

STUDY PROGRAMME INFORMATION – THEOLOGY (PhD)

Basic data

Programme name	Theology
Programme characteristics	
Type	Doctoral
Cycle	Third cycle
KLASIUS/SRV	Doctoral Education (Third Bologna cycle)/Doctorate of Science (Third Bologna cycle) (18202)
ISCED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Sciences (31) • Humanities (22)
KLASIUS-P	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theology (2211) • Psychotherapy (3112)
CLASSIUS-P-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religion and theology (0221)
Frascati	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Sciences (5) • Humanities (6)
SQF (SOK) Level	SQF (SOK) Level 10
EQF (EOK) Level	EQF (EOK) Level 8
EQ-EHEA (EOVK) Level	Third cycle
Fields/modules/orientations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No subdivision (study programme) • Theology (scientific field) • Marital and family therapy (scientific field)
Members of the University of Ljubljana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty of Theology, Poljanska 4, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia (100%)
Duration (years)	4
Number of ECTS per year	60
Mode of study	Full-time

Basic goals of the programme

The basic goals of the doctoral study programme Theology are:

- to enable applicants for first-class, independent, critical-reflexive, interdisciplinary and polyvalent research work, for development of new skills and methodologies, for solving the most abstract and complex issues through testing and improving the already known solutions and discovering new ones, and for interpretation of new skills;
- to qualify them for participation in the most complex scientific research projects in the field of the relevant professional science, for implementation of such projects and possible involvement in educational and research work at the academic level;
- to train them for the development of transfer of research achievements into practice, for counselling and mediation in the domain of the most demanding spiritual, ethical, (inter)religious, marital and family issues in the modern multicultural society;
- to train them for analysis/interpretation of mutual relationships between faith and the culture from theological, religiological, psychotherapeutical, socio-cultural and praxeological aspects;
- to direct them during methodologically complex preparation of an original contribution toward the progress of the relevant field of science, to enable them to verify the validity of their comprehension in the team within the scope of the programme and at international scientific meetings, and to encourage them to complete the work in the envisaged period and to publish the results of their research in scientific media.

BASIC PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES BY FIELDS

Theology

From the very beginning, the goal of Theology has been to find the starting points and foundations of human existence and to show and discover the fields of its development and application, with reason

and scientific accuracy playing an indispensable role. The ability to use original documents (knowledge of Hebrew, Greek and Latin), insight into the characteristics of individual historical periods and a sense of new conditions in which theology contributes a significant share to the formation of society and the individual are extremely important.

The aim of lectures, seminars, tutorials, consultations and individual, independent scientific work is to discover new fields of theological content and starting points for further research and for the current time of current answers and solutions. Doctoral students are trained for independent, scientific research, counselling and pedagogical work in the scientific fields of theology and marital and family therapy. The basic qualifications of the doctoral student are therefore science, the ability to use the acquired knowledge and interdisciplinarity.

The programme pays special attention to the expansion of theological knowledge in the field of religion/religions and their ethical implications. The emphasis is on interdisciplinary research of religious traditions in the context of a multicultural and multireligious society. It trains applicants for independent, critical research and discovering answers to the most difficult questions about the role of religions and ethics in the modern world.

The aim of the study of non-Christian religions from the point of view of theology is:

- to train applicants in interdisciplinary, scientific treatment of religious and ethical topics (the requirement for interdisciplinarity stems from the fact that religions are a multifaceted phenomenon.
- to train applicants to apply this knowledge, i.e. use it in resolving issues in this matter with individuals, in society and religious communities,
- to form a dialogical attitude in applicants,
- to expand the knowledge acquired in the First and Second cycle studies, with obligatory and elective professional courses.

These are the following fields:

- epistemology and methodology of religious sciences (their historical development, important authors and the interaction between the media and religion);
- religious phenomenon in its manifestations (symbols, myths and community, doctrines and their bearers, rites and their performers, legal and institutional religious systems, religious literature and art);
- non-European religions (religions of the Asian and African continents and their ethics);
- monotheisms (Judaism, Christianity, Islam; their interrelationships, dialogue and cooperation; their influence on the formation of civilizations);
- the relationship between religion and civilization (the confrontation of religion with secularism and modernity in Europe; the attitude of world religions towards respect for human rights and religious freedom; the role of religion as a factor in peace and/or conflict);
- the relationship between religion and art (especially religious and ethical experience in literature and the fine arts);
- religious ethics (ethical foundations of Western thought; ethics in the Bible; ethical core of world religions; social,

