# FIT Freshman's Guide (2025/2026)

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#### Intro

Welcome to FIT! Together with colleagues from the FIT Students Union, we've prepared this hand-book for you, which we hope will help you get oriented during your first days at our faculty.

Also useful might be the Freshman Linktree from the Students Union (Czech only), the For Freshmen and the Study Information pages on the FIT website, and the Study Advisor page.

## **Study Programs at FIT**

## **Bachelor's Study**

The faculty offers a single three-year bachelor's degree program called **Information Technology**. Graduates receive the academic title **Bachelor** (Bc., written before the name). To be admitted to the bachelor's program, you must have completed secondary education with a final examination and meet the admission requirements.

## Follow-up Master's Study

The bachelor's program is directly followed by a two-year master's degree program called **Information Technology and Artificial Intelligence**. In this program, you also choose one of **17 specializations**; more information can be found at the link above. Graduates receive the academic title **Engineer** (Ing., written before the name). Admission requires a completed bachelor's degree and passing an entrance examination, or meeting conditions for its waiver – if you previously studied at FIT, a reasonably good weighted GPA will suffice.

### **Doctoral Study**

Outstanding master's graduates who decide to pursue an academic career can continue in doctoral studies. The **Information Technology** program is also offered in a combined form, unlike the previous ones. In full-time form, the program includes mandatory teaching practice. The standard duration of doctoral study at FIT is 4 years. Graduates earn the academic title **Doctor (Ph.D.)**, written after the name.

### **Student Cards**

During your studies, you will use your student card daily. It serves mainly for door access (e.g., when entering computer labs in our Computer Technology Center, you must always scan your card), as well as for identification in the library or paying for meals in the canteen.

You have two options: either apply for a "**BUT student card**" or purchase an **ISIC**. Both are chip cards that function identically within the university. The difference is that the ISIC provides various student discounts across the Czech Republic and abroad. In the Czech Republic, it can also be used to get a 50% discount on public transportation – this is **not possible** with the BUT card. However, the ISIC costs 250 CZK (10 €) for the first year, and you must purchase a revalidation sticker for 250 CZK each following year. The BUT card is free of charge.

**Important**: You can only have **one** of these cards, not both. Don't forget to **order it** via the IS BUT intraportal in the *Cards* module. First, you need to upload a passport-style photo under the *Photo* tab. The photo must be approved, which can take several days. Once approved, you'll find the *Order New Card* button under the *List of cards* tab.

Freshmen receive their cards before the semester begins at the freshman event Start@FIT. In other cases, cards are issued at the **Study Department** of our faculty.

For information on transportation discounts and traveling within and beyond Brno, see the section below.

## **Information Systems and Accounts**

During your studies, you will encounter various information systems and services. The following sections introduce the most important ones you'll need right from the beginning.

#### **BUT IS**

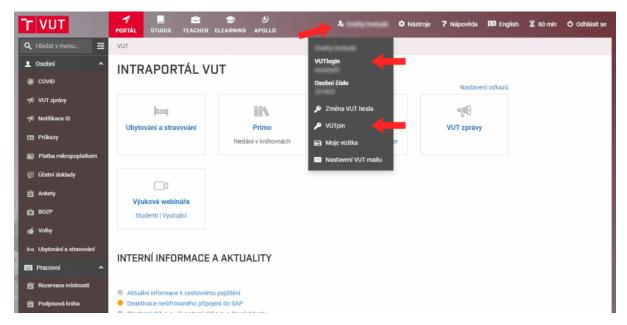
All study-related matters are handled through the **Brno University of Technology Information System (BUT IS)**. After admission (usually even before enrollment), an *initial password* is shown in your electronic application. You'll enter this here along with your application code to create your own **BUT password**, which you will use to log into BUT IS.

You can log in using either your six-digit **personal number** or your **BUT login**, commonly referred to as **xlogin**, e.g., xnovakp23. Remember your xlogin well – it is used frequently at FIT. You can find both after logging in by clicking your name.

Make sure to access BUT IS as soon as possible, especially if you wish to apply for dormitory accommodation (see <a href="here">here</a>).

If something goes wrong while using BUT IS or you forget a password, don't worry. At the end of this guide, you'll find contacts for people who are happy to help.

### Intraportal



The screenshot above shows the first part of BUT IS: the **Intraportal**. Here you will find more general features. The most relevant section for you will be *Cards*, where you order your ISIC. The *Accommodation IS* link leads to the dormitory and canteen system. The *Rooms Reservations* module is useful for booking study rooms at the faculty (details later).

Next to your xlogin, you will also find the option to change your BUT password and most importantly your **BUT pin**, which is used to log in to Wi-Fi (explained later).

We also recommend going to My Card / Business Addresses and filling in your personal email address at the bottom. Check the box "Forward BUT messages" to ensure you receive important emails.

#### **StudIS**

You will most often use **StudIS**, another part of the system. Here you'll find course information (*Electronical record book* module), grades, register for courses (*Registration of courses* module), view your schedule (*Individual schedule*), and more. It is very important to **regularly check** registration deadlines for classes/seminars, projects, and exams or assignments. These can be found in the modules *Classes registration*, *Registration of terms*, or *Registration of specification* (good English in deed).

In the *Administrative procedures and applications* module, you can submit requests to the study department – for example, to record a "study obstacle" (used in case of long illness). **Do not** use the *Electronic apology* module for this. You can also generate an official, digitally signed *Certificate of study* here.

### **Elearning**

**Elearning** (also called **Moodle**) will be used in many courses as a source of materials; you'll find documents and sometimes submit assignments here. Each course uses it differently, so pay close attention during the first lectures to learn how to access the information for each subject.

## **Faculty Account**

During your studies, you will use certain *faculty* services such as your student email, lecture recording pages, or Linux servers. These are accessed not with your BUT account, but using your **xlogin** and a special **faculty password** (historically called WIS password or FIT password). You will also use these credentials to log into **faculty computers** (Windows or Linux).

