

Hello! My name is **Jelena Dugandžija**. I finished my Master academic studies at the Faculty of Education in 2012. At first I worked as a substitute teacher for some time at a primary school in my home town. After that, I got the chance to work at Agency of Education where I worked for three years in order to organize and implement Russian educational program as well as Montessori to preschool children. The first time I used bilingual education was working in the Primary school Bežina as a class teacher from 2015 to 2018.

Having already some experience and knowledge in teaching in English, I started working in Rudjer Boskovic School. It is a unique educational system that is comprised of the Primary and Secondary School. Primary School follows the National Curriculum, offers the international programme accredited by Cambridge International Examinations and IB Primary Years Programme. I teach both in Serbian and in English. This is very demanding as I am teaching new concepts in a foreign language, but I have developed the strategies that make it possible. Also, I think that experience in bilingual education helps me a lot to be successful in my job.

At the Faculty of Education in Jagodina I got the chance to enhance my English skills and also to learn theory and develop pedagogical skills to teach English to children. I even taught an integrated English and Science lesson in a primary school in my English Practicum.

Studying at the Faculty of Education in Jagodina helped me a lot to get my present job. Professors at the Faculty of Education had a great impact on me, always helping me to move forward, and giving me roles and responsibilities to encourage myself and give my best. My advice for students studying at the Faculty of Education now is the following: don't let criticism hurt your feelings, use it as a tool to grow professionally. The best teachers are always trying to learn and improve.

And my advice for those who want to become teachers: Think about why you want to become a teacher in the first place. If you are patient and approachable to children, and you are ready to take part in shaping the next generation, the Faculty of Education is the best place for you!