

Note:

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Curriculum for the Continuing Education Programme:
University Continuing Education Programme “Pastoral Ministry”
at the Faculty of Catholic Theology at the University of Innsbruck

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§ 1 Qualification profile

- (1) The continuing education programme aims at the experience-based and scientifically reflected acquisition of basic skills in church pastoral care.
- (2) Graduates of the continuing education programme acquire the following competences in this context, which they can combine in their own professional practice in various fields of church activity:
 1. personal competences of critical self-reflection in the context of different pastoral practice dimensions;
 2. social competences in intersubjective contact with different actors and heterogeneous pastoral practical experiences in the own spiritual life;
 3. theological competence in developing a contextually rooted practical theology with those locally involved;
 4. methodological competence in professional pastoral work according to the requirements of the respective place of practice;
 5. institutional competence to act independently within the system logic of church organisational structures.

§ 2 Scope, duration and structure

- (1) The university continuing education programme covers 60 ECTS-Credits or 19 semester hours respectively. One ECTS-Credit corresponds to a workload of 25 hours.
- (2) The university continuing education programme extends over two semesters and is carried out in close cooperation with the dioceses from which the participants come.
- (3) The Practice (§ 5) covering 26 ECTS-Credits or 650 hours is an integral part of the continuing education programme.
- (4) The organisation of the cooperation between the Director of the university continuing education programme and the participating dioceses shall be regulated in a separate cooperation agreement.

§ 3 Admission and admission procedure

- (1) Persons who have completed theological studies at a recognised domestic or foreign post-secondary educational institution amounting to at least 180 ECTS-Credits may be admitted to the university continuing education programme.
- (2) Moreover, persons may be admitted to the university continuing education programme, who
 1. have an academic degree (at least bachelor's level and at least 180 ECTS-Credits) in a pedagogical, cultural, social studies or related field and
 2. have completed theological training at least to the extent of and with the content offered in the "Theologischer Fernkurs" in Vienna or the "Brixner Theologischen Kurse" or comparable training programmes and
 3. can provide evidence of at least three years' employment in a pastoral field for an average of at least 15 hours per week. In the event of a minor deviation, the Programme Director may authorise admission. Admission to the university continuing education programme requires the allocation of a practical placement by the dioceses.
- (3) The application for admission must be submitted to the Director of the university continuing education programme at the University of Innsbruck. The application must be accompanied by a letter of motivation. The Director of the university continuing education programme shall examine the fulfilment of the admission requirements pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3 and decide on admission, taking into account the letter of motivation and depending on the number of places available. Participants who have been accepted onto the university continuing education programme are admitted as non-degree students by the Rectorate.
- (4) Current information on the compulsory selection procedure can be found on the website of the University of Innsbruck.

§ 4 Types of courses

- (1) Courses with continuous performance evaluation:
- (2) Working groups (AG) serve to treat a topic in a collective fashion, examining the theories, methods and techniques of an area using group work. Maximum number of participants: 20
- (3) Courses without continuous performance evaluation:
Lectures (VO) are courses held in lecture format. They introduce the research areas, methods and schools of thought for a given subject. Maximum number of participants: none

§ 5 Practice

The Pastoral Practice totalling 26 ECTS-Credits or 650 hours serves to test and apply the knowledge and skills acquired and to provide orientation on the conditions of professional practice and the acquisition of additional qualifications. The scope, content and successful completion of the Practice are certified by a practice supervisor, who is appointed individually by the Director of the university continuing education programme after consultation with the respective participants and in agreement with the participating dioceses.

§ 6 Compulsory modules

The following compulsory modules covering 27 ECTS-Credits are to be passed:

1.	Compulsory Module: Introduction to the Pastoral Ministry	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO General Introduction	1	2
b.	AG Supervision in Small Regional Groups	1	1
c.	AG Spiritual Supervision	1	1
d.	AG Final Reflection on Experiences Made During the Pastoral Ministry Year	1	2
	Total	4	6

	<p>Learning Outcomes: Students can describe the pedagogical and pastoral-theological approach of the pastoral ministry year, can recognise its relevance with regard to their respective places of work and are able to initiate and evaluate independent learning steps. They are able to reflect on their experiences gained during the pastoral ministry year from a biographical-contextual and theological-scientific perspective.</p>
	Prerequisite/s: none

