

Masaryk University	
Faculty	Faculty of Arts
Procedure field	Classical Philology
Applicant	Mgr. Jana Mikulová, Ph.D.
Applicant's home unit, institution	Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University
Habilitation thesis	Evolution of Direct Discourse Marking from Classical to Late Latin
<u>Board members</u>	
Chair	prof. PhDr. Daniela Urbanová, Ph.D. <i>Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University</i>
Members	Prof. Maria Olga Álvarez Huerta <i>University of Oviedo</i> Prof. Luis Unceta Gómez <i>Autonomous University of Madrid</i> doc. Mgr. Ľudmila Eliášová Buzássyová, PhD. <i>Comenius University in Bratislava</i> doc. Egle Mocciaro, Dottore di Ricerca <i>Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University</i>

Evaluation of the applicant's scholarly/artistic qualifications

Evaluation of the applicant's scientific/artistic qualifications

Mgr. Jana Mikulová, Ph.D. completed her master's degree in Latin and Spanish philology at Masaryk University in 2002. She continued her doctoral studies in classical philology at Masaryk University and in 2006 successfully defended her dissertation *The Present Participle and Ablative Gerund in Late Latin: Periphrastic Constructions* at the Institute of Classical Studies under the supervision of prof. A. Bartoněk.

From 2006 to 2008, she taught Latin grammar at the University of Ostrava, and from 2007 to 2010, she was employed as a lecturer at the Faculty of Arts of Masaryk University, where she taught Latin grammar and Late Latin, and at the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University, where she participated in teaching Latin courses for medical students. Since 2010, she has been employed as an assistant professor at the Institute of Classical Studies at Masaryk University in Brno.

J. Mikulová's research interests are primarily linguistic. In her academic work, she focuses on Latin grammar, with a particular emphasis on syntax and the development of the Latin language, especially Late Latin and further developments towards the early stages of Romance languages. In her dissertation, she focused on participles and the origins of verbal periphrases, which are widely used in Romance languages. In her subsequent professional work, she concentrated primarily on the methods of marking direct speech in classical and late authors, and on verbs that introduce direct speech in Latin literary texts from the classical period to the late Latin period. This is a complex issue that has not yet been sufficiently investigated in the field of Latin linguistics.

J. Mikulová has published twenty professional journal articles and studies, the majority of which are in foreign languages, and two-thirds of them have been published in prestigious journals in the fields of Latin and general linguistics, such as *Glotta*, *Indogermanische Forschungen*, *Journal of Historical Pragmatics*, *Emerita*. These publications are cited in the WoS and Scopus databases. In her work, she focuses primarily on particles, markers and functional expressions in Latin, as well as verbs that introduce direct speech, especially in late Latin texts. In 2022, the candidate expanded her oeuvre by adding her magnum opus, a specialist monograph entitled *Evolution of Direct Discourse Marking from Classical to Late Latin*, to these significant partial studies. This monograph was published by Brill, a leading publishing platform for Latin linguistics.

In her book, the candidate examines the evolution of the system of direct speech marking over the centuries, focusing on the selection of markers used, the dynamics of change, and the factors that may have played a key role in this development. The book provides a diachronic analysis of direct discourse markers and traces their development from the 1st century BC to the 8th century AD. J. Mikulová's book fills a significant gap in research, offering an innovative approach to the subject. The book has been very well received internationally, becoming a standard publication on the subject immediately after its release.

During her academic career, Jana Mikulová was the principal investigator of the GAČR research project entitled *Introduction of Direct Speech in Latin* GA-18-01878S (2018–2021), and the aforementioned habilitation thesis constitutes the primary publication output of the project, which was nominated for a GAČR president's award. She is currently a member of the OP JAK project team entitled 'A lifetime with language: the nature and ontogeny of linguistic communication' at FF MU (2025–2028). In addition to her role as a team member, she participated in the research project MSM 0021622435 Centre for Interdisciplinary Research of Ancient Languages and Older Stages of Modern Languages in 2007. Furthermore, she has engaged in collaborative endeavours on numerous projects pertaining to innovation in studies, as outlined below. J. Mikulová has also authored a considerable number of expert reviews.

J. Mikulová completed foreign internships at the Istituto Universitario Orientale in Naples (2002–2003) and at the University of Seville (2005). The international dimension of her work is also evidenced by her frequent participation in the most important international conferences in the field of Latin linguistics, which are held every two years: International Colloquium on Latin Linguistics and Latin vulgaire – latin tardif. Thanks to her internationally recognised and cited scientific work, she is considered a renowned specialist in our field.

Conclusion: The scientific/artistic qualifications of the applicant meet the standard requirements for applicants in habilitation procedures in the field of classical philology.

Conclusion: The applicant's scholarly/artistic capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a habilitation appointment procedure in the field of Classical Philology.

