamental sociological issues of the modern society and family, as well as the social aspects of education. These academic courses are oriented towards developing critical thinking, improving the culture of dialogue and enabling our students to use ethical arguments in solving moral dilemmas and conflicts in education.

The compulsory and elective subjects taught at **The Department of Art Subjects Methodology** provide students with theoretical and practical knowledge related to teaching music and arts in pre-school and early primary education. Theoretical lessons focus on different contents of music and arts subjects which have been developed to meet the needs, interests and developmental abilities of the children of specific age groups. Practical lessons focus on performance and creativity – experiential learning, playing instruments or using artistic tools. Practical lessons are held in well-equipped, specialized lecture rooms – music and art classrooms. Students can expand their experiential knowledge by choosing from a wide range of music or art electives – Academic Choir, Chamber Music, Learning about Instruments or Music Literature for Children, Pottery Course, Theatre for Children, Contemporary Forms of Visual and Graphic Presentations, and many other courses.

Apart from its compulsory subjects, The Department of Physical Education Methodology organizes attractive electives and activities: outdoor activities, swimming and running, dances for children, folk dances, University Sports League and an event called *Učiteljijada*. The Belgrade-based branch of the Teacher Education Faculty boasts two gyms, outdoor sports grounds, a fitness gym and a modern sports air dome. The department particularly focuses on teaching our students how to organize effective physical exercises that will meet the pre-school and early primary school children's interests and needs, monitor children's physical growth and development, use modern measuring equipment, and react adequately in the cases of child obesity and children with physical disabilities.

**At The Department of Romanian Language (as mother tongue) and Foreign Languages** students can learn, depending on their previous education and personal interests, one of four foreign languages (English, German, Russian, and French). The undergraduate language courses last three semesters, while the language courses for master students last one semester. The department has developed good cooperation with foreign universities, which includes student exchange and lectures given by visiting scholars. The department is especially proud of excellent cooperation with the French School in Belgrade which organizes professional practice for some of our students. Students of Romanian nationality can study in Romanian at our branch department in Vršac. In this way, they contribute to nurturing literary Romanian language and promoting a cultural space where two cultures merge: Serbian and Romanian.



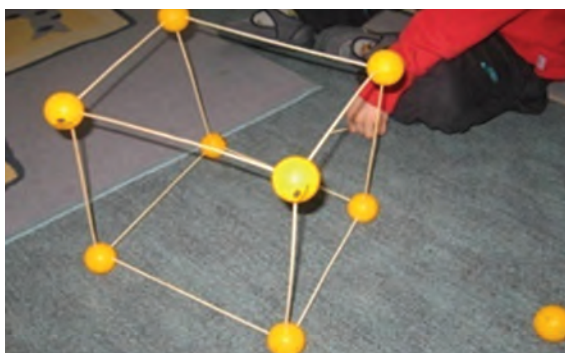




# Gain Experience Through Practical Instruction

At Teacher Education Faculty, great attention is paid to professional practice - the time students spend working in kindergartens and elementary schools in the course of their studies.

This is an important part of the process of studying. Some schools and kindergartens serve as experimental units (practice classrooms) in which students apply the theoretical knowledge they acquired earlier and receive training for their new roles. This means that, from the very beginning of their studies, our students have an opportunity to observe and participate in real classes in schools and guided activities in kindergartens through pedagogical, didactic, methodological and professional practice. An important part of teaching will take place right there, where teachers and assistants, who constantly strive to improve the work in practice classrooms and professional practice, have the role of mentors.



*„In the course of my studies at Teacher Education Faculty, I acquired the knowledge of the fundamentals of the pre-school teaching profession through both theoretical and practical learning. With encouragement of my teachers, and through cooperation with my colleagues, I discovered the beauty and advantages of my calling. The knowledge and experience gained at the faculty will be of great value in my professional work“.*

**Mikica Jakšić**, student of the Teacher Education Faculty







## Study in The Functional Space Equipped with The Latest Educational Tools and Technology

Teacher Education Faculty was among the first faculties that developed computer network, introduced interactive whiteboards and overhead projectors in teaching as well as the distance learning software. It also has internal television.

