

Undergraduate study programme – first cycle
THEOLOGICAL AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES
University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Theology

1. Information about the study programme

The first-cycle undergraduate study programme *Theological and Religious Studies* lasts three years (6 semesters) and includes 180 ECTS credits. Professional title acquired is Graduate of Theological and religious studies (UN).

The first-cycle undergraduate study programme Theological and religious studies is based on a wide spectrum of knowledge and methods from the fields of humanities, sociology, culture, theology and religion. Students are qualified not only for work within the field of church, but also in other fields, for example culture, public life and administration, economy, history and other types of services connected to working with people. Professional profile of graduates is wide and meets the requirements of the labour market in the field of humanities, which demands flexibility, ability of quick understanding of humanistic issues and high level of social competence. During more than 400-year tradition of theological studies in Slovenian history, graduates of these studies have not only been religious workers, but also important cultural, social, political, social work and economic initiators and leaders. Additionally, Theological and religious studies prepare the student for addressing the problems in the field of fundamental questions of human existence and culture.

The programme of Theological and religious studies has a limited scope and does not include theology in its full range, which characterises the five-year study programme, envisaged by international standards. This is the reason for naming the programme Theological studies, not Theology. As it includes courses which discuss the phenomenon of religion from humanistic and social sciences points of view, it is also named Religious studies. The above mentioned study programme is horizontally (partially) connected to Homogenous masters programme Theology and the first-cycle Undergraduate double major programme Theological Studies.

Graduates can continue the study on the second-cycle study programmes at the UL Faculty of Theology or with advanced study programmes.

2. Basic aims of the programme and general and subject-specific competence

The basic aim of the first-cycle undergraduate study programme Theological and religious studies is to obtain the first degree of theological professional competence: graduate of theological and religious studies (UN). This programme develops a profile which includes theoretical and methodological knowledge, the ability of putting this knowledge to practice, the ability of interdisciplinary thinking and spiritual and ethical stance. Programme aims are:

1. To deliver basic professional, theoretical knowledge from the fields of Christianity, other religious beliefs, cultural history and ethics and to train the student to address the mentioned topics in scientifically, theoretically, critically and methodologically appropriate manner.

2. To train the student to be able to transfer theoretical knowledge into practice – i.e. to use this knowledge at addressing the issues that these topics bring up with the individual, society or religious community, to distinguish between different cognitive and research methods, to prepare him for independent, initiative, responsible group management in the fields of theology and religion and for finding new sources of knowledge and applying new scientific methods and concepts.

3. To develop student's spiritual and ethical stance, which is assumed in the profile of the graduate of theological and religious studies (UN) (independent theological competence in the field of Church and its relations to the society; motivation for authentic life and professionally well-founded delivery of religious beliefs in a secular society; connecting theological topics with personal biographies and personal faith and life; readiness and ability to reflect on their own personality, practice and scientific work).

4. To train the student for interdisciplinary thinking and working. Since the phenomenon of religion is multifaceted, the programme of theological and religious studies is interdisciplinary: it is primarily humanistic, intertwining with other humanistic studies (history, philology, art etc.), but also reaching in the field of social sciences (psychology, sociology, pedagogy etc.). Humanistic study develops student's hermeneutic ability of understanding beliefs and religious tradition; the obtained knowledge of social sciences and methodology prepares them for analysing religious phenomena from sociological, psychological and pedagogical points of view.

Theoretical and professional knowledge passed on in the programme includes fundamental contents and contexts of Christian and general religious belief. The study begins with general portrayal of humanistic and philosophical, historical, cultural, psychological and sociological foundations and contexts of belief. Next, it focuses on characteristics of revelation in Christianity, belief and annunciation, and guidance from theological and ethical viewpoints. From introductory humanistic, philosophical and biblical topics it moves on to central theological and religious questions, which are presented through their own methodologies and interdisciplinary, too (from philosophical, historical, pedagogical, philological points of view etc.). Areas of knowledge included in the study are:

- Humanism and philosophy (sociological knowledge with emphasis on the role of religion in society; philosophical knowledge with emphasis on anthropology, ethics and philosophy of religion; psychological knowledge with emphasis on psychology of religion, personal development, learning and relationships in society, especially in the family; pedagogical knowledge of following, examining, assessing and applying humanistic, especially religious and ethical topics.
- Religiology (knowledge of theoretical religiology, of religions and religious phenomena in modern society, of world religions of Far East and Middle East, their mutual influence and their entering the European area).
- Bible (knowledge of the Bible and its canon, biblical tradition, Jewish culture, historical and theological background of creation and development of Biblical literary genres, of apocryphal literature, of the influence the Bible had on history).
- History (knowledge of the emergence of Christianity, early Christian period (patristics), the

ways of transferring Christian tradition and diffusion of Christianity into different cultures; knowledge of the history of Church in Slovenia, history of religious orders and knowledge of key figures in the history of theology and the Church, their work, influence and contribution to theology).

- Dogmatics and Ecclesiology (knowledge of Jesus Christ, one God in three persons, sacraments, revelation and Church, of the last things, of development and differentiation of theological teaching, of dialogue between Churches, of church structures and their relations to social structures).
- Moral and Law (knowledge of moral and legal implications of religious topics, basic concepts of ethics, moral and moral theology, of principles for assessing the problems from theological viewpoint, of application of moral norms in concrete decisions; knowledge of canon law and its connections with civil law; knowledge of political philosophy as the philosophical foundation of constitutional order and resultant legal forms with special emphasis on Slovenian and European Constitution).
- Liturgy and Spirituality (knowledge of historical forms, development and bearers of spirituality and liturgy, of man's spiritual relation to oneself, to other and to God, of modern forms of spirituality and reaction to them, of Christian art through centuries).
- Pastoral and Catechetics (knowledge of delivering a religious message, of theories and practice of upbringing and education as the basis for religious education in different circumstances and times, of basic concepts of didactics, methodology, teaching methods, means and aids, of belief as individual and communal phenomenon, of spiritual guidance of an individual and the community).

Competences attained throughout the study:

I. Instrumental and Applicative competence:

- hermeneutic, cognitive and theoretical competences (ability to independently and critically comprehend the basic social, cultural and religious phenomena in their historical contexts; to understand texts, their message and differences);
- methodological competence (usage of scientific literature and other scientific and professional tools, for example lexicons, the concordance etc.; ability to use sources and literature in foreign languages; application of basic methodological principles used in the humanities and social sciences);
- technical competence (ability to obtain, record, document, use and estimate sources of knowledge and information; to use information technologies, for example internet, CDs with professional content etc.; to use IT tools in communication media and at administrative work; to use audio-visual tools when speaking in public);
- language competence (mastering the language as a means of critical expression (oral and written); active and passive ability to argue in public and in media; ability to prepare and produce scientific texts).

II. Personal and Communicative competence:

- individual (ability to express beliefs and (self-)criticism, to take up spiritual–ethical stance, to learn and educate oneself; qualification for lifelong learning, for gaining and upgrading skills

in the field of humanities and the ability to direct their own professional development);

- social (social sentience and fitting response; to detect the needs of the environment (spiritual, social, cultural and political); ability to analyze situations; a good sense of group dynamics, cooperation and integration into collaborative working environment; sense of group work management in the fields of humanities and social sciences; sense of heterogeneity and homogeneity of different social groups; communicativeness and ability to coordinate different interests; qualification for different ways of passing on knowledge and competences).

III. Systemic and Synthesis-based:

- ability to synthesize (ability to establish a dialogue as basic way of coexistence in the modern world and to decide between different alternatives and realistic solutions; ability to connect understanding, knowledge and sentience in one whole on which the ability to make changes and improvements is founded on; ability to use the knowledge in practice, to learn, to adapt to new situations, to create new ideas, to guide, to understand cultures and traditions, to work independently, to be self-initiative and ambitious, to assure quality, have will to succeed).

