

FACULTY CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

DOCTORAL DEGREE IN CATHOLIC THEOLOGY / PhD in THEOLOGICAL STUDIES (CATHOLIC)

(Based on the approval of the *Doctoral Studies Committee* of 2 December 2024)

ACADEMIC PREREQUISITES according to the CURRICULUM

(= 20 ECTS, freely negotiable, of which 10–12 ECTS¹ should be from **I** and 8–10 ECTS from **II**)

I: SPECIALIZATION IN THE DISSERTATION / THEOLOGICAL MINOR DISCIPLINE

1. DP-relevant (Research) Seminars in the discipline of the dissertation project (**DP**) (max. 12 ECTS¹)
2. DP-relevant (Research) Seminars in the theological minor discipline (for Dr.theol.) (max. 6 ECTS)

II: PARTICIPATION IN ACADEMIC AND / OR TEACHING ACTIVITIES

3. Academic publications (max. 8 ECTS)
 - Review of an academic publication (2–3 ECTS)
 - Article in an academic journal or anthology (2–4 ECTS)
 - (Co-)editing of an anthology (max. 4 ECTS)[Valuation depending on realistic assessment of workload and the supervisor's proposal]
4. International congresses (documentation through confirmation of participation) (max. 6 ECTS)
 - Participation in such a conference (one day 1 ECTS / several days 2 ECTS)
 - Participation and presentation of the DP or a lecture (max. 4 ECTS)
 - Keynote lecture (4–5 ECTS)
5. Participation in VDTR activities (documentation by VDTR) (max. 8 ECTS)
 - Participation & moderation or reflection at the *Open Research Day* (1 ECTS)
 - Participation & presentation at the *Open Research Day* (2 ECTS)
 - Participation & moderation or reflection at the *Master Class* (2 ECTS)
 - Participation & presentation at the *Master Class* (2–3 ECTS)
 - Peer Activities, Lecture Series, Workshops, presentation of the exposé or partial results of the DP at the VDTR Doctoral Workshop, etc. (1–3 ECTS)[Valuation depending on realistic assessment of workload by VDTR]
6. Participation in a tutorial for training in academic writing (in cooperation with the VDTR) (1 ECTS)
7. Seminars offered specifically for doctoral students (e.g. “Issues and Topics of Current Theological Research”, “Biography and Theology”) (5–6 ECTS)
8. Active participation in *BeST Vienna* as a stand advisor (1 ECTS)
9. Independent teaching or relevant contribution to a course or completion of a seminar/course in university teaching didactics (max. 6 ECTS).
[Valuation depending on realistic assessment of workload]

The fulfillment of these requirements is monitored by the DSPL with respect to the issuing of the credits, after the FÖP, but especially according to the *Doctoral Thesis Agreement* (DA).

The aim of the DP is at least one **academic publication**.

If there is no commitment from any publisher to publish the dissertation, its **online accessibility** should be guaranteed in any case.

Examination Pass: The Examination Pass must be completed in accordance with this guideline to the extent of 20 ECTS that are to be used to fulfill the degree program. More than 20 ECTS are not provided for in the curriculum and are therefore not to be listed in the Examination Pass. The approved Examination Pass is a prerequisite for registering for the final examination.

The submission of a list of achievements (*Transcript of Records*) attached to the *Annual Progress Report* **is no longer required with immediate effect!**

Effective date: This regulation applies retroactively². Examination Passes that have already been approved remain valid.

¹ In justified cases, the DSPL can also recognize **more** ECTS from section **I**.

² Regardless of the regulations for those admitted before 1 October 2019 with a DA (in the “former” doctoral curriculum).

CONDUCT OF REQUIREMENTS in conjunction with the STUDY ADMISSION

(especially important for the **supervisor**)

As a rule: The curriculum generally requires 20 ECTS for both doctoral studies and PhD studies.

Requirements for Doctoral Degree in Catholic Theology: Up to 30 ECTS in the absence of a Licentiate in theology (= non-changeable requirement based on relevant church regulations in conjunction with a canonical doctoral degree).

Requirements for PhD in Theological Studies: Depending on previous theological education, from 0 to 60 ECTS.

Normative requirement for the Doctoral Degree in Catholic Theology:

If the classical theological qualifications / basic education from a (state) university (MTS, DTS, Mag.theol., Dipl.theol. or equivalent) with 300 ECTS in Catholic Theology and a diploma/Master thesis from a discipline of the theological canon as preparation for admission to the doctoral program, requirements of 18–24 ECTS are usually necessary.

Normative requirement for the PhD program in *Theological Studies* (Catholic): Requirements only in the case of a completed degree program (Master's/Diploma program) which is not related to the discipline of the doctoral project (**DP**).

For the admission of interdisciplinary projects without any basic theological studies, the previous regulation remains in effect (see appendix).

SUPPLEMENTARY ACHIEVEMENTS VIA NOTICE OF ADMISSION (from the doctoral center) (= up to 30 ECTS)

- **Credit of “surpluses” from previous theological studies:** Courses in the discipline of the DP can receive full credit.
 - **DP-relevant requirements:** In the case of academic theses (Diploma, Master's Degree) in another theological discipline, 2–4 (research) seminars in the discipline of the DP must be attended – in consultation with the supervisor.
 - **DP-supporting requirements:** If required, existing or newly designed courses for doctoral candidates (Doctoral Workshop; tutorial “Practice of Academic Work”).
- In consultation with the supervisor, the DSPL determines in the Notice of Requirements **which requirements must be fulfilled before (!) the faculty public presentation (FÖP)** of the DP (= necessarily including requirements relevant to the DP).

NB: Admission requirements (= “supplementary examinations”) are not part of the doctoral program/doctoral curriculum and therefore do not appear on the degree certificate! They must be fulfilled in addition to the coursework required by the curriculum.

DSPL = (Vice) Director of the Doctoral Studies Program.

DP = Dissertation Project.