Learning environment is very important for acquiring professional skills and knowledge. In Belgrade, our Faculty has two locations: one in the city centre, steps away from Beograđanka, the Church of Ascension, Vukova Zadužbina, Mathematics High School, and Russian Hall; the other location is on Dedinje, in beautiful natural surroundings.

Our faculty pays great attention to equipping the facilities, classrooms and lecture rooms for specific subjects. Within our facilities there are two digital classrooms that enable dynamic teaching, while communication with students is generally carried out in electronic form.

Students have at their disposal a well equipped library and a reading room, digital classrooms, a computer lab, Internet access and a student club. The library at the Teacher Education Faculty stores more than 46,000 books and 4,000 professional journals, and its stock continues to grow!



*„Studying at the Teacher Education Faculty means acquiring diverse knowledge in the areas of languages, natural and social sciences, sports and arts – it means becoming a versatile personality. You are taught how to integrate your knowledge, motivate your pupils to learn on a daily basis, stimulate their thought processes, and teach them to be critical of reality. To be a student of the Teacher Education Faculty means to be aware of the seriousness of your future profession and not settle for anything less than the best, because you know that somebody’s future depends on your 45 minutes of teaching. Studying at this institution means living the thought of Nelson Mandela - Education is the most powerful weapon that can change the world“.*

**Bojana Ivković**, a final year student the Teacher Education Faculty







## Take Part in The Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities

Students of the Teacher Education Faculty are always eager to take part in many cultural and artistic, public, sports, humanitarian and volunteer activities.

Student life at the Teacher Education Faculty is very diverse. You will have the opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge and skills in various fields - from music, acting and sports activities, to organizing events... You can also actively participate in regular and elective courses.

The Faculty has its own student theater, choir and chamber music orchestra. Choirs are part of the tradition of teacher training institutions. If they are interested in singing, students can join the *Choir* and show their vocal potential at frequent concerts organized at the Faculty and other institutions and events, where our singers have achieved significant success. Music-loving students can also attend *Chamber Music* sessions. Our students have had the opportunity to listen to great musicians and perform compositions with well-known musicians and orchestras, such as the Belgrade String Quartet and "St. George" String Orchestra.

If you join our Student Theater, you will have the opportunity to show your acting skills. Premieres of the plays are held regularly every year in early October, in honor of the new generation of students.

Students can also show their singing talent in the vocal group "Zora". The group sings traditional folk songs, with the aim of presenting them to a wider audience and saving them from oblivion. After graduation, many students continue singing with the group on a voluntary basis, which illustrates the quality and dedication of this vocal group.





Student Championship in cross country running, organized by the Teacher Education Faculty, has become a traditional event. So far, more than 2000 students have participated in this competition. In April 2016, the jubillary tenth cross was organized. As of 2015, and upon the initiative of our students, we have been organizing cross country competitions for the children of preschool and early school age. The plan is to turn the competition into a mass event, with a growing participation of children from the kindergartnes and primary schools in which our students complete the practical part of their studies.







As a student of the Teacher Education Faculty you can participate in *Učiteljijada* – the gathering of students of teacher training institutions from Serbia, where students compete in sports activities, various debates and public speaking. Football, basketball, volleyball, table tennis and chess competitions are organized for both categories (male and female). Your future faculty can be proud of the results achieved in all these disciplines. Of course, *Učiteljijada* is also an opportunity to meet new people and colleagues, start new friendships and share different experiences.



Our students have hosted their colleagues from European teacher training faculties and colleges on several occasions. Student excursions that are a part of the course entitled Serbian Culture in the European Context are already part of the tradition of our Faculty. This is an opportunity for our students to travel and really get to know Serbia, as well as the culture and art of many European nations.



Student Parliament deals with current student issues, represents the interests of students in the Faculty managerial bodies, while a *student vice-dean* acts as a link between them and actively participates in solving the issues of relevance for students.

All the above-mentioned activities are undertaken in order to maintain the high quality of studies at our Faculty.









# Professional Literature and Faculty Publications

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In addition to its own publications, the Faculty boasts cooperation with other research, publishing and educational organizations in the country and abroad. The publication of monographs, textbooks, professional chrestomathies, reference books and other literature necessary for successful studying is one of the key commitments of our teachers and associates. The Faculty has already prepared and printed nearly a hundred publications, and the number is, according to the new publishing plans, constantly on the increase.