Your initial faculty password can be found on this page after logging in with your BUT credentials. Faculty accounts are usually created **shortly after enrollment** – if you see nothing there yet, try again later.

You should **immediately change** the initial password as it is not secure for long-term use. You can set a new password in the **Faculty Information System** (sometimes abbreviated as *WIS* or *IS FIT*) by logging in with your xlogin and faculty password at this link. (Note: Enter your credentials into the popup window – this is not an error.)

Unfortunately, you cannot choose your own password; you must select and remember one of the generated options.

### School Email, Wi-Fi, and Services

Each student has a dedicated school email inbox with an address in the format xloginx00@stud.fit. vut.cz (naturally, replace xloginx00 with your actual xlogin). You can access it via the webmail client Roundcube, using your xlogin and the generated faculty password. Instructions for configuring your email client are available on the CVT website.

For **all** communication within the faculty (including with teachers, the study department, etc.), **always** use **only** your faculty email! Messages from other email addresses will not be answered. **Check your inbox regularly** – important updates related to your courses, studies, and other matters are sent there. If you struggle with this, you can set up forwarding to your personal email address in Roundcube. We also recommend adding the inbox to your favorite mail app on your phone (Gmail works fine for this).

In addition to your faculty email, you also have a so-called VUTmail (BUT Email), your university email address. Its default format is **xloginx00@vutbr.cz** (again, replace xloginx00 with your xlogin). This email address is used to log into various external services such as **Google Workspace** and **Microsoft Office 365** (details below).

You can manage your VUTmail settings in the intraportal. Do not change your preferred address to anything other than the one with your xlogin. By default, all emails are forwarded to your **faculty inbox** (@stud.fit.vut.cz). You can separate them (creating a dedicated Microsoft mailbox), but this is not recommended as it complicates things unnecessarily.

#### Wi-Fi

You can connect to the internet via the **eduroam** network, available in nearly all areas of BUT—and many other universities around the world. It's part of a global academic Wi-Fi initiative, and your BUT credentials can be used to connect to it at participating institutions worldwide.

The best way to connect to **eduroam** is to use the **eduroam CAT installer**, which ensures secure and correct configuration. Visit <a href="https://cat.eduroam.org">https://cat.eduroam.org</a>, click the blue button, select "Brno University of Technology," and choose your platform.

The installer will prompt you for login details. The simplest method is to use your BUT credentials:

- Username: xloginx00@vutbr.cz
- Password: **BUT pin** (you'll find this in the intraportal as shown earlier)

Note: Your BUT pin automatically changes roughly every two years. You'll be notified by email beforehand. If your Wi-Fi suddenly stops working one day, this may be why—just repeat the setup process.

There's also a more manual setup method using FIT-specific credentials for advanced users; more information is available here.

### My BUT App

Be sure to download the **My BUT** app from Google Play or the Apple App Store. It gives you convenient access to the most important information: your schedule, grades, a campus map—and most importantly, canteen menus!

#### **Cloud Services**

As a student at BUT, you have access to a vast range of cloud services for free. Most can be accessed using your email **xloginx00@vutbr.cz** and **BUT password**. These include:

- **CESNET**: A nonprofit offering 100 GB of ownCloud storage and a short-term file transfer service (Filesender) for up to 500 GB files. No speed limits or ads, with backups included.
- Microsoft Office 365: Full Office licenses for up to five desktop/mobile devices, plus webbased Office tools.
- **Google Workspace**: A suite of web-based office tools that support real-time collaboration. Note: storage space on Google Drive is limited.
- Azure Dev Tools: In addition to Office, you get various Microsoft software licenses (e.g., Windows, active only while enrolled) and a \$100 credit for Azure development tools.
- Additional services and guides are available at https://www.vut.cz/en/intra/cloud and https://www.vut.cz/intra/vut-software (Czech only, filter to show student-accessible options).
- Overleaf: Free access to the Premium version of the online LaTeX editor. (Even if you're unfamiliar now, you'll appreciate it soon enough.)

Other useful free tools for students:

- JetBrains: Professional IDEs for C/C++, Java, Python, .NET, and more.
- **GitHub Student Developer Pack**: Includes GitHub Pro and access to numerous development tools and services.

Access to many of these services is verified using your ISIC card.

## **Getting Around FIT**

In this section, we'll briefly describe what and where you can find things and rooms at our faculty. At first, the campus may seem like a maze, but you'll get the hang of it soon enough. A map is available on the FIT website under *Faculty / Campus Map*. Google is also helpful: just search for *fit vut ROOMCODE* when looking for a room.

The faculty is spread across two parts: the renovated Carthusian monastery (buildings A–G, mainly lecture halls) and the modern glass complex (buildings L–Q, where you'll find most computer labs run by the Computer Centre – CVT). Snack and drink vending machines are located in building E and near CVT; the Ventana café is in building L.

Several restaurants are nearby, and you can check their daily menus at https://obed.cucin.cz/.

#### **Lecture Halls and Classrooms**

The largest lecture halls are D105 and E112, both equipped with Wi-Fi, power outlets, and cloak-rooms. Due to large student numbers, lectures may also be streamed to D0206, D0207, E104, and E105. Various other rooms across the faculty host seminars, tutorials, and smaller lectures.

#### **Computer Centre (CVT)**

CVT is located in the newer glass section of the faculty, primarily in buildings M, N, and O. You must always **scan your student card** upon **entry and exit**. Several CVT rooms remain accessible outside

class hours, offering internet access. Visit the CVT website for more information and opening hours.

## Library

The library is located on the ground floor of the monastery section, room C114, to the left of the C/E building entrance. Always treat borrowed materials responsibly—they are for the benefit of all students. Return items on time and in good condition to avoid fines. You can renew loans in person or via the PRIMO BUT system.

As a BUT student, you can access all BUT libraries with your student card. Opening hours and further details are available under *Units / Library and records service* on the FIT site.

