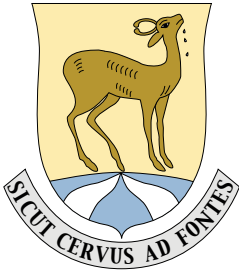




MASTER of SACRED THEOLOGY (STM)

“Sicut cervus ad Fontes ...”



“ As the deer yearns for running streams,
so my soul thirsts for you, O God! When
shall I come to see the Face of God?”

Psalm 42

The International Theological Institute - Catholic School of Theology (ITI) takes as its motto the above words from Psalm 42. *Sicut cervus ad fontes*. As the deer yearns for running streams, so do we thirst for the “living waters that shall never run dry” (Jn. 4: 14), and hunger for the “truth that sets us free” (Jn. 8: 32). At ITI we understand the sacred science of theology to be a discipline undertaken in response to this thirst, a longing for wisdom and truth. This water that quenches and the truth that liberates is found in the God-man Jesus Christ, the one “in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Col. 2: 3). As our Grand Chancellor, Christoph Cardinal Schönborn,

has said, “the passion in theology has to be to know Christ Himself, to approach His mystery, to approach Christ Jesus”.

The ITI’s Master in Sacred Theology degree program (*Sacrae Theologiae Magister*, STM) is designed to draw students into this treasure of wisdom of knowledge. Receiving the divine truths humbly, we seek to make them the center of our life and thought, through disciplined study of the word of God and its classic exponents, in a context of vigorous discussion and, above all, prayer. “Theology is sound only if it is a praying theology” (Christoph Cardinal Schönborn).

Theology ever Ancient and ever New: Formation for the New Evangelization



As a pursuit which seeks contact with the living God, the study of theology is not, first and foremost, a means to some further end. The Fathers and Doctors of the Church even regard it as a partial foretaste, limited but precious, of the beatific vision, the ultimate end and fulfilment of man. For this reason, our courses in the STM program are not designed in response to current fashions or particular careers, but rather according to perennial truths, in a sequence determined by their inner relationships. To speak of perennial truths is to speak of truths which out of their very profundity are alive and brimming *with relevance for all times*, in all places including our own time. While certain degree programs focus upon particular questions or problems of contemporary society, the basic orientation towards the

divine truth loved and known for its own sake is the guiding principle of the STM.

Therefore, foregoing premature specialization, our STM program seeks to unfold theology out of its inner unity, in conformity with its essence as a scientific reflection on the faith of the Church. The courses are ordered around the central mysteries of the faith—the Trinity, the Incarnation, grace, justification, the Church, etc.—and all particular questions are addressed in the light of these central mysteries. Because of this, the ITI is able to provide an urgently needed solid and deep theological formation for Catholic leaders, lay and clergy, to achieve critical judgment in our culture and the capacity to contribute to the new evangelization.

The Pedagogical Principles of the ITI: “Ad Fontes” – The Study of Primary Sources

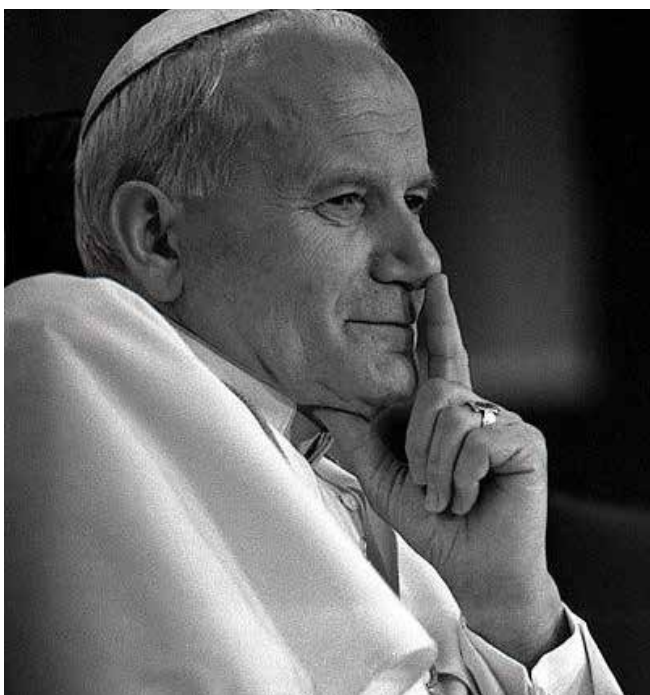
The curriculum has its point of departure in the primary sources (“*ad fontes*”) written by the great masters of the theological tradition, from the Fathers of the Church to the present age. Texts have been carefully selected from the greatest authors and saints of both the East and West, seeking in this way to, as our founder St John Paul II put it, “breathe with both lungs of the Church.” The Greek Fathers and St. Thomas Aquinas are particularly important points of reference. Encountering the original texts of the great masters promotes a breadth of vision, depth of reflection and, perhaps most importantly, an eye for quality.



