

The English version of the curriculum for the „Master of Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology“ is not legally binding and is for informational purposes only. The legal basis is regulated in the curriculum published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin on 13 February 2009, issue 24, No. 130 and 30 September 2009, issue 113, No. 432.

Decision of the Curriculum Commission of the Faculty of Catholic Theology taken on January 20, 2009, approved by the Senate on February 5, 2009

On the basis of § 25 para. 1 no. 10 University Organisation Act 2002, BGBl. I (Federal Law Gazette) No. 120, most recently amended by Federal Law BGBl. I (Federal Law Gazette) No. 134/2008 and § 32 Section "Regulations of Study Law", republished in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 3 February 2006, Issue 16, No. 90, most recently amended by the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 7 May 2008, Issue 42, No. 272, the following is decreed:

Curriculum for **Master of Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology of the University of Innsbruck**

§ 1 Qualification profile and programme objectives

- (1) The Master Programme of Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology serves the purpose of ensuring a philosophical education that builds on the Bachelor of Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology with regard to the basic religious questions of the human person.
- (2) The Master Programme of Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology provides students with a highly specialized knowledge of orientation with regard to an overall view of philosophical disciplines, to philosophy's interdisciplinary dialogue with other sciences and with special regard to the aim that philosophical thinking is to lead to reasonably founded and scientifically reflected convictions and to enable graduates to take critically reflected positions.
- (3) In accordance with these tasks and objectives the Master Programme of Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology provides a specialized education in philosophy that equally takes into account the most important traditional strands of philosophy and also representative contemporary positions; thus it can be viewed as the basis for innovative venues of thinking. Emphasis is laid on the core subjects Theoretical and Practical Philosophy, on a thorough analysis of the history of philosophy and on the analysis of the peculiarity of the rationality of systems of ideas and dialogue about such positions.
- (4) These contents and structures of the Master Programme of Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology also define its fields of application and the professional qualifications achieved. A combination with a theological programme, in particular with the Diploma of Catholic Theology, presents itself as an enriching possibility. Moreover the Master Degree also provides its own professional qualification in the sense of § 51 Abs. 2 Z 4 UG 2002 for occupations that require guidance and coordination of complex and unforeseen concepts of work or learning. Special emphasis is placed on key qualifications, such as highly specialized orientation knowledge, the special ability of critical analysis, and of plausible and academically responsible argumentation, also in the realms of society and culture, the media and politics. The graduated masters of Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology are eligible for tasks requiring higher and specialized qualifications in the realms of education, publication and administration, especially also in ecclesial organizations. The Master Programme provides opportunities for co-operations in interdisciplinary projects, for example those that deal with the basic foundations of particular sciences.

§ 2 Classification

The Master Programme of Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology is assigned to the group of theological study programmes.

§ 3 Duration of the programme

The Master Programme of Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology amounts to 120 ECTS-credits, which equals a duration of four semesters.

§ 4 Access requirements

- (1) Access requirements to the Master Programme of Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology are a bachelor degree in an appropriate subject or an equivalent course of studies in an accepted institution of postsecondary education in Austria or abroad.
- (2) The bachelor degree of Philosophy at the Theological Faculty of the University of Innsbruck is definitely a degree, as stated in paragraph 1.

§ 5 Types of courses and number of participants

- (1) **Lectures** (VO) teach by teacher presentation. The maximum number of participants is 126.
- (2) Courses with continuous performance assessment:
 1. **Lectures with exercises** (VU) are lectures which enhance active student participation. The maximum number of participants is 126.
 2. **Seminars** (SE) help to commonly acquire expertise in a thematically delineated subject matter and to introduce students to academic standards, communication and co-operation. To acquire a positive grade a seminar paper has to be submitted. The maximum number of participants is 20.
 3. **Co-operative Seminars** (SK) are interdisciplinary seminars that are conducted by a minimum of two teachers from different disciplines. The maximum number of participants is 20.
 4. **Courses** (KU) require students to prepare the subject matter largely on their own. However, some presence requirements or participation in online-elements are possible. The maximum number of participants is 25.
 5. **Research Seminars** (FO) focus on the joint elaboration of a scientific topic, on academic discussion, and on cooperation in groups. The maximum number of participants is 15.

§ 6 Admission procedures for the admission to courses with a limited number of participants

Students for whom a waiting period would amount to additional semesters of study time are granted priority in the admission process.