The library is also FIT's largest study area, featuring seating, beanbags, printers, copiers, and internet connections.

## **Study Rooms and Other Study Spaces**

FIT has eight reservable study rooms that can be used privately for up to four hours per week—ideal for teamwork. Most rooms have a whiteboard and a large monitor.

The list of rooms, usage rules, and reservation instructions can be found on the Study Rooms at FIT page. Please read the rules carefully.

Other places to study quietly on campus:

- Desks and chairs along corridors, especially in building D and the second floor of bilding C.
   Beanbags can be found in building E.
- Larger seating areas in building L, Rooms L211 and L312.
- Beanbag corners with occasional tables: G201, D0201, and A208.
- Seating available near CVT classrooms (buildings N and O).
- A smaller quiet space at the end of corridor \$203.
- Room P108 serves as a larger study room open daily until 22:00. It includes a microwave, kettle, water filter pitcher, fridge, and utensils.
- Outside of special events, the U Kachničky student club is accessible to all FIT students (and students from other faculties enrolled in a FIT course). It is usually open from 8:00 to 21:00, on Tuesdays until 12:34. See current opening times and events on the club's website. Please read the rules before entering.

#### Students Club U Kachničky

The "U Kachničky" club—often called just "Kachna"—is located in room R212. It's a place for students to hang out, collaborate on projects, play billiards, table football, chess, or board games, and enjoy a piano, guitar, or a draft beverage with peers.

The club hosts music nights, tournaments, and more. During the semester, it's regularly open three times a week from 16:00 to 21:50—beer nights on Mondays and Wednesdays, and calm *tearooms* on Thursdays. Outside these hours, it's generally accessible (without bar service) to all FIT students (and others with a course at FIT). Please **read the rules** before entering.

The club is run by students from the FIT Students Union. Keep an eye on the club website for opening times and event notifications.

#### FIT Creative Showroom & Open Space

The Creative Showroom & Open Space is a dual-purpose area at FIT. The Creative Showroom show-cases scientific and research results from the faculty, while the Open Space serves as a student startup hub, IT development center, creative workspace, and place for meetings, presentations, consultations, and development.

It is located below the students club in room R109. More information is available on the website.

#### **3D Printing in Open Space**

Several 3D printers are available in Open Space for trained students. You can quickly learn the basics of operating a 3D printer, modeling for 3D printing, or just have an existing object printed. More details can be found on the 3D printing site (Czech only).

## Start@FIT - Your First Days at FIT

Be sure not to miss **Start@FIT**, an introductory and orientation event for first-year students at our faculty, organized annually by the Students Union. We strongly recommend attending the initial training session, where we will carefully explain how to **create your schedule**, how to use BUT IS, how to register for courses and classes, where to find what, and what to watch out for during your studies.

The program includes a variety of activities through which you'll get to know the faculty and Brno, meet fellow first-years and upper-year students, and even your future lecturers—you'll see that *academics* are just people too, and many will be happy to chat with you. During most of the program, the student club **U Kachničky** will also be open.

Start@FIT begins on **Thursday, September 11, 2025, in the morning** (i.e., the week before classes start). We recommend arranging your accommodation (e.g., in dormitories) from **September 10**, so you can settle in calmly. If this date isn't selectable in the KaM system, contact the dorm manager or the head of your dorm block directly.

On **Friday, September 12**, the official **matriculation ceremony** will take place. This is an academic ceremony marking your formal admission to studies. Attendance is **mandatory** (if you cannot attend for serious reasons, you must excuse yourself at the study department). Don't forget to bring appropriate **formal attire**: suit, dress, etc.

The program continues until Sunday. **Full details will be available later in the summer at startatfit.cz** – be sure to check it. We look forward to meeting you!

#### Your First Week in Brno

#### What not to forget to bring to Brno for your first week of studies:

- Formal attire (for matriculation).
- A few hundred CZK in cash (euros won't suffice),
- A computer (needed already for the weekend before classes start due to schedule registration).
- Everyday necessities toiletries, clothing,
- Writing tools and a notebook (you'll be doing a lot of maths and drawing circuits in the first semester).

We recommend a laptop with a standard x86\_64 architecture processor, it doesn't need to be highend. ARM-based machines (like newer MacBooks) usually work but may cause issues with some tools. A working battery and sufficient disk space are helpful. While 8 GB RAM is usable, 16 GB or more is recommended. The operating system doesn't matter much. A desktop is also fine—you won't need your personal computer during classes.

**Tip:** If your computer breaks, FIT's CVT can temporarily lend you a laptop. Alternatively, shared computers are available in room M103, either for personal use or group reservations.

#### What to Bring to the Dormitories:

- · Toilet paper,
- Towel.
- Trash bags.
- · Power strip,
- Basic kitchenware (induction-compatible pot/pan),
- Slippers
- Ethernet cable for internet access,

· Computer accessories (e.g., monitor).

You may also bring your own electric kettle, toaster, microwave, or coffee maker. The Halls of residence code specifies the maximum allowed power consumption, but this can usually be exceeded with permission. Bedding, broom, vacuum cleaner, and recycling bags are available for free loan—no need to bring these.

## Study, Credits, Courses, and Classes

The course system and grading at university are very different from what you've been used to. This section of the guide will summarize how things work here and what you should watch out for.

#### **Courses and Credits**

Your study goal includes two main things: successfully completing all *mandatory* courses (and at least one course from each group of *compulsory electives*, sometimes called *compulsory-optional*, see below), and earning a sufficient number of *credits*. A **credit** reflects the difficulty of a course. When you *complete* a course, you *earn* the respective credits. You must accumulate **180** credits in total during your studies – at least 152 must be from mandatory and compulsory elective courses; the remaining 28 come from electives (this distribution can vary depending on how you fulfill the English requirement).