“Back to the masters! It is so sad to lose time with secondary authors. Read St. Irenaeus, read St. Anselm, read the Church Fathers, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Bonaventure. ... It is much better to have read, during theological formation, the Confessions of St. Augustine, rather than a book about Augustine. One who has acquired the taste of a great master will be able to discern what is good food, and what is fast food.”

Christoph Cardinal Schönborn

The voices of the masters are not dead voices; the sources have not run dry. The great masters of theology bring the flowing source of life into sight and into the heart for those willing to converse with them, to walk with them, to pray with them. Looking to the voices of the past finds its completion in bringing these voices into the present conversation. By studying the great masters of the past we will discover welling up within us an intense and passionate concern for our contemporary problems, a love that impels us to take our place in the present day renewal of the Church and the world.



“The words of the Council are clear: the Fathers saw that it is fundamental for the adequate formation of the clergy and of Christian youth that it preserve a close link with the cultural heritage of the past, and in particular with the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas; and that this, in the long run, is a necessary condition for the longed-for renewal of the Church.”

St John Paul II

Holy Thinkers, Holy Theology

By virtue of our dependence upon the theologian-saints of the Church, quality of writing is complemented with holiness of life and, with this, a connatural insight into theological matters that accompanies a heart burning with love. Such an eye for quality and holiness is necessary for critically distinguishing between dead

ends and promising paths among the theological works of any time period, but especially today. The plurality of ‘opinions’ that currently abounds can mislead if one is not in possession of a critical eye, steeped in the truth contemplated and lived by the masters of the theological tradition.



“The saints are the true theologians. It is vital during theological studies, then, to read the saints. Isn’t it true that only great intellectual capacity joined with true sanctity makes the true theologian?”

Christoph Cardinal Schönborn

Seminar Pedagogy: Active Questioning and Discussion

The ITI employs the seminar method of teaching, and it is our intention that students should work through these sources in a discussion that flows freely and openly. Capacity for actual thought and for critical reflection is what stands in the foreground at the ITI. We want our students to have the occasion for growing in the virtues of careful, searching, responsible reading and thinking, which raises questions and pursues them to the end. Therefore, at the ITI we intend the students to be the protagonists

of their education, and thus it is vital that they truly prepare the texts for each class and that sufficient room is given to student discussion to further the virtues of active and responsible reading and thinking.

The free and responsible interaction of thought, of raising questions and pursuing inquiries—while being faithful to the faith and the pastoral office of the Catholic Church—is what we hold of great value here at the ITI.



Curriculum

The STM program consists of two parts

1. First Phase: six semesters of coursework (no degree earned);
2. Second Phase: four semesters of coursework and the writing of a master's thesis (STM/Mag.theol. earned).

Students who do not have the necessary proficiency in Latin and Greek must take

two semesters of courses in each language. Hebrew is also offered as an elective.

For the curriculum overview, including a list by major category of the most important primary readings on which the STM curriculum is based, details on the curriculum format and rationale, along with yearly lists of primary-source readings, please download the STM Curriculum from the ITI website: www.iti.ac.at

Further Details

The Sacrae Theologiae Magister program, the first academic degree in Theology, is equivalent to the Canonical Baccalaureate in Theology (cf. *Sapientia Christiana*, Constitution 72; Norms 51). It is fully recognized as a Master's degree (Magister Theologiae, Mag. theol.) by the State of Austria.

Prerequisites

Prerequisite for those entering at semester 1: Matura, Abitur or equivalent pre-university degree.

Prerequisite for US American graduate students who wish to enter at semester 7: Bachelor of Arts with special strength in philosophy and theology corresponding to the demands of *Sapientia Christiana*.

Duration of Study

For those entering at semester 1: ten semesters; for US American graduate students entering at semester 7: four semesters.

STM Testimonies

“The STM Program is a systematic exposure to the greatest sources of our Catholic Tradition and Faith, planted in a rich Christian community of prayer from both East and West. It has brought me as a student to meet Christ face to face, heart to heart, providing a formation that is intellectual, spiritual and truly human.”

Benjamen Hettrick, USA

“By studying the theological sources, I have come to see with what great care the articles of the Christian faith came to be formulated, and this is why the STM degree has given me such trust in the Church’s Magisterium. At the ITI I learned that I must conform myself to the faith, rather than make the faith conform to me”.

Milda Vitkute, Lithuania

“Having both lungs of the Church, East and West, active and alive on campus; living, studying, praying together with such intensity; studying the Fathers, Councils, and great theologians themselves; studying not to remember something but in order to get to know Christ ... Life at the ITI helped me to deepen my priestly vocation in Christ so much!”