§ 7 Mandatory and Elective Modules

- (1) Mandatory Modules

The following mandatory modules amounting to 70 ECTS-credits have to be fulfilled:

1.	Mandatory Module: Theoretical Philosophy I	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	VO Central Systematic Questions of Theoretical Philosophy – interdisciplinary Interdisciplinary elaboration of important topics and problems of theoretical philosophy	2	4
b.	SE Key Texts of Theoretical Philosophy Readings about central questions of theoretical philosophy and their interdisciplinary discussion	2	4
c.	KU Theoretical Philosophy – Foundations and Applications Discussion on the applications of the foundations of theoretical philosophy	1	2
	Total	5	10
	Learning Objectives of the Module:		

	Specialized capability to solve problems of theoretical philosophy in order to develop new insights, especially for integrating current research approaches from different disciplines of theoretical philosophy.		
	Access Requirements: none		

2.	Mandatory Module: Practical Philosophy I	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	VO Central Systematic Questions of Practical Philosophy – interdisciplinary Interdisciplinary elaboration of important topics and problems of practical philosophy	2	4
b.	SE Key Texts of Practical Philosophy Readings about basic questions of practical philosophy and their interdisciplinary discussion	2	4
c.	KU Practical Philosophy – Foundations and Applications Discussion on the applications of the foundations of practical philosophy	1	2
	Total	5	10
Learning Objectives of the Module: Specialized capability to solve problems of practical philosophy in order to develop new insights, especially for integrating current research approaches from different disciplines of theoretical philosophy.			
Access Requirements: none			

3.	Mandatory Module: History of Philosophical Problems I	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	VU Selected Topics of the History of Philosophy – interdisciplinary Elaboration on topics from the history of philosophy that are relevant for several philosophical disciplines, in conjunction with independent contributions by the students	2	3.5
b.	SE Key Texts of the History of Philosophy Readings of original historical texts with special emphasis on their relevance for current philosophical discussions	2	4
	Total	4	7.5
Learning Objectives of the Module: Specialized capability to analyse and discuss the main topics and approaches in the history of philosophy and their importance for current systematic discussions			
Access Requirements: none			

4.	Mandatory Module: <i>Weltanschauung</i> and Dialogue: Philosophical and Theological Issues in Interdisciplinary Dialogue	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	VO The Rationality of Systems of Religious Ideas Analysis of the peculiarity of the rationality of systems of religious ideas; their comparison with and distinction from other types of rationality, e.g. the natural sciences	2	4
b.	VU The Praxis of Dialogue about Systems of Ideas Elaboration of the structure of dialogue about systems of ideas, with special regard to dialogue of persons with different systems of ideas; learning the praxis of a critical dialogue about systems of ideas;	2	3.5

	Total	4	7.5
	Learning Objectives of the Module: Ability to participate in a critical dialogue about systems of ideas, with special emphasis on understanding the peculiarity of the rationality of systems of ideas in general, and of systems of religious ideas in particular		
	Access Requirements: none		

5.	Mandatory Module: Gender-specific Aspects	SST	ECTS-credits
	PS Gender-specific Aspects in philosophical and theological disciplines General introduction to theories of gender; to gender-specific and feminist research in philosophical and theological disciplines; exemplified by alternating, selected disciplines;	2	2.5
	Total	2	2.5
	Learning Objectives of the Module: Awareness of and reflection on gender-specific aspects in the philosophical and theological disciplines		
	Access Requirements: none		

6.	Mandatory Module: Theoretical Philosophy II	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	SE Mastercourse Metaphysics – Philosophical Theology – Philosophy of Religion This seminar elaborates on central topics of metaphysics, philosophical theology and the philosophy of religion; these are presented and discussed with regard to the current state of philosophical research and analysed by the students themselves under the supervision of the teacher; special interest is placed on current questions (e.g. criticism of religion).	3	7.5
	Total	3	7.5
	Learning Objectives of the Module: Ability to academically analyse questions from metaphysics, philosophical theology and the philosophy of religion with special regard to the development of a critical awareness about contemporary problems within these disciplines, as well as at their intersections.		
	Access Requirements: none		

7.	Mandatory Module: Theoretical Philosophy III	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	SE Mastercourse Philosophical Anthropology Central topics of philosophical anthropology (classical and current) are elaborated, presented with respect to the current state of research, discussed and analysed by the students themselves under the supervision of the teacher; special interest is placed on the current debate about naturalism.	3	7.5
	Total	3	7.5
	Learning Objectives of the Module: Ability to academically analyse questions from philosophical anthropology with special regard to the development of a critical awareness about contemporary problems within this discipline, as well as its intersections with adjacent disciplines, e.g. empirical psychology.		