Each semester, you **enroll in courses** – meaning you intend to study them that semester, and if you complete them successfully, you will earn credits. Mandatory courses are assigned to specific semesters – the study plan can be found here – but you are not required to follow this plan exactly, it's up to you when you take the course. Be aware, however, that most courses are available only in either the winter or summer semester, not both. First-year students are enrolled in the mandatory courses for the first semester automatically; for all subsequent semesters, you must enroll yourself.

To advance to the next *year*, you must earn **at least 30 credits per academic year** (or half of what you registered for, if fewer). For the **first semester**, you must earn at least **15** credits – this requirement applies **only** in the first year.

#### **Credit Limits**

In addition to the minimum credits for passing the year, there is also a *maximum* number of credits you can enroll in per year. The base limit is **65 credits per year**, but it increases depending on your performance. For the second (summer) semester, the rules are:

- If you earned 20 credits, have no failed electives, and no more than one failed mandatory course 

  your yearly limit is 70 (i.e., you can enroll in summer courses totaling 70 minus the number already enrolled in the winter).
- If you passed everything and your GPA is 2.0 or lower  $\rightarrow$  your limit is **75** credits.
- If your GPA is 1.5 or lower  $\rightarrow$  your limit is **80** credits.

Similar rules apply in later years. There are also **total credit caps for the entire study**, depending on your performance. See the full table on the **Study Advisory page**.

Do not underestimate credit caps or course performance. If you fail a mandatory course, you **must** retake it the following year. If you fail too many, your credit cap might not allow you to enroll in all required courses, effectively extending your studies by a year.

### **Course Grading**

Courses can be completed in several ways:

- Exam = zkouška (Zk ~ Ex)
- Credit + Exam = zápočet + zkouška (ZáZk ~ Cr,Ex)
- Graded Credit = klasifikovaný zápočet (KlZá ~ GCr)
- Credit = zápočet (Zá ~ Cr)

There is also the *colloquium*, similar to a credit, but it's almost non-existent on BUT. In the first three cases, you receive a grade; not in the last one. Regardless of the grade, you always receive **all the credits** for a passed course.

Most courses are evaluated using a **point system**, with a total of **100 points** available. Grades are assigned as follows:

Grade	Points	Numerical Grade	Meaning
A	100-90	1	Excellent
В	89-80	1.5	Very Good
C	79-70	2	Good
D	69-60	2.5	Satisfactory
E	59-50	3	Sufficient
F	49-0	4	Unsatisfactory

If a course ends with an **exam**, usually 20–49 points can be earned during the semester, and the rest during the exam.

If it has a **credit requirement**, you must collect a **minimum number of points** to even qualify for the exam.

With a **graded credit**, there is **no exam**; you earn all 100 points during the semester.

To pass, you need at least 50 points. Some courses also require you to meet **minimum thresholds** in tests or projects. Each course is slightly different, but you'll get used to it. Review each course's details in the system and pay attention during the first lectures.

You have 3 attempts for each exam, but the dates are usually fixed. If you miss one, there is **no** replacement. Failing a mandatory course twice results in expulsion.

### **Course Registration and Enrollment**

At the beginning of your first year, only the **mandatory courses** are registered for you automatically. You need to **register** the **elective** and **compulsory-elective courses** yourself. We recommend creating at least a rough overview of the courses you'd like to take throughout your studies right from the start. Based on this, plan how you'll distribute credits across the semesters to avoid failing to meet the credit requirements—this would result in a **forced extension of your studies**.

It's not wise to register too many courses at once, as you may lack credits later for more interesting courses in the upper years. Moreover, the workload might become unmanageable, leading to course failure and the need to retake them. On the other hand, **registering too few courses** could result in **insufficient credits**.

Course registration for **first-year students** begins on the **Friday before the start of the winter semester** and ends at the end of the **first week of classes**. During this period, you can register for elective courses for **both winter and summer semesters**. The **second registration period**, covering only the summer semester, takes place in **the last week of January**.

Registration for courses in the **next academic year** (next year of study) always takes place **between March and April**. However, during this period, the **credit limit is still capped at 65 credits**. In summer, **re-registration** begins, during which the **credit caps are lifted**—but this only applies starting in your second year.

More information is available on the study advising page. It's also worth checking the **Time Plan** or in the **Schedule section in StudIS**, where all registration deadlines are clearly summarized.

## **Registration of Sports**

Sports offered at VUT are organized by the **Centre of Sports Activities (CESA)** and are registered **independently** of faculty-specific courses. These registrations appear in a **separate module in StudIS**. For more details, refer to the official website: https://cesa.vut.cz/en/.

You can register for a maximum of **two free sports** per semester, each worth **one credit**. Good luck—registration is competitive, as the **entire university registers at the same time**.

If the sport you registered for doesn't suit you, there will be a **brief second registration round** after about a week during which you can cancel it. After that, no changes are possible.

These are considered **regular elective courses**—failing (usually due to insufficient attendance, which is monitored) may **prevent your credit cap from being raised** and **disqualify you from receiving merit-based scholarships**.

## **Registration for Labs and Timetable Planning**

The core of almost all courses is the **lecture**. Attendance is generally **not monitored**, but skipping lectures is unwise. In the first year, you usually have **two time slots** to choose from for each lecture. Although there might be a suggested division based on surname (you might see labels like "BIA, BIB" in IS), you **do not need to follow it**—you can attend **whichever time fits your schedule**. **No formal registration** is required for lectures in StudIS, though you **can optionally "register"** for them so that they appear in your personal timetable.

In all winter semester courses, in addition to lectures, you'll attend **practical sessions** ("labs")—smaller groups where you'll work on problems, code, etc. The **most intense moment** of your first weeks will be **registering for these lab sessions**. This takes place on **Saturday, September 16**, in the **Classes registration module** in StudIS. Registration is **simultaneous for everyone**, so while you have a chance to build an optimal schedule, **expect competition**—for example, your desired lab slot with 30 spots may have 100 other interested students. Be sure to **prepare multiple schedule variants** in advance.