Marital and Family Therapy

The doctoral study in the field of marital and family therapy is intended to acquire in-depth knowledge in the field of family relationships, marital intimacy, family psychopathology and the life cycle of family and individual, and training for scientific research in relationships, problems and disorders in family and developmental, dynamic and psychopathological aspects of this issue. The study is based on the concept of an approach to the individual that is both integrative and interdisciplinary: it includes knowledge from various fields dealing with people, human development, his psychological, intellectual, emotional and spiritual dimensions, human relationships and their pathologies, systemic aspects and thus connects them into a whole in which these dimensions and characteristics gain special weight and significance. The system methodology, based on the relational theory of human emotional, physical and spiritual development, enables the research of the family in its intergenerational, interpersonal and intrapersonal dimensions, which go beyond the classical sociological and psychological scientific paradigms. On this basis, the study is focused on mastering and practicing scientific research in general and especially in the above-defined content field.

General competences

- **hermeneutic** (the ability to comprehend the selected research field and the manner of its integration into the broader area of humanities or social sciences; the ability to comprehend the most complex social, cultural and religious problems, their contexts, differences and relationships as well as contemporary plurality; the ability to comprehend religious and ethical texts and works of art, and their force of expression; dialogue as a way of approaching the truth together; alternatives and realistic solutions; comprehension of ethical and legal frameworks of research;
- **scientific theoretical-methodological**: the ability to perform independent, creative, scientific research work, formation of scientific hypotheses, analytical and synthetic holistic thinking, application and development of research methods; aptitude for top-class, theoretical-methodological, critical and self-critical consideration of an issue; the ability to acquire, record, document, apply and assess sources of knowledge and information; making use of scientific apparatus and the ability to develop the same; use of information technology;
- **social**: generous sense of humanistic values; aptitude for social feeling and reacting, sensing the needs of the environment, the ability to analyse situations, the ability for autonomy and self-initiative; a sense of group dynamics, participation and integration in group research in home and alien environment, the ability for team work direction in the domain of the humanities and social sciences; the ability for dialogue as the sole means of resolution of conflicts;
- **practical**: the ability for project-oriented, strategic thinking and independent performance, management and organization of research; the ability to apply the acquired hermeneutical
- **theoretical**: practical circumstances; aptitude for intercultural and interreligious mediation; participation in scientific application projects, coordination between different domains of humanities and social sciences;
- **communicative**: the ability to present scientific discoveries at a variety of levels (popular, professional, scientific) in different ways (through written, audio-visual and other media); the ability to use media dynamics in presenting humanistic contents; use of audio-visual means in public appearances; use of information tools in communication media; the ability to lead scientific-research teams; aptitude for coordinating differing interests and resolution of conflicts by means of argument.

Course-specific competences

Theology

The doctoral study of theology represents the first-class of the undergraduate and master's study of theology and training for competent scientific research work in this field. The breadth gained by the students at the Master's Degree is now supplemented with specific knowledge and competences, which they will upgrade with a doctoral thesis. Therefore, the study in the field of theology at the Third cycle prepares students for independent research, which will express their in-depth knowledge and consideration of specific hermeneutic principles, scientific methods and resources (which requires the ability to read originals). All this will be a solid foundation for connecting with other fields of scientific research, especially the humanities and social sciences. In particular, the study trains a comparative and innovative approach to issues in the field of interreligious dialogue and ecumenism.

Marital and Family Therapy

- to provide students with theoretical knowledge in the field of family and partnership relationships, parenting, intimacy, family and individual life cycle and family psychopathology
- to train students to understand the process of constructing theories and to critically evaluate and evaluate modern theories and models in marital and family therapy; to integrate clinical models in a theoretically consistent and empirically verifiable way;
- to train students for quality research work using qualitative and quantitative methodology; students will be trained in the efficient and appropriate use of state-of-the-art statistical and other process-therapeutic quantitative research methods; for the effective and appropriate use of qualitative methods in research fields in marital and family therapy; to understand and critically evaluate existing research literature; for planning and independently conducting research in the field of marital and family therapy.