3. Curriculum with ECTS credits and definition of the share of elective subjects in the programme

1st semester										
			Contact hours							
No.	Course unit		Lect.	Sem.	Tut.	Clinical tutorials	Other commit.	Indiv. work	Total hours	ECTS
1	Introduction to the Study of Theology		30	-	30			90	150	5
2	History of Philosophy I		45	-	15			90	150	5
3	Ethics		30		15			75	120	4
4	Church History I		45	-	15			90	150	5
5	Anthropology of Religion		15	10	5			60	90	3
6	Introduction to Psychology and Sociology of Religion		30	-	30			90	150	5
*	Elective course		15		15			60	90	3
TOTAL			210	10	125			555	900	30
SHARE			60,86	2,89	36,23					

2nd semester										
			Contact hours							
No.	Course unit		Lect.	Sem.	Tut.	Clinical tutorials	Other commit.	Indiv. work	Total hours	ECTS

7	Systems of Belief in the Light of Religious Analysis		30	-	30			90	150	5
8	History of Philosophy II		45	-	15			90	150	5
9	Church History II		45	-	15			90	150	5
10	Religious Epistemology		15	-	15			60	90	3
11	Introduction to the Old and New Testaments		30	10	20			90	150	5
12	Liturgy and Worship		20	15	10			75	120	4
*	Elective course		15		15			60	90	3
TOTAL			200	25	120			555	900	30
SHARE			57,97	7,24	34,78					

3rd semester										
			Contact hours							
No.	Course unit		Lect.	Sem.	Tut.	Clinical tutorials	Other commit.	Indiv. work	Total hours	ECTS
13	Antique Religions and Christianity		30	20	10			90	150	5
14	History of the Church in Slovenia		30	10	20			90	150	5
15	Fundamental Moral Theology		20	10	15			75	120	4
16	Exegesis of the Gospels		30	10	5			75	120	4
17	Religions of Modern World		30		30			90	150	5

18	Religions and Law		15		15			60	90	3
19	Exegesis of the Pentateuch		35		10			75	120	4
TOTAL			190	50	105			555	900	30
SHARE			55,07	14,49	30,43					

4th semester										
			Contact hours							
No.	Course unit		Lect.	Sem.	Tut.	Clinical tutorials	Other commit.	Individ. work	Total hours	ECTS
20	Marriage, Family, and Sexual Ethics		30		30			90	150	5
21	Philosophy of Religion		30	-	30			90	150	5
22	Exegesis of the Letters of Paul and Other Letters		50	10				90	150	5
23	Judaism, Christianity and Islam: Originality and Interconnection		30	-	30			90	150	5
24	Secret of One God in Three Persons		20	-	25			75	120	4
*	Elective course		15		15			60	90	3
*	Elective course		15		15			60	90	3
TOTAL			190	10	145			555	900	30
SHARE			55,07	2,89	42,02					

5th semester										
			Contact hours							
No.	Course unit		Lect.	Sem.	Tut.	Clinical tutorials	Other commit.	Individ. work	Total hours	ECTS
25	Theology of the Old Testament		30		30			90	150	5
26	Pedagogy of Religions and Catechetics		30	20	25			105	180	6
27	Christology		30		30			90	150	5
28	Religious Bioethics		15	5	10			60	90	3
29	Fundamental and Communitarian Pastoral Theology		35	15	25			105	180	6
*	Elective course		15		15			60	90	3
	Bachelors Thesis								60	2
TOTAL			155	40	135			510	900	30
SHARE			46,96	12,12	40,9					

6th semester										
			Contact hours							
No.	Course unit		Lect..	Sem.	Tut.	Clinical tutorials	Other commit.	Individ. work	Total hours	ECTS

30	Person in Creational Dimension and Dimension of Salvation		30	-	30			90	150	5
31	Constitutional Law of the Church		30	-	30			90	150	5
32	Religious Spirituality		30	-	30			90	150	5
33	Teachings of the Church		35	15	25			105	180	6
*	Elective Course		15		15			60	90	3
	Bachelors Thesis								180	6
TOTAL			140	15	130			435	900	30
SHARE			49,12	5,26	45,61					

Elective courses										
			Contact hours							
No.	Course unit		Lect.	Sem.	Tut.	Clinical tutorials	Other commit.	Individ. work	Total hours	ECTS
1	English Theological Terminology		15	15				60	90	3
2	Faith and Reason		15	15				60	90	3
3	Latin language I				30			60	90	3