Note that lab sessions are **officially named differently** in each course within StudIS:

- IDM and ILG Computer-supported exercises (cvičení s počítačovou podporou)
- IEL Laboratory exercises (laboratorní cvičení)
- IUS Basic professional exercises (cvičení odborného základu)
- IZP Computer exercises (počítačová cvičení)

To complicate matters further, there are also so-called "demonstration labs" (democvika), which are more practical-style lectures where concepts are illustrated live. In StudIS, they typically appear as seminars and do not require registration, much like lectures.

#### **English Courses**

As part of your studies at FIT, you must complete an **English course at B1 level**. First, you must complete the placement test in StudIS **by the end of November**—you cannot register for any English course without it!

If your English is weaker, you will be placed in one of the courses BAN1–3. You must then gradually complete all courses up to **BAN4**, which corresponds to the B1 level. If your placement test score is good, you may be placed directly into **BAN4** or even **AIT**, which is at a slightly higher level. English courses typically start in the **second semester**.

If you are serious about English, you may consider registering instead for **BPC-PAx courses** (levels B1–C1) or **0A9/0AX** (C1–C2 level). These usually start in the **winter semester**. So, if you want to start from PA1 or 0A9, you'll need to begin in the **third semester**.

If you'd rather get English out of the way early and already meet the requirement, you can fulfill it in the **first semester** by registering for the course **GEN – General English Exam** or **ZAN4 – B1 English Exam**. In these cases, you simply take an exam, receive credit, and satisfy the English requirement. The difference is that **GEN** is provided by **FSI**, and **ZAN4** by **FEKT**. *Rumor has it that ZAN4 is easier*. These courses will appear in your registration options **only after you complete the placement test**, so don't delay.

If you hold a certificate such as **FCE**, **CAE**, **CPE**, **IELTS**, **or TOEFL**, you can have it recognized in place of taking the English courses.

## **Compulsory Elective Courses**

Compulsory elective courses are groups of courses from which you **must complete at least one** as part of your degree. Others from the same group can be taken as **electives**. There are two such groups:

- PVA Compulsory elective English courses (see above).
- **PVT** Compulsory elective technical courses.

In the PVT group, there are four courses focused on programming languages:

- ICS C# Seminar
- ICP C++ Seminar
- IJA Java Seminar
- IVH VHDL Seminar

All of these are offered in the **summer semester**.

**Note**: Only **IVH** can be registered in the **2nd semester**, while the others are available starting from the **4th semester** (summer of your second year). Therefore, your registration form now shows **only IVH** under PVT. **Do not register for IVH in your first year.** We strongly recommend waiting until the **4th semester** to choose your PVT course.

#### **Elective Courses**

Throughout your studies, you will need to register for **elective courses**, not only for interest but also to fulfill credit requirements. The offering is extensive, and detailing it here would be too long.

You can find the complete list of compulsory and elective courses on the faculty website (For Students  $\rightarrow$  Degree Programmes  $\rightarrow$  choose your program). First, ensure the **correct academic year** is selected. Then click on individual courses to view their **course cards**, which detail the course content and requirements.

When choosing, read these cards carefully. Older students are often happy to share their experiences via Discord or at the **U Kachničky club**. Also check where each course is taught—many are offered by other faculties, so be prepared to **commute** if needed.

**Tip**: It's best to wait until the **second semester** to start registering for electives. A great first choice is **IVS**, where you'll learn teamwork (many believe this course should be mandatory). For advanced students, **IJC** offers in-depth C programming skills.

#### **Prerequisites**

One important detail from the first semester onward is **prerequisites**. This means that some courses can only be registered if you have **successfully completed** another course beforehand. This prevents students from enrolling in advanced subjects before mastering the basics.

This can complicate your study planning because prerequisites are typically within the **mandatory courses**, best followed in the order outlined in the study plan. Focus on completing these key courses in the **semester they are scheduled**.

Current mandatory prerequisites include:

- Discrete Mathematics (1st semester)  $\rightarrow$  Introduction to Logic for Computer Science (IZLO) (2nd semester)
- Introduction to Programming Systems (1st semester) o Machine Level Programming (ISU) (2nd semester)
- Mathematical Analysis 1 (IMA1) (2nd semester) → Mathematical Analysis 2 (IMA2) (3rd semester)
- Algorithms (IAL) (3rd semester)  $\rightarrow$  Principles of Programming Languages (IPP) (4th semester)

Each course card includes information on its prerequisites. Be aware: some courses list **"recommended prerequisites"**—in those cases, you may still register even if you haven't completed the prerequisite.

#### **Academic Year**

At university, we refer to the academic calendar as the **academic year**. On the FIT website, under the *For Students* menu, you'll find the Academic Calendar, which lists all important dates: semester starts, course registration deadlines, exam periods, holidays, etc.

Check it regularly along with the Study News section, where you'll find up-to-date information and announcements.

## **Important Contacts**

## **Faculty Leadership**

The highest official of the faculty is the **Dean**, who makes decisions regarding the faculty, proposes its regulations, manages its operations, and determines its overall direction. The Dean also approves requests for exceptions from standard study rules. **Vice-deans** are responsible for various agendas. The most relevant to you are the vice-deans for bachelor's and master's studies. You can find all members of the faculty leadership on the FIT website.



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ing. Petr Hanáček Dean

ng. Assoc. Prof. Ing. Radek Burget, Ph.D. Vice-dean for Bachelor's Studies





Assoc. Prof. Ing. Richard Růžička, Ph.D., MBA Vice-dean for Master's Studies Email: ruzicka@fit.vut.cz

#### **Study Department**

Email: hanacek@fit.vut.cz

The Study Department handles most administrative aspects of your studies. It is located in room C109; check opening hours on the website. Most tasks can be handled online via StudIS (module *Administrative procedures and applications*).