Admission requirements

Enrolment in the doctoral study programme Theology is open to the following applicants:

- graduates of second cycle courses;
- graduates of previous study programmes for acquisition of university education, obtained before 11 June 2004;
- graduates of previous study programmes for acquisition of specialization, who had previously completed a professional programme at the university level and completed study obligations: prior to enrolment, they have to pass differential exams and gain 33 ECTS from the second cycle courses of Theology or 30 ECTS from the second cycle courses of Marital and Family Studies. Study obligations in the field of Theology include the following subjects: Liturgical Collaborators, Laymen in the Church, Sacramentality and the Mission of Christian Living, Hopeful Dimensions of Living, Wisdom Literature, Old Testament in the New Testament, Hot Topics in Church History, Anthropology with Ethics, Moral Theology with the social doctrine of the Church. Study obligations in the field of marital and family therapy include the following subjects: Mental health and psychopathology of the individual and the family,
- study programme for obtaining a Master's Degree in science or specialization after completing the study programme for obtaining a university degree. Applicants in the doctoral study programme are recognized for completed study obligations in the amount of at least 60 ECTS credits;
- study programme that educates for professions regulated by EU directives, or another Uniform Master's study programme valued at 300 ECTS credits.

Applicants for enrolment must submit the written consent of the mentor when applying for the competition.

Selection criteria when enrolment is restricted

If a resolution on limitation of enrolment is adopted, applicants will be selected according to:

1. achievement in the studies of Second cycle (average grade) – 45% of total points
2. diploma thesis or master's thesis grade - 5% of total points
3. grade in the Elective Subject - 50% of total points.

Up to 50% of the total points gained by a candidate with the grade in the Elective Subject (point 3) can be replaced by their scientific achievements and research work in the field of the study programme.

Criteria for the recognition of knowledge and skills acquired prior to enrolment in the programme

Knowledge, qualifications and competences which were acquired by applicants prior to enrolment in various forms of formal and informal education and which, in their contents and complexity, conform in full or in part to the general competences or competences specific for the relevant subject, as laid down by the study programme, shall be taken into consideration in recognition of the knowledge and skills deliverable in the course of the programme.

The procedure of recognition of informally acquired knowledge and skills is harmonized with the *Rules on procedure and criteria of informally acquired knowledge and skills*, adopted on 29 May 2007 by the Senate of the University of Ljubljana.

Students shall demonstrate their knowledge and skills acquired in various forms of formal and informal education and learning from experience (portfolio, projects, publications of author's works etc.) by presenting certificates and other evidence proving the substance and scope of work the students have invested.

Graduates of the previous study programmes for acquisition of the title of Master of Science or specialization in the relevant field after graduation from a study programme for acquisition of university education may be given recognition, in the present new doctoral study programme of Third cycle, for study obligations up to 90 ECTS. The forms of study to be recognized shall be determined, at the proposal of the coordinator, by the Doctoral Study Commission of the TEOF UL. In that event, students shall apply for the topic of a doctoral dissertation and submit a draft to the Doctoral Study Commission. Enrolment

in the third academic year shall be subject to an approval of the topic of a doctoral dissertation at the University of Ljubljana.

An application for recognition of informally acquired knowledge and skills shall include:

- certificates;
- other documents (various documents issued by the employer, which serve as evidence of experience, certificates of participation in seminars and trainings and similar);
- a portfolio in which applicants present their biography with data on education, employment and other experience and skills obtained in the past;
- other evidence (products, services, publications and other original works by applicants; projects, inventions, patents and similar).

The recognized knowledge, qualifications and competences may be considered as study obligations fulfilled within any part of the study programme. It is, however, imperative that both the substance and the scope of work invested by applicants are clearly evident, so as to enable evaluation by means of credit points. On the basis of individual documented applications by students, recognition and evaluation of knowledge, qualifications and competences obtained in such manner shall be decided upon by the Doctoral Study Commission at the proposal of the coordinator. In the course of the process, the Commission shall observe the Rules on procedure and criteria of informally acquired knowledge and skills, adopted on 29 May 2007 by the Senate of the University of Ljubljana, other provisions of the Statutes of the University of Ljubljana, and the rules of the Faculty of Theology of the University of Ljubljana.

Modes of assessment

Each course syllabus describes the method of testing knowledge and the conditions for completing the course. Completion of the programme requires completion of all anticipated obligations in all subjects. The presentation of the programme clearly states the expected competences and goals that students should achieve by the end of their studies.

In addition, higher education teachers are regularly educated in order to successfully implement the set objectives in the curriculum. Students can communicate their comments, wishes and suggestions regarding the ongoing review through the paper and the tutoring system. These are taken into account in the re-accreditation of study programmes.

The procedure for possible appeals against grades is determined by the Statute of the University of Ljubljana and the TEOF Rules, and last but not least by the Rules of the Study Order.