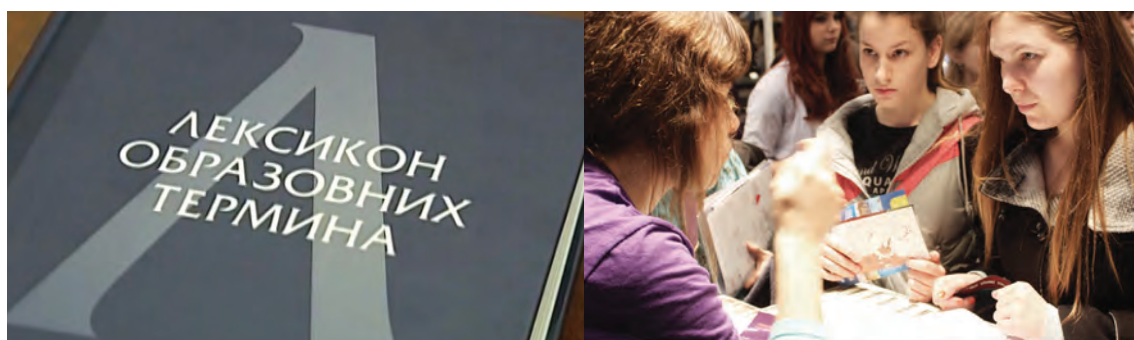
When it comes to the publishing industry, we are particularly proud of the *Lexicon of Educational Terminology* (LOT), a collective work of the Teacher Education Faculty professors and other distinguished collaborators engaged in this project. By using modern methods, they

selected, collected, interpreted and systematized all the important scientific concepts studied at teacher training faculties and colleges. The *Lexicon of Educational Terminology* was awarded as the best scientific book at the 2015 Book Fair!

In order to contribute to the modernization of education, *Teaching Innovations* journal publishes original research and review papers related to the sciences and disciplines dealing with educational processes at all levels of education. Apart from scientific papers, *Teaching Innovations* publishes translated works, informative articles and reviews (books, computer programs, educational software, research projects, conferences, etc.), as well as technical papers and various useful information.

The journal is available online at the following address: <http://www.inovacijeunastavi.rs>

All Faculty publications can be purchased at affordable prices in the Faculty bookstore.







# Teacher Education Faculty as a Scientific Institution

Teacher Education Faculty encourages its students interested in scientific research to participate in scientific conferences. It also supports young scientists through the activities of the SSRC - Student Scientific and Research Center.

The Student Scientific and Research Center is an organization which, in cooperation with the Student Parliament, aims at gathering students and organizing their participation in the research carried out at the Faculty. The task of the Center is to timely inform the students about the possibilities for the advancement of the research results and potentials and to encourage the development of young scientists at the Faculty. The membership in the Center is on a voluntary basis and it is open to all full-time students of the Teacher Education Faculty.

Our Faculty also encourages student initiatives, participation at various events, professional and scientific conferences in the country and abroad. International cooperation between our Faculty and other universities of similar profile in Europe enables our students to be part of the international student exchange – they can stay in Lyon or Brussels, or have professional practice in Romania. This cooperation helps us to apply international standards in our work and coordinate study programs with similar programs in the international environment.

Science and arts research activities are continually carried out at the Faculty. We organize

scientific conferences, round tables (including the Science, Religion, Education round table which has become a traditional event at our institution), exhibitions, concerts. The results of our scientific research have been transformed into a number of innovative teaching resources and technology. We work with many institutions in the country, such as the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, research institutes, and other pedagogical and teacher training faculties in Serbia and Europe.

It is important to note that our Faculty insists on a continuous professional development of future professors, teaching assistants, teachers and associates in order to maintain the high quality of teaching, keep pace with modern trends and make studies more interesting for our students. Finally, it should be mentioned that the Faculty of Education takes care that students are well motivated throughout their studies in order to achieve the best results. High achievers are eligible for faculty scholarships or they can be exempt from paying a part of tuition fees.

(After everything said and done, let's add just one more thing:)

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WELCOME TO TEACHER EDUCATION FACULTY!



## Contact us!

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