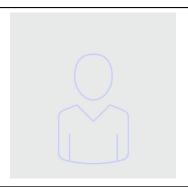
Use the shared email address **studijni@fit.vut.cz**, or call the administrator for your year directly.

Regular Office Hours	
Mon	8:00-11:00
Wed	8:00-11:00, 13:00-14:30
Thu	8:00-11:00

July and August: Wednesdays only, 8:00–11:00.



**Bc. Petra Kšicová**Administrator for 1st year
BSc students
Email: ksicova@fit.vut.cz



Iva Soušková
Administrator for 2nd and higher years
Email: souskiva@fit.vut.cz



**Marie Jandová** Head of Study Department

Email: jandova@fit.vut.cz

## Library

Opening Hours	
Mon–Thu	8:00-16:00
Fri	8:00-15:00

Always check for updates in Library News. Closed on the first Friday of each month.

Email: knihovna@fit.vut.cz Tel.: 541 141 204 Room: C114

## **Academic Counseling**

The study advisor assists with academic issues and selected IS requests. You may also meet the academic affairs advisor responsible for schedules and IS configurations.

Contact the advisor Dr. Veigend directly or write to studijni-poradce@fit.vut.cz.

Before reaching out, please first consult the Study Avisor Page.



Ing. Petr Veigend, Ph.D.
Study Advisor
Study consultations, request preparation, subject recognition



**Ing. Kristýna Zaklová**Academic Affairs Advisor
Scheduling, system configuration, academic news

## **Computer Centre (CVT)**

CVT manages computing infrastructure, labs, the IS, networks, clusters, and servers. Offices are on the ground floor of building L (opposite the café). For help, check the FAQ first.

Contact:

- Ing. Bohumil Michal Password recovery, Windows issues
- Ing. Marek Kuchynka, Ing. Peter Gadorek BUT IS issues
- Ing. Tomáš Kašpárek Linux support
- Ing. Petr Lampa FIT IS issues

#### **Lost and Found**

Lost items in the library? Ask at the library entrance. Other items? Go to the FIT reception.

## **Interfaculty Courses**

You can register for courses from other faculties. Contacts for interfaculty teaching:

- MgA. Katarína Hládeková, Ph.D. (FaVU)
- Assoc. Prof. Mgr. Jan Zálešák, Ph.D. (FaVU) Schedules
- Ing. Juraj Lazúr (FaVU) System integrator
- Ing. Josef Bednář, Ph.D. (FSI)
- Ing. Jiří Kříž, Ph.D. (FP)
- Prof. Ing. Jarmila Dědková, CSc. (FEKT) Vice-Dean for Studies
- Assoc. Prof. RNDr. Martin Kovár, Ph.D. (FEKT) Schedules, math exams
- Mgr. Pavel Sedláček (FEKT) English recognition, course cards

## **Alfons Counseling Centre**

Alfons, part of the BUT Continuing Education and Counselling Centre, offers support for applicants and students with specific needs. Services include learning disorder diagnostics, study adaptation, legal and financial advice, and more. If you have long-term health issues, they can assist with accommodations or exceptions. Learn more at the Alfons website.

## **Psychological Counseling**

University life can be challenging. BUT offers free psychological counseling to all students. For details, see the counseling website.

## **Social Safety**

BUT ensures a safe and fair academic environment. If you feel threatened, discriminated against, or disrespected by staff or peers, contact a designated person at FIT or the university's social safety coordinator. You may also use the confidential mailbox outside A121, read only by the university coordinator. All reports are addressed and support is provided as appropriate.

#### Students at FIT

#### **FIT BUT Students Union**

What is the Students Union we've mentioned a few times? It's simple: we're a group of students from FIT trying to make study and life here better for everyone.

We help organize various student events, including the Open Day and Start@FIT for first-years. We also manage study rooms and especially the club U Kachničky, which we open regularly and host events in.

We're represented in various faculty bodies, where we advocate for student rights and interests. If anything troubles you at FIT, reach out to us. Just use our **contact form**, or reach us on Facebook, Instagram, email, or Discord.

Have great ideas for events? Know how to pour beer? Want to organize tournaments or music nights? Skilled in graphic design or photography? Frustrated with how the faculty handles something and want to change it? Join us! More at https://su.fit.vut.cz.



#### **Academic Senate of FIT**

The Academic Senate is a self-governing representative academic body with two chambers: one of students and one of academic staff. The Senate elects the Dean, approves regulations and the faculty budget. Elections are held every three years.

The student chamber represents students' interests. It includes four elected representatives from the bachelor's and master's programmes and one from the doctoral programme. The Student Chamber of the Academic Senate of FIT (SK AS FIT) cooperates with the Students Union and ensures students have proper study conditions.

For questions or suggestions, contact us via https://www.fit.vut.cz/fit/as/members/.en.

#### **Academic Senate of BUT**

Our faculty is also represented in the Academic Senate of the BUT, which addresses university-wide matters. Like AS FIT, AS BUT has a three-year term and consists of a student and academic staff chamber. Each faculty is represented by one student and two academics. Student representatives ensure students' voices are heard in university-level decisions, committees, dormitory and cafeteria councils, etc.

SK AS BUT also supports student organizations, runs the "Studenti VUT" pages on Facebook and Instagram, and manages the IFSP – Internal Fund for Student Support.

You'll definitely vote in some **elections for AS FIT and AS BUT** during your studies. Watch for announcements on the website and via school email. Your vote matters!

#### **Student Communication Channels**

You may have heard of Discord: it's a chat platform where users create "servers" divided into "channels".

At FIT, we run a student Discord server with over two thousand members. It has channels for each year, every course, and much more (yes, even memes). You'll chat with classmates, find valuable course materials, and more. It's worth joining!

Join at https://discord.gg/vutfit. After joining, a bot will guide you through verification using your faculty email.

The Discord server is run independently by students. It is not official, and information shared there does not reflect the views of the faculty, its leadership, or the Students Union.