2.	Compulsory Module: Challenges of Pastoral Ministry	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Introduction to the Perception Phase	1	1
b.	AG Perception of Pastoral Challenges at the Place of Practice	1	2
c.	AG Presentation of Perceptions and Development of Theological Topics for Further Problem-Oriented Work	2	2
	Total	4	5
	<p>Learning Outcomes: Students are able to recognise pastoral challenges in their respective practice, collect and analyse their initial perceptions there and independently explain the status of their considerations to others in the form of a presentation. They can develop theological topics from the perceptions presented that are relevant for problem-orientated further work in the other modules.</p>		
	Prerequisite/s: none		

3.	Compulsory Module: Pastoral Project	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Introduction to Project Work	1	1
b.	AG Conception and Realisation of a Pastoral Project	1	2
c.	AG Reflection and Evaluation of a Pastoral Project	1	1
d.	Specialist Coaching for the Final Paper	1	2
	Total	4	6
	<p>Learning Outcomes: Students are able to design, realise and evaluate the implementation of an independent, time-limited pastoral project based on the perceptions presented at their respective place of practice. They are able to present and reflect on this project independently in a written paper that meets the requirements of good scientific practice. They can apply suitable research methods, independently research and synthesise the relevant literature on this subject area and further develop the drafts of their work in collaborative discussion.</p>		
	Prerequisite/s: none		

4.	Compulsory Module: Structure and Person	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Introduction to Pastoral Framework Conditions of the Present	1	2
b.	VO Spirituality and Lifestyle of Pastoral Professions	1	2
c.	VO Legal Framework for Pastors	1	1
	Total	3	5

	<p>Learning Outcomes: Students are able to describe and evaluate the structural and legal framework conditions of pastoral care in the current transformation crisis of the Church and draw their own conclusions for dealing with them constructively. They are able to explain the spiritual foundations of a spirituality of pastoral care that enables a lifestyle of pastoral vocations that fulfils all those involved. In particular, they are able to recognise and evaluate gender-specific aspects of pastoral work.</p>
	<p>Prerequisite/s: none</p>

5.	Compulsory Module: Basic Dimensions of Pastoral Care	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Koinonia	1	1
b.	VO Liturgia	1	1.5
c.	VO Martyria	1	1.5
d.	VO Diakonia	1	1
	Total	4	5
	<p>Learning Outcomes: Students are able to describe theological topics related to the basic ecclesial dimensions of koinonia (community), liturgia (worship), diakonia (human service) and martyria (proclamation) in theological depth and explain their relevance for pastoral action.</p>		
	<p>Prerequisite/s: none</p>		

§ 7 Final paper

- (1) The final paper serves to demonstrate the ability to critically perceive current challenges in pastoral work (presentation of perceptions at the place of practice), to independently carry out and scientifically evaluate a pastoral project (presentation of the practical project) and to be able to summarise one's own learning process (reflection on the basis of a learning diary). The final paper covers 7 ECTS-Credits.
- (2) The academic supervision of the final papers is carried out by the Director of the university continuing education programme, supported by the members of the teaching staff.

§ 8 Examination regulations

- (1) The performance of compulsory modules 1 – 3 is evaluated by course examinations. Course examinations serve to proof the knowledge and skills imparted in a single course, whereby
 1. in the case of courses without continuous performance evaluation, the evaluation is based on a single examination at the end of the course.

2. in the case of courses with continuous performance evaluation, the evaluation is based on at least two written, oral and/or practical contributions of the participants.
- (2) For compulsory modules 1, lit. b. to d., positive evaluation reads “participated with success”, negative evaluation “participated without success”.
 - (3) The assessment of performance in compulsory modules 4 and 5 shall take the form of oral module examinations before an examination board consisting of at least three persons to be determined by the Director of the university continuing education programme.
 - (4) The Practice (§ 5) is evaluated by the Director of the university continuing education programme based on a certificate issued by the supervisor of the Practice. Positive evaluation must read “participated with success”, negative evaluation “participated without success”.
 - (5) The final paper is evaluated by the Director of the university continuing education programme.
 - (6) The course instructor shall determine and announce the method of performance assessment and the assessment criteria before the start of the university continuing education programme.

§ 9 Designation for graduates of the university continuing education programme

Graduates of the continuing education programme will receive the designation “Academic Expert for Pastoral Work”.

§ 10 Coming into force

This curriculum comes into force on the first day following its publication in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin.

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