4	Selected Topics from the History of the Church in Slovenia		15	5	10			60	90	3
5	Latin language II			30				60	90	3
6	Biblical Hermeneutics		15	15	-			60	90	3
7	Monotheism in the Past and Present		15	-	15			60	90	3
8	Philosophy of Education		15		15			60	90	3
9	Theory of Music and Gregorian Chant		15	15	-			60	90	3
10	Philosophy of Person		15	-	15			60	90	3
11	Phenomenology and Religion		10	20	20			60	90	3
12	Person and Society: Slovenians, Church and State		15	-	15			60	90	3
13	Selected Topics from the History of Religious Orders		15	-	15			60	90	3
14	Exegesis of Revelation and Jewish Apocalypics		15	-	15			60	90	3
15	Religions and Violence		15	-	15			60	90	3
16	Biblical Greek I		-	30	-			60	90	3
17	Christian Churches and Ecumenism		15	-	15			60	90	3
18	Christian Art		15	-	15			60	90	3
19	Psalms		15	-	15			60	90	3
20	Symbol and Sacrament		15	-	15			60	90	3
21	Biblical Greek II		-	30	-			60	90	3

22	Pastoral Ministry of Specific groups		15	10	5			60	90	3
23	Sacred Music at the Service of Liturgy		15	15	-			60	90	3
24	Hermeneutics of Christianity		15	-	15			60	90	3
25	Biblical Characters		15	-	15			60	90	3
26	Reformation in Europe and Slovenia		15	-	15			60	90	3
27	Spiritual Accompaniment		15	8	7			60	90	3
28	Impact of Indian and Chinese Religions on Western culture		15	-	15			60	90	3
29	Psychology of Religious Education		10	10	10			60	90	3
30	Church Property Law		30					60	90	3
31	Dialogue		30					60	90	3
32	Selected Issues in Bioethics		15		15			60	90	3
33	Hebrew		15	15	-			60	90	3
34	Elements of Liturgical Space		15	-	15			60	90	3
35	Exegesis of John's Gospel and Letters		15	-	15			60	90	3
36	New Religious and Church Movements		15	-	15			60	90	3
37	Biblical Archaeology and Geography		15	-	15			60	90	3
38	Ethics and Globalization		15		15			60	90	3
39	Philosophy and Mysticism		15		15			60	90	3

40	Christian Ethics in Inter-religious and Pluralistic World		15	15				60	90	3
41	Spirituality of Everyday Life, Occupational and Social Engagement		15	15				60	90	3
42	Theological Ethics and Sustainable Development		25		5			60	90	3
43	Psychology of Relations		15	15				60	90	3
44	Choral Singing			30				60	90	3
45	Political Philosophy and Politics		15	15				60	90	3
46	Tutoring			30				60	90	3

Share of elective subjects by years (ratio of ECTS credits obtained by the student from compulsory and elective components)

Year	Compulsory components	Elective components	Practical training	Thesis or dissertation
1 st year	90%	10%		
2 nd year	90%	10%		
3 rd year	77%	10%		13%
Total	85%	10%		5%

4. Conditions for enrolment and selection criteria in the case of limited enrolment

To enrol in the first year of study, the candidate has to satisfy one of the following conditions:

1. passed the matriculation exam in any secondary school programme;
2. passed the professional matriculation exam in any secondary school programme and the exam in one matriculation subject (the chosen subject must not be the same as the subject candidate took at the professional matriculation exam);
3. completed a four-year secondary school programme prior to 1. 6. 1995

In the case of limited enrolment, priority in the selection shall be given to:

Candidates who qualify under point 1 on the basis of:

- overall matriculation exam result: 60 % of points
- overall results in the 3rd and 4th year of secondary school: 40 % of points

Candidates who qualify under point 2 on the basis of:

- overall professional matriculation exam result: 40 % of points
- overall results in the 3rd and 4th year of secondary school: 40 % of points
- matriculation subject result: 20 % of points

Candidates who qualify under point 3 on the basis of:

- overall final exam result: 60 % of points
- overall results in the 3rd and 4th year of secondary school: 40 % of points

5. Criteria for recognising knowledge and skills obtained prior to enrolment in the programme

On the basis of »Rules on the procedure and criteria for recognising informally acquired knowledge and skills UL« student can file an application for recognising knowledge which was acquired informally. Knowledge which the student acquired through different forms of formal and informal education and which is suitable in content and scope to the educational content of courses in the enrolled study programme can be recognised as completed study requirement. The recognition of knowledge and skills acquired prior to enrolment is decided by the TEOF UL Committee for study affairs on the basis of student's written application, enclosed certificates and other documents of proof, which prove the successfully acquired knowledge. To evaluate knowledge with credits, both the content and scope of student's work have to be included in the documentation. As knowledge acquired outside of this study programme a maximum of 20 ECTS can be recognised.