Please follow the rules. If issues arise, contact the moderation team.

## **Scholarships**

## **Accommodation Scholarship**

You're eligible for an accommodation scholarship if you:

- Have not exceeded the standard duration of study (3 years for bachelor's, 2 for master's),
- · Are in your first degree-level programme,
- Do not have permanent residence in Brno-city or Brno-country districts.

If eligible, go to the *Scholarships* module  $\rightarrow$  *Scholarship applications* tab, select Accommodation scholarship, and submit an application. You can do this during the summer before your studies begin.

## **Merit Scholarship**

Merit scholarships are awarded to the top 5% of students in each year. You must successfully complete all enrolled courses worth at least 20 credits. The top 2% receive a full scholarship, while the next 3% receive a partial (quarter) scholarship.

The amount depends on academic performance; upper-year students typically receive more. Full scholarships range from CZK 18,000 to CZK 30,000.

They are paid after the semester: for the winter semester in the following April, for the summer semester in September. You do not apply for this scholarship – if you qualify, it is awarded automatically.

## **Social Scholarships**

Social scholarships are granted to students eligible for child allowance per § 17 of Act No. 117/1995 Coll., where family income does not exceed 1.5× the family subsistence minimum. Foreign students qualify only if their parents pay Czech social insurance. Application info is here in StudIS.

Extraordinary social scholarships are for students facing difficult life situations that hinder their ability to study or cover study-related costs. More info in StudIS.

## By Car to Brno

Road traffic in Brno is rather problematic, and parking is even worse. Always stay alert—some drivers run red lights, and others tend to ignore the "priority from the right" rule. For getting around Brno, we recommend using public transport, but we understand that having a car can be useful. Therefore, here are a few notes about parking.

## **Brno Parking Zones**

A large (and growing) part of Brno is covered by a regulated parking system. There are three types of zones:

- Zone A (red): Found only in the city center. You are not allowed to enter by car without a permit.
- Zone B (green): Paid 24/7 at 30 CZK/hour.
- Zone C (blue): Paid from 17:00 to 6:00 at 20 CZK/hour; free during the day.

In both B and C zones, you get **60 minutes of free parking per day**. Parking fees apply **only on weekdays**; weekends and holidays are free.

Parking spots in these zones are marked by blue lines (even in Zone B) and a sign. You can find the full zone map at parkovanivbrne.cz/mapa.

After parking, you must **immediately register and pay** via the website parkovanivbrne.cz, the **Parksimply Brno** app, or a nearby **parking meter** (available in Zone B). This also applies if you're just using the free 60 minutes (in Zone C, only after 17:00).

If you're renting accommodation in Brno, you can **change your permanent residence** to the city (for foreigners, obtain proof of temporary residence). Then you can **register as a resident** and obtain a parking permit for your residential zone and nearby areas. The fee is **200 CZK per year**. See more details on the Parkování v Brně website. **Note:** Changing your permanent address to Brno **makes you ineligible** for the accommodation scholarship.

## **Parking at FIT**

There is **no student parking** available at the FIT campus. Additionally, the entire **Královo Pole** area, where the faculty is located, is in **Zone C**, meaning you can only park for free until 17:00. Occasionally, you might find an unpaid spot around **Božetěchova Street**, but don't count on it.

There's a nearby **train station** with some **unregulated parking** spots in the vicinity.

## Parking at FEKT and the Dorms

Students can use the **above-ground parking** in front of the **FEKT** building at **Technická 12**. It's close to the PPV building and not too far from **Purkyňovy Dorms**. There's also the **CESA parking lot** behind the building, where the top two levels are accessible to students. Both areas are gated, and you can open the barrier using your **student card (ISIC)**. All other gated parking on the BUT campus is reserved for employees only.

You'll also find many spots in the **PPV area side streets** (Kolejní Street) and at the end of **Purkyňova Street**, but these spots are in high demand—expect to need a bit of luck. You can find these locations marked on the campus parking map.

You may **rent a parking spot** near Purkyňovy Dorms for **170 CZK/month**—ask at the **housing office**. Still, availability isn't guaranteed—on Sunday evenings you might not find any space.

At **Listovy Dorms**, parking is very limited. All surrounding streets fall under **Zone B and C**, and the lot opposite the dorms is for **short-term parking only**.

## Public Transport in Brno and "Šalinkarta"

You'll be getting around Brno by **trams** (commonly called "šalina"), **buses**, **trolleybuses**, or even **trains**. All these modes are part of the **Integrated Transport System of the South Moravian Region (IDS JMK)**, meaning they use the same tickets. The last trams usually run around 22:30, after which **night buses** ("rozjezdy") depart from the main train station every hour, on the hour, to all parts of the city. The region is divided into **fare zones**, and all of Brno is covered by zones **100 + 101**. As long as you only travel within Brno, you don't need to worry about other zones.

#### Šalinkarta

If you'll be using public transport regularly, don't delay in buying a **non-transferable season ticket** known as a **šalinkarta**. These are **electronic** – not a physical card. The **carrier** of your ticket is

your **payment card**; during inspections, simply tap it on the inspector's reader. If you prefer not to use your payment card, you can buy an **anonymous card** at a DPMB (Brno Transport Company) office and use that instead.

Šalinkartas are managed online via the Brno iD portal. First, create an account and then **verify your identity**. The easiest way is to upload a **photo or scan of your ID or passport** to the portal's verification section. Verification usually takes less than a day. You can also verify in person at a DPMB office.

After verifying, click "Verify student status", select VUT, and enter your six-digit personal number (found in the intraportal under your name). Once completed, you can go to the Public Transport  $\rightarrow$  Tickets for Brno section and purchase a non-transferable šalinkarta. Before payment, you'll be prompted to add a card as a carrier – just enter the number of the card you plan to use.

In the **FAQ section** of the portal, you'll find detailed guides with screenshots.