Programme progression requirements

Applicants may enrol in the Second Year of the study programme after completing the following obligations:

- examination – obligatory general subject;
- examination – obligatory field subject;
- examination – 2 elective field subjects (in the MFT field two elective field subjects are replaced by the second obligatory field subject);
- by 20th August, submission of the doctoral thesis topic, prepared under the guidance of the mentor;
- a successful public presentation of the doctoral thesis topic;
- a positive assessment of the report on individual study and research (in the report, applicants shall describe and substantiate the assignment of 30 ECTS (= 900 hours of research and study). The report shall be submitted to the Commission of Doctoral Studies by 20th August.

In order to enrol in the Second Year, applicants shall obtain 25 ECTS out of organized forms of work and justify 30 ECTS out of individual research and study.

Applicants may enrol in the Third Year of the study programme after completing the following obligations:

- all the obligations from the First Year;
- examination – 1 elective field subject;
- at least 5 ECTS obtained out of the elective general subject;

- 5 ECTS obtained out of the obligations in the form of publishing scientific texts and/or participation in conferences;-

a positive assessment of the doctoral thesis topic and its approval by the Senate of the Faculty of Theology (Commission for Monitoring Doctoral Students);

- a positive assessment of the report on individual study and research (in the report, applicants shall describe and substantiate the assignment of 35 ECTS (= 1050 hours of research and study). The report shall be submitted to the Commission of Doctoral Studies by 20th August.

In order to enrol in the Third Year, applicants shall fulfil all the obligations from the First Year, obtain at least 15 ECTS out of organized forms of work and justify 35 ECTS out of individual research and study in the Second Year.

Applicants may enrol in the Fourth Year of the study programme after having fulfilled the following obligations:

- all the obligations from the First and the Second Year;

- a positive assessment of the report on individual study and research (in the report, applicants shall describe and substantiate the assignment of 55 ECTS (= 1650 hours of research and study). The report shall be submitted to the Commission of Doctoral Studies by 20th August.

- a positive assessment of the doctoral thesis topic and its approval by the Senate of the University of Ljubljana.

In order to enrol in the Fourth Year, applicants shall fulfil all the obligations from the First and the Second Year and justify 55 ECTS out of individual research and study in the Third Year.

Transfers between study programmes

In accordance with the *Criteria Applicable to Transfers between Study Programmes* (Official Gazette of RS, No 45/94), the *Amendment of Criteria for Transfers between Study Programmes* (Official Gazette of RS, No 78/98) and the *Statutes of the University of Ljubljana*, a transfer between the programmes shall be deemed to be a cessation of education in the study programme in which the student has enrolled and a continuation of education in a doctoral Third cycle study programme in Theology, where all or at least a half of fulfilled obligations from the first programme are recognized as fulfilled in the second programme. This shall be subject to the following criteria:

- fulfilment of conditions for enrolment in the new study programme;

- number of available enrolment places;

- academic years or semesters in the previous study programme in the course of which the student completed all obligations and which may be recognized in full;

- minimum number of academic years or semesters which the student should pass in order to complete the studies in the new programme;

- examinations and other study obligations from the previous programme which may be recognized, and differential examinations and other study obligations which students shall additionally fulfil if they desire to complete their studies in the new programme.

Requests by applicants for transfer to doctoral studies shall be dealt with, on the authority of the Senate of the Faculty, by the Doctoral Study Commission in accordance with the statutes of the University of Ljubljana.

Requirements for the completion of studies

In order to complete the studies, applicants shall perform all the obligations laid down under the programme, both in the form of organized and non-organized forms of study and research, whereupon they shall successfully defend their doctoral dissertation. Pursuant to the resolution of the Senate of the University of Ljubljana (28th session of the Senate of the University of Ljubljana, 10 May 2005), the prerequisite for the completion of studies shall also be the publication of at least one scientific paper (with the applicant as the leading author) on the field of the doctoral dissertation (should the leading authorship not be possible, the mentor must duly state the relevance of the applicant's contribution). The scientific paper shall be published or be accepted for publication before the defence of the doctoral

dissertation. Thereby applicants shall fulfil all the obligations of the study programme credited with 240 ECTS.

A doctoral dissertation is the result of several years of research work. It must represent a scientific contribution in the selected field of science, which is positively assessed by the Doctoral Study Commission. The dissertation shall satisfy three main criteria: relevance of the chosen subject, mastery of the research methodology by the applicant and an original contribution to science.

Requirements for the completion of individual parts of the programme (if relevant)

The programme does not contain individual parts.

Qualification, professional or academic title (male)

- doktor znanosti (PhD - Doctor of Science)

Qualification, professional or academic title (female)

- doktorica znanosti (PhD - Doctor of Science)

Qualification, professional or artistic title (abbreviation)

- (Dr)