6. Methods of assessment

For each course which the programmes set forth and carry out, the criteria and methods of assessing the knowledge or study results are given. When these do not meet the set goals, a process of adjustment is activated and it can be short-term and/or long-term. As the long-term

changes require renewal of accreditation, they are collected by the programme's coordinator so that the process of renewal unfolds more consistently. Students' workload is monitored via performance indicators in the sense of final results. In case they are insufficient, the Study committee together with lecturers and students checks the appropriateness of workload and proposes changes. These are annual-based, as this is the only way we can assess objectively and take appropriate measures. General and obligatory rules everyone needs to follow are announced every year together with lectures on the faculty's website.

The structure of the grade is, in compliance with the University examination regulations, stated for each subject. Consistency in students' knowledge assessment is also in the interest of student representatives in various bodies, especially in the Senate and Study committee. In the case of complication, Study committee determines the assessment where the commission is present and one member of the commission is always a student representative.

7. Conditions for progression through the programme

Progression to a higher year:

Student must collect 55 ECTS credits from first year to enrol in the second year; to enrol in the third year the student has to collect 55 ECTS from the second year and fulfil all study obligations from the first year.

Re-enrolment in the same study year and exceptional progression to a higher year

Student who has not met the criteria required for enrolment in a higher year has the possibility to repeat the year only once during the study period if he completed at least half of the responsibilities from the current year (30 ECTS); from the year previous to the one he is repeating, the student has to collect at least 57 ECTS.

Student loses his status when he: successfully completes the study; withdraws from the faculty; does not enrol in the next or the same study year during the study; is expelled from the University.

In other, extraordinary cases of progression to a higher year for objective, justifiable reasons (for example: motherhood, long-term illness, exceptional family and social circumstances, acquired status of a special needs student, active participation in top scientific, cultural and sport events, active participation in university bodies) the Commission for student affairs makes a decision on the basis of a written application by the student.

8. Conditions for transferring between the programmes

Along with the criteria for transferring between the programmes it is necessary to consider the Higher Education Act, which states that the candidates have to meet the criteria for enrolment in the first-cycle undergraduate study programme Theological and Religious Studies. Mobility between the programmes is set in accordance with the Statutes of the University of Ljubljana (Articles 181-189). Student can transfer to first-cycle undergraduate study programme Theological and religious studies if it is possible, according to the criteria for the recognition, to acknowledge at least half of the obligations arising from the European Transfer Credit System (ECTS) from the first study programme relating to obligatory subjects in the new study programme and, at the end of the study, ensuring acquisition of comparable competences. The

Faculty Senate, which decides on the application, may also set the candidate differential exams which he has to pass in the process of transfer. Transferring is not changing the programme of study or study field because of unfulfilled obligations in the previous study programme.

a) Transfer between the universities is set out in Article 189 of UL Statute:

- for the transfer to UL TEOF first-cycle undergraduate study programme Theological and religious studies, the candidate must satisfy the conditions for enrolment into a higher study year according to the study programme of the university of his enrolment;
- the UL TEOF Senate decides on meeting the criteria for transfer and determines possible differential exams and other obligations of the candidate as well as the study year that he may enrol in at Committee for student affairs' suggestion.

b) Between the different UL study programmes, the transfer to the first-cycle undergraduate study programme Theological and religious studies is, according to Article 183 of UL Statute, possible under the following conditions:

- if at least half of the obligations that the candidate has completed in the first study programme can be recognised at enrolment into the new study programme.
- the UL TEOF Senate decides on meeting the criteria for transfer and determines possible differential exams and other obligations of the candidate as well as the study year that he may enrol in at Committee for student affairs' suggestion.

9. Location and modes of study

Study programme is carried out by the Faculty of Theology in Ljubljana and by the Faculty of Theology's unit in Maribor.

Study is carried out as full-time and part-time study.

10. Conditions for completion of the course

To complete the study, the candidate has to fulfil all obligations defined in the programme. The total number of credits (180 ECTS) and successfully defend the graduation thesis (60,000 – 90,000 characters with spaces). Conditions for completion of study are defined in the Rules on study regulations at the Faculty of Theology, University of Ljubljana.

11. Professional title

Graduate of Theological and Religious Studies (UN).