## Beep and Go ("Pípni a jed")

If you use public transport only occasionally and a šalinkarta doesn't make sense for you, you don't need to look for paper tickets. All IDS JMK vehicles support the "Pípni a jed" (Beep and Go) system. Just tap your payment card on the reader each time you board a vehicle (including transfers).

- If your trip is **shorter than 15 minutes**, also tap when getting off.
- The system will **automatically charge you** for the best ticket combination for your trip within a few days the **daily cap is 90 CZK**.
- During ticket inspection, simply tap your card again.

Note: This system does not work on trains!

More information is available at https://www.pipniajed.cz/en.html.

### **Dormitories and Canteens**

Halls of Residence and Dining Services of BUT (KaM VUT) provide accommodation and dining primarily for students and staff of Brno University of Technology. On their website www.kam.vutbr.cz, you'll find all necessary information about accommodation and dining, including documents and price lists. If you need to visit or call the housing office, prepare for longer wait times due to high demand.

### **Dining**

As a student, you can eat at **canteens** ("menzy"), that is university dining halls, offering a selection of meals at affordable prices. You can pay in cash or from your **dormitory account**, which you can top up either in the canteen or online using your payment card via the KaM system (accessible via Intraportal  $\rightarrow$  *Accommodation IS*  $\rightarrow$  *Account*  $\rightarrow$  *Accounts*  $\rightarrow$  *Charge*). Most canteens (including the one at FIT) also accept direct card payments.

A list of canteens and their opening hours is available on the KaM website (under the *Dining* tab). Most canteens are open until **14:30** on weekdays and **14:00** on Fridays; they're closed on weekends. Menus change daily and are not published in advance—you'll find out what's offered when you arrive. Meals are **not pre-ordered**.

The largest and probably best canteen is at **Purkyňovy Dormitories**, offering both lunch and dinner. FIT has its own smaller canteen, **Starý pivovar**, with a more limited menu.

You can also use canteens of **Masaryk University** and **Mendel University**, but you must set up a meal account at their respective offices.

On all dormitories and at FIT, you'll also find **vending machines** with baguettes, drinks, and snacks. At FIT, there are also **filtered water dispensers** providing up to 3 liters per day for free (still or sparkling) – located next to room E112 and under room D105.

A useful website to check daily menus at nearby restaurants is obed.cucin.eu.

#### **Dormitories**

BUT operates several dormitory complexes in Brno, primarily housing students but also some working individuals. It's important to remember you're not living there alone—**be respectful** of others and shared spaces. The following KaM staff members are responsible for various issues:

- **Receptionist** for reporting malfunctions, noise, mess, or borrowing keys to common areas.
- Operations staff for more complex issues, e.g., replacement keys.
- **Housing officer** for matters related to contracts, payments, moving in/out.
- **Network administrator** for internet access problems.

Once you get access to BUT IS, you can start arranging accommodation using the **KaM system**, accessible via Intraportal  $\rightarrow$  *Accommodation IS*. Be sure to also check the Documents on the KaM website, where you'll find three key documents:

- 1. Dormitory price list
- 2. Halls of residence code (rules)
- 3. **Rules for accommodation of students and employees** which states when applications can be submitted.

The rules differ depending on your status (first-year, returning student, couple, etc.), so read them carefully.

If you reserve a room online, don't forget to **pay the reservation fee** and **sign the contract**. Failure to do so will result in your room being revoked and reassigned.

Accommodation is **paid monthly via direct debit**. KaM will withdraw funds from the account you provide—always ensure there's enough money.

Be mindful of your **internet use** at the dorms. Misuse (e.g., torrents) may result in your access being revoked.

#### **BUT Dormitory Complexes:**

- 1. PPV (Pod Palackého vrchem)
- 2. Purkyňovy Dormitories
- 3. Listovy Dormitories
- 4. Mánesovy Dormitories

There's also **Starý pivovar** right at FIT, but this small dorm is primarily for staff and PhD students.

First-years are typically placed at **Purkyňovy** and **Listovy**, as senior students have priority in reservations.

More details about each dormitory can be found on the KaM website.

## A Few Final Words

Hopefully, you've learned the most important things about the faculty to help you survive the beginning of university life in one piece.

Be sure to visit the website for info on BUT, dormitories, cafeterias, sports, university clubs, public transport in Brno, or studying abroad. See the section "Brno University of Technology" at prirucka.vut.cz/category/vut for more details (in Czech only).

## Freshman's Checklist

- □ Enroll in your studies
- ☐ Activate your account in BUT IS
- □ Upload a **color** ID photo to BUT IS

• 

Order either a BUT Student Card or an ISIC card (only one of those two) • 

Secure accommodation – dorms, apartment, anything, just make sure you're settled **before** Start@FIT • ☐ Register for dorms as soon as possible • □ Apply for the accommodation scholarship (if eligible) • □ Obtain (and change) your faculty password to access your faculty email •  $\square$  Study the faculty website, academic advising page, and the list of courses • □ Develop your own study plan, including your elective subjects • □ Prepare several schedule variants based on classes/labs time slots • ☐ Attend Start@FIT and the matriculation ceremony • □ Pick up your student card or ISIC (at Start@FIT or separately at the study office) • ☐ After gaining knowledge at Start@FIT, **finalize your schedule** • □ Register for classes (labs) • □ Attend lectures (at least the first ones) and all labs • □ Complete the BUT IS test acknowledging awareness of the CVT operating rules • □ Sign up in BUT IS for group consultations with an academic advisor, who will offer useful advice and help with your transition to FIT •  $\square$  Complete the placement test for English in BUT IS or have your certificate recognized • □ In January, register for elective courses • 

Before the second semester starts, rework your schedule and register for classes •  $\square$  After the exam period, complete the BUT IS subject evaluation guestionnaires

•  $\square$  During the summer break, enroll in the 2nd year in BUT IS, order your ISIC revalidation, and

register for next year's courses