Fr Johannes van Voorst tot Voorst, Netherlands



Program of Studies

Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3	Semester 4	Semester 5
Introduction to Scripture I	Introduction to Scripture II	Synoptic Gospels	Pentateuch	Prophets
Mysterium Salutis I	Mysterium Salutis II	Church History I and Introduction to Patrology	Church History II	Patrology I
Natural Philosophy I <i>Principles of Nature</i>	Natural Philosophy II <i>Motion and Order</i>	Natural Philosophy III <i>Science & Mastery of Nature</i>	Metaphysics I	Metaphysics II <i>Truth and Subjectivity</i>
Logic	Ethics I <i>Ancient Moral Theory</i>	Political Philosophy I <i>Ancient Political Theory</i>	Moral Theology I <i>Life in Christ</i>	Political Philosophy II <i>Modern Political Theory</i>
Introduction to Philosophy <i>Logos and Eros</i>	Introduction to Theology <i>Man Before God</i>	Philosophical Anthropology	Theological Anthropology I	Ecclesiology I <i>The City of God</i>
Introductory Latin	Introductory Latin	Latin Reading	Latin Reading	Introductory Greek
Intro to Scholarly Methods				

Semester 6	Semester 1 / 7	Semester 2 / 8	Semester 3 / 9	Semester 4 / 10
Psalms	Scripture and Its Interpretation	Gospel of John	Romans, Galatians, Hebrews	Sacramental Theology I <i>Eucharistic Body of Christ</i>
Patrology II	Fundamental Theology <i>Fides et Ratio</i>	Mystery of the Incarnate Word I	Mystery of the Incarnate Word II	Sacramental Theology II <i>Priesthood, Marriage, and Virginity</i>
Philosophy of History	The One God I <i>Existence and Attributes of God</i>	The One God II <i>Creator and Creation</i>	Soteriology and Eschatology <i>Paschal Mystery, Resurrection, Eternal Life</i>	Theological Anthropology II <i>Spousal Meaning of the Body</i>
Ethics II <i>Modern Moral Theory</i>	Mystery of the Triune God I	Mystery of the Triune God II	Ecclesiology II <i>Mystical Body of Christ</i>	Pastoral Theology <i>Church in the Modern World</i>
Catholic Social Teaching	Moral Theology II <i>Human Acts and the Final End</i>	Moral Theology III <i>Virtue and Vice</i>	Moral Theology IV <i>Law and Grace</i>	Spiritual Theology <i>Perfection in Charity</i>
Introductory Greek	Latin / Greek	Latin / Greek	Latin / Greek	Latin / Greek
	Scholarly Methods II: Research and Writing		Canon Law I <i>Introduction</i>	Canon Law II <i>Marriage and Family</i>

About the Institute

The International Theological Institute (ITI) was founded in 1995 as a direct initiative of St. John Paul II with the goal of establishing an international educational centre for future leaders in Church and society, especially laity, with a special focus on the theme of marriage and the family. Cardinal Christoph Schönborn, Archbishop of Vienna, is the institute's Grand Chancellor. The institute offers studies in theology, as well as additional courses rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition. It offers degree programs in theology, at doctoral, licentiate and master's levels, as well as a two-year specialised course in studies in marriage and family. Students, faculty and administrative staff hail from all around the world.

Academic Fees

See: www.iti.ac.at

Accommodation

€ 2.000 (total per academic year)

ECTS Points

See: www.iti.ac.at and depending on year of entry

Language of Instruction

Lectures and seminars in English

Meals

The campus in Trumau offers students private and shared kitchens in which to prepare their own food

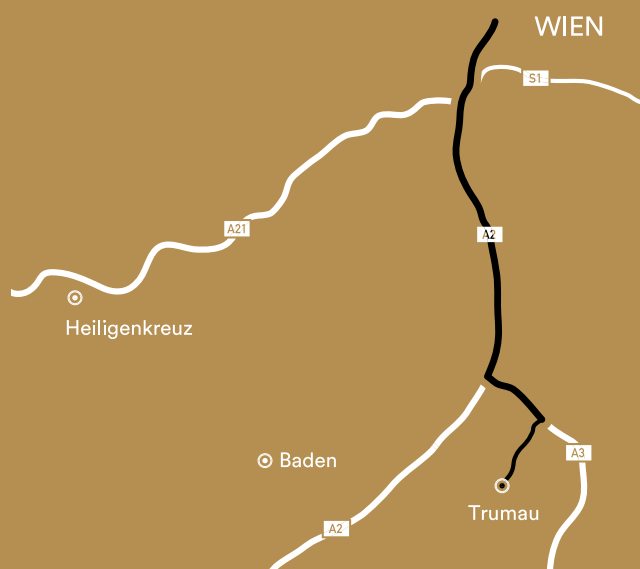
Sport

The institute has its own soccer team, and Trumau offers a range of sporting activities

Transportation

Trumau lies directly on the A2 motorway from Vienna to Graz. The campus can also be reached by bus and by train.

See: www.oebb.at



Enquires and Registration

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Email: administration@iti.ac.at

Website

www.iti.ac.at

Program Director

Dr. Timothy Kelly