Access Requirements: none

8.	Mandatory Module: Theoretical Philosophy IV	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	SE Mastercourse Epistemology and Theory of Science Central topics from epistemology, the theory of science, and logic are elaborated, presented with respect to the current state of research, discussed and analysed by the students themselves under the supervision of the teacher; special interest is placed on interdisciplinary applications.	3	7.5
Total		3	7.5
Learning Objectives of the Module: Ability to academically analyse questions from epistemology, the theory of science, and logic with special regard to the development of a critical awareness about contemporary problems within these disciplines, as well as the intersections between them.			
Access Requirements: none			

9.	Mandatory Module: Practical Philosophy II	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	SE Mastercourse Ethics – Social and Political Philosophy Central topics from the main realms of practical philosophy (e.g. ethics, social, cultural, and political philosophy) are elaborated, presented with respect to the current state of research, discussed and analysed by the students themselves under the supervision of the teacher; special interest is placed on practical applications.	3	7.5
Total		3	7.5
Learning Objectives of the Module: Ability to academically analyse questions from ethics, social, and political philosophy with special regard to the development of a critical awareness about contemporary problems within these disciplines, as well as at their intersections.			
Access Requirements: none			

10.	Mandatory Module: Master Thesis Defense	SST	ECTS-credits
Master Thesis Defense			2.5
Total			2.5
Learning Objectives of the Module: Ability to present one's own master thesis, to defend its results and to respond to questions arising in discussion			
Access Requirements: positive grades in the Mandatory Modules 1 through 9, the Elective Modules, and the Master Thesis			

(2) Elective Modules

Elective modules amounting to 22.5 ECTS-credits have to be fulfilled: Depending on the subject orientation of the master thesis, one of the elective modules 1-3 has to be chosen; possible choices from elective modules 4-8 are either elective module 4, or elective modules 5 and 6, or elective modules 7 and 8.

1.	Elective Module: History of Philosophical Problems II	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	FO History of Philosophy – Selected Topics I Analysis and discussion of selected topics from the history of philosophy with regard to participants' first research results	2	4
b.	VU History of Philosophy – Selected Topics II Elaboration of the current state of research with respect to selected topics of the history of philosophy integrating participants' own contributions	2	3.5
Total		4	7.5
Learning Objectives of the Module: Ability to academically discuss selected topics from the history of philosophy, utilizing the results of most recent research with regard to developing one's master thesis			
Access Requirements: positive grade in Mandatory Module 3 (History of Philosophical Problems I)			

2.	Elective Module: Theoretical Philosophy V	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	FO Theoretical Philosophy – Selected Topics I Analysis and discussion of selected topics from theoretical philosophy with regard to participants' first research results	2	4
b.	VU Theoretical Philosophy – Selected Topics II Elaboration of the current state of research with respect to selected topics of theoretical philosophy integrating participants' own contributions	2	3.5
Total		4	7.5
Learning Objectives of the Module: Ability to academically discuss selected topics from theoretical philosophy, utilizing the results of most recent research with regard to developing one's master thesis			
Access Requirements: positive grade in Mandatory Module 1 (Theoretical Philosophy)			

3.	Elective Module: Practical Philosophy III	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	FO Practical Philosophy – Selected Topics I Analysis and discussion of selected topics from practical philosophy with regard to participants' first research results	2	4
b.	VU Practical Philosophy – Selected Topics II Elaboration of the current state of research with respect to selected topics from practical philosophy integrating participants' own contributions	2	3.5
Total		4	7.5
Learning Objectives of the Module: Ability to academically discuss selected topics from practical philosophy, utilizing the results of most recent research with regard to developing one's master thesis			
Access Requirements: positive grade in Mandatory Module 2 (Practical Philosophy)			

4.	Elective Module: Biblical Languages	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	VO Biblical Greek I The most important foundations (vocabulary, grammar) for translating	4	5

	texts of low and medium difficulty from Greek into German; important historical, literary, and cultural facts mediated through texts.		
b.	VO Biblical Greek II Consolidation and extension of knowledge in Greek vocabulary and grammar; translation of exemplary biblical texts and selected historical, literary, and philosophical texts from antiquity	4	5
c.	VO Biblical Hebrew I Foundations of the script of the Hebrew Bible; reading and writing words and texts in Hebrew in the Masoretic script (consonant-based text with vocalisations, basic knowledge of accentuation); theoretical and practical elements of Hebrew (frequent biblical words and idioms)	1	2
d.	VO Biblical Hebrew II Overview of Hebrew grammar: syntax, basic paradigm of the forms of verbs and nouns (irregular verb in all forms, overview of the most frequent regular forms, nouns, personal pronouns, particles); problems of translation	2	3
	Total	11	15
Learning Objectives of the Module: Knowledge of the linguistic fundamentals (vocabulary and grammar) to translate biblical texts of low and medium difficulty, resp. historical, literary and philosophical texts of antiquity from Greek to German; basic knowledge of important historical, literary, and cultural facts mediated through texts; basic knowledge of Hebrew script and language; the ability to translate a simple biblical text with the appropriate aid into German			
Access Requirements: none			