Evaluation of the applicant's pedagogical experience

Evaluation of the applicant's teaching competence

An important part of the candidate's professional work is also in the field of pedagogy. Jana Mikulová is not only an excellent and dedicated teacher, she teaches key language courses in undergraduate studies: basic courses in Latin morphology and syntax, and in master's studies she teaches a core course on the development of the Latin language. She is one of the highest-rated teachers at our institute in student evaluations. J. Mikulová is also the author of several important modern Latin textbooks, which have replaced the previously used and now outdated university textbooks. These are Basic Course in Latin I and II from 2013-2014. Her extensive university textbook, Syntax of Latin Subordinate Clauses from 2014 can be considered her most significant academic and pedagogical work. It represents a pioneering contribution to the study of Latin syntax within the Czech language context. The author introduces a modern model of language description to the Czech environment that takes into account the latest findings in linguistics, uses modern terminology, and is innovative in many ways.

J. Mikulová is also the author of a number of teaching aids in the form of e-learning courses and is the guarantor of a new bachelor's degree program Greek and Latin studies, which she prepared for accreditation. She supervises bachelor's and master's theses. She participated as a researcher in three projects for the innovation of teaching and study programs funded by MU in 2010-2013 and by the Ministry of Education in 2012-2015 and collaborated on a project for the preparation of competencies required of graduates of Latin teacher training OP JAK MUNI 4 PREGRA in 2024. She is also involved in organizing the project Further Education of Secondary School Teachers of Latin, in which she has given a number of lectures. Her activities are also aimed at popularizing the Latin language among the public. She is a member of the organizing team of Certamen Latinum, a nationwide competition in Latin for secondary school students.

Conclusion: The applicant's pedagogical competence meets the standard requirements for habilitation procedures in the field of classical philology.

Conclusion: The applicant's pedagogical capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a habilitation appointment procedure in the field of Classical Philology.

Habilitation thesis evaluation

Evaluation of the candidate's habilitation thesis

The habilitation committee has chosen three leading experts in the field of Latin linguistics as reviewers for the submitted habilitation thesis. The first is Prof. Paolo Poccetti from the Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata, the second is Prof. Giovanbattista Galdi from the Institute of Linguistics at Ghent University, and the third opponent is doc. Lucie Pultrová from the Institute of Greek and Latin Studies at Charles University.

All three reviews are very positive and recommend continuation of the habilitation procedure. All reviewers agreed that the candidate submitted a very well prepared and original work that meets the standard requirements for habilitation theses in the field of classical philology.

The submitted habilitation thesis, Evolution of Direct Discourse Marking from Classical to Late Latin, was published in 2022 by Brill.

From the reviewers' opinions I quote:

doc. Lucie Pultrová:

Jana Mikulová's habilitation thesis represents a significant contribution to the field of Latin linguistics on an international scale, as evidenced by its publication in the series The Language of Classical Literature by Brill. I consider J. Mikulová's monograph to be of very high quality and to successfully fulfil all the requirements for a habilitation thesis. The topic chosen by J. Mikulová has not yet been addressed in Latin linguistics, and her interpretation is clear and entirely convincing. ... I can confirm that J. Mikulová's work is already widely cited in conference papers by many foreign colleagues. I am convinced that this monograph will become one of the basic reference texts on the topic in international Latin linguistics for a long time to come.

prof. Giovanbattista Galdi:

The Habilitation thesis, entitled "Evolution of Direct Discourse Marking from Classical to Late Latin" by Jana Mikulová provides a thorough description and diachronic analysis of the choice and frequency of means for marking direct discourse (direct discourse markers), in a large corpus of Latin literary texts. This work supplies an important desideratum in scholarly research ... Most importantly, the results of the corpus-analysis, the subsequent discussion and the hypotheses formulated by the candidate are very convincing and make an important contribution to Latin linguistic research. Dr. Mikulová's work meets all the criteria required for high-quality academic research.

prof. Paolo Poccetti:

The book by J. Mikulová is highly original and represents a novelty, if not a desideratum, in the field of Latin linguistics. At first sight a direct discourse could seem to be of higher interest from a synchronic point of view than from a diachronic one. However, J. Mikulová clearly demonstrated that the strategies for marking a direct discourse undergo remarkable changes in the course of Latin history, that have considerable importance for the evolutionary perspective of both narrative patterns and of the language structures. In conclusion, the research made by J. Mikulová fills a gap in Latin linguistics concerning an important aspect common to the almost totality of literary genres. The work significantly contributes, from a synchronic point of view, to increase the competence of the strategies of the direct discourse in any Latin text and, from a diachronic point of view, to broaden the knowledge of the history of Latin language from a hitherto neglected perspective.

The board agrees with the reviewers that the thesis meets the requirements for habilitation theses.

Conclusion: the level of the candidate's habilitation thesis meets the standard requirements for habilitation theses in the field of classical philology.

Conclusion: The applicant's habilitation thesis **meets** the requirements expected of habilitation theses in the field of Classical Philology.

Secret vote results

Voting took place: electronically

Number of board members		5
Number of votes cast		5
of which	in favour	5
	against	0

Board decision

Based on the outcome of the secret vote and following an evaluation of the applicant's scholarly or artistic qualifications, pedagogical experience and habilitation thesis, the board hereby submits a proposal to the Scientific Board of the Faculty of Arts of Masaryk University to **appoint the applicant associate professor** of Classical Philology.

In Brno on 02.09.2025

prof. PhDr. Daniela Urbanová, Ph.D.