Technical writing at TUL

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Initial motivation: The diploma seminar outcomes

- Students typically cannot:
  - create the appropriate docs for their SW projects;
  - distinguish types of docs and their purpose;
  - write any useful type of docs.

A new subject: Docs writing

- Since 2019 - a new accreditation for Bachelors Informatics at FM TUL
- A new optional subject for 3rd grade (first round in summer 2022).

Main characteristics:

The subject is focused on documentation content, including help, manuals, work procedures description or the references. It introduces the elementary docs types, it explains how to create it and it demonstrates why it is useful to consider the docs content and structure.

The outline

1. The docs types

2. User needs and target groups

3. Structuring the docs

4. Content design

5. The secret of the brief manual

6. Charming reference manual

7. A really good work description

8. Correctly interlinked docs

9. Shortly about the technology and tools

The seminars focus on practising the main theory; all the students have to select their virtual or real projects and document them properly.

The outcome of their work is a set of different docs types.

The sources

- [Marc Achtelig: Technical Documentation Basics: How to Write That F***ing Manual - The essentials of technical writing in a nutshell](#)

  (The book is being translated to czech to have it ready for summer term ;)

- [William Zinsser: On Writing Well: The Classic Guide to Writing Nonfiction](#)
- [Lyn Dupré: Bugs in Writing](#)

And the Strunk's Elements of style and all the classics as well.

What do you think?

Any comments, notes, content modification, anything is welcome!

If anyone wants to give a practical lecture - you are also welcome!