5.	Elective Module: Methods of Guiding	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	VO Guiding in an Ecclesial Context Guiding in an ecclesial context in connection with and distinction from usual concepts of guidance; critical theological and gender-sensitive foundation of ecclesial guiding	1	1
b.	SE Guiding in Processes of Education and Pastoral Care Theory and praxis of guiding in concrete contexts of education and/or ministry from the perspective of a theologically grounded criteriology	2	3.5
c.	SE Methods and Media in Processes of Education and Pastoral Care Introduction to important methods and media; acquisition of competency in implementing methods and using media; criteriology for an appropriate and purpose-guided usage of methods and media	2	3
	Total	5	7.5
Learning Objectives of the Module: Basic insights and abilities for guiding in an ecclesial context (leadership competency, participation, vision, motivation, roles, charisms, office/appointment) and for methodical action in this respect			
Access Requirements: none			

6.	Elective Module: Didactics of Religion: Special Issues	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	SK Cooperative Didactics of Religion Thematic foundations and criteria for acting in a didactically responsible	2	3.5

	way in theological contexts, conducted in cooperation with a teacher from a second theological or philosophical discipline		
b.	SE Project Development Application of the thematic foundations and criteria for acting in a didactically responsible way in theological contexts in the concrete context of religious education at school, parish catechesis, counselling, adult education, and development of one's own project	2	4
	Total	4	7.5
	Learning Objectives of the Module: Introduction to the connection between practical-theological thinking and acting and the theories of other theological and philosophical disciplines with respect to planning and guiding processes of education		
	Access Requirements: none		

7.	Elective Module: Systematic Theology	SST	ECTS-credits
a.	VO Dogmatic Theology I: Christ in Dispute on Salvation and Truth History of the dogmatic development of Christology and Soteriology, as well as the Doctrine of the Trinity; development of a paradigm for a Christian approach to the contemporary pluralistic culture; in addition to the lecture, students are required to study important doctrinal documents and selected "Christological classics" on their own	2	4
b.	VO Fundamental Theology I (Religion): Humanity Before the Mystery of God Definition of the subject; centre of the Christian faith; contexts and <i>loci</i> of theology; basic concepts of a theological analysis of the present times; religion as an academic topic, the relation of academic disciplines to theology; the human person before the question of God: typology and epistemology of experiencing God; the human person as hearer of the word; the idea of a universal saviour in the face of suffering and evil	1	2
c.	VO Moral Theology: Foundations of Moral Theology Human relatedness to transcendence; Jesus' words and deeds as foundation of moral agency in a pluralistic social context; development of a Christian anthropology with regard to the results of the positive sciences	2	4
d.	VO Fundamental Theology: Theology of Religions Doctrinal development since the second Vatican Council; religions as a topic of Scripture; approaches to the theology of religions and their models; religious dialogue and missionary activity	1	2
e.	SE Moral Theology: Applied Moral Theology (Ethics of Life) Integral theology of life based on its dignity, as understood by the second Vatican Council in <i>Gaudium et Spes</i> : protection of emerging life, acceptance of life with handicaps, suffering, and illness; divine promise of salvation and the questions of the meaning of life; dying as an integral part of life	2	3
	Total	8	15
	Learning Objectives of the Module: Knowledge of the soteriological significance of the person of Jesus Christ; of human transcendence in its formation from God and its cultural and social forms as a foundation for redeemed living and acting in the discipleship of Christ		
	Access Requirements: none		

§ 8 Master Thesis

- (1) The Master Thesis is to document the ability to independently work on a philosophical topic in a methodologically and thematically responsible way.
- (2) The topic of the Master Thesis has to be thematically connected to one of the Mandatory Modules 1 through 9 of this curriculum. When registering the Master Thesis, the choice one of the Elective Modules 1, 2, or 3 has to be declared.

Die Master Thesis amounts to a workload of 27.5 ECTS-credits.

- (3) The Master Thesis has to be submitted in written form and in an electronic form to be determined by the Dean of Studies.

§ 9 Examination regulations

- (1) Each module is completed by the positive grading of each of the courses within the module.
- (2) In the case of exams of lectures, the teacher has to determine and announce the method of the examination (oral or written) before the start of the lecture series.
- (3) In courses with continuous performance assessment, the criteria of examination, which have to include a written paper, have to be determined and announced by the teacher before the start of the course.
- (4) The final Defense of the Master Thesis takes 30 minutes per student. It is an oral examination to be graded by the reviewer of the Master Thesis.

§ 10 Academic Degree

The graduates of the Master of Philosophy at the Faculty of Catholic Theology Programme receive the degree „Master of Philosophy“, abbreviated „M.phil.“.

§ 11 Coming into force

This curriculum comes into force on October 1, 2009.

For the Curriculum-Commission:
Univ.-Prof. DDr. Gerhard Leibold

For the University Senate:
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Ivo Hajnal