

## THE PONTIFICAL, UNIVERSITY "ANTONIANUM"

The intuitive genius of Francis of Assisi recognized immediately in Brother Anthony, a native of Lisbon, but later known as St. Anthony of Padua, a holy and wise friar and, as such, a trustworthy master of authentic theology. The «Theological School» which Francis initiated in the extraordinary personality of Brother Anthony was soon transformed into the «Franciscan School» by means of the Studia Generalia of Paris, Oxford, Cambridge, Cologne, Bologna, Padua, Rome, Toulouse, Salamanca, Prague, Naples etc.

St. Bonaventure declared that the edifice of the Order rested on two pillars "good living and learning". The origin of the double term «learning and holiness» was always an ideal beloved and proclaimed by the most authentic protagonists of the Franciscan movement. The actual site of the Pontifical University Antonianum goes back to 1887, the year in which the Minister General of the Friars Minor, Fr. Bernardine Del Vago of Portogruaro wished to update traditional Franciscan studies by the creation of a *Studium Generale* for the whole Order.

With the blessing of Pope Leo XIII the «College of St. Anthony of Padua in Rome» was founded and began its academic activity in 1890. On 17 May 1933 Pius XI announced the creation of the «Athenaeum Antonianum» in the City, having faculties of Theology, Canon Law and Philosophy. In 1938 the same Pope granted the title «Pontifical» to the Athenaeum «Antonianum». In the 2001, 4 September, John Paul II, created the Faculty of the Biblical and Archeological Sciences, located in Jerusalem. Another, the PUA have the institute of Franciscan Ecumenical Studies in Venice, the Franciscan Institute of Spirituality in coordination with the Friars Capuchin, the «*Redemptor Hominis*» Higher Institute of Religious Sciences, the Higher School of Medieval and Franciscan Studies in collaboration with a group of researchers in Grottaferrata (successors to those of Quaracchi) together with the International Scotist Commission located in the same building.

The 11 January 2005, we are created Pontifical University.

The faculty and the Institutes constantly endeavor to put into practice what «*Sapientia Christiana*» says: "they should be trained to respond adequately to the new demands of the present time" (Introduction, V) and to "cultivate and promote by means of scientific research their own proper discipline but above all a knowledge of Christian Revelation and all connected with it, to announce systematically the truths therein contained and, in the light of these, to consider the new problems which arise and to present them to their contemporaries in a manner adapted to the different cultures"<sup>1</sup>.

The PUA wishes to present a synthetic vision of Christian doctrine as a response to the existential demands of contemporary human beings by developing in the student the capacity for

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<sup>1</sup> PITI, art. 3 & 1.

dialogue between revelation and reason, belief and science, faith and culture, philosophy and science. It proposes a culture of gospel and human values at the service of people and in defense of the integrity of the whole creation and of the quality of life, in the conviction that it is impossible to improve the quality of life without first improving human beings. Towards that end it avails of culture as a privileged instrument of humanization and evangelization, following and investigating the spiritual way and the creative inspiration of the great masters of the Franciscan School.

Countless students have gone forth from the Antonianum and have scattered over the five continents the illuminating thought and the Christian message by means of a deeper and more efficacious enculturation, such as Fr. Gabriel Allegra and his collaborators who translated the Bible into Chinese, and numerous other professors in diverse intellectual centers together with many bishops, archbishops and cardinals in diocesan ministry.

As a university center the Antonianum has not only effectively delved into history but has also sought to anticipate the future on the basis of a creative and humanizing hope.

#### A CENTRE OF UNIVERSITY STUDIES

The Pontifical University Antonianum (PUA) is a center of university studies depending on the Order of Friars Minor canonically established and authorized by the Holy See to confer academic degrees. It is open to clerical students, to religious men and women and to lay people, men and women.

It is associated with the Franciscan charism which considers the union of sanctity and knowledge as fundamental to human development, the progress of society and in particular the diffusion of the Gospel and of gospel values. Since the time of its founding the Franciscan Order has promoted numerous centers of «higher studies» in the most famous universities of Europe. Of these the PUA is an authentic continuation.

Its actual location in Rome is close to the Basilica of St. John Lateran, a place that for centuries was the seat of the Roman Pontiffs and the place in which St. Francis met Innocent III, receiving from him the ratification of the founding of the Order and the apostolic mandate to evangelize people.

The PUA has four Faculties: Theology, Philosophy, Canon Law and Biblical and Archeological Sciences (at Jerusalem), also the Higher School of Medieval and Franciscan Studies. Within the faculty of theology there has been established the Institute of Franciscan Spirituality and the Institute for Ecumenical Studies in Venice. Joined to the same faculty is the Higher Institute for Religious Science.

The PUA endeavors to promote a solid scientific and cultural formation of students in the various levels of a rounded catholic doctrine. In particular it tries to develop the capacity for dialogue between revelation and reason, between faith and culture, between philosophy and science,

between humanism and technology, between development and ecology. For this purpose it avails of culture as a privileged instrument of humanism and evangelization, following and deepening its knowledge of the patrimony of divine revelation, the teaching of the Fathers, the pronouncements of the magisterium of the Church and the contributions of theologians, giving preference to those of the Franciscan school.

## **THE FACULTY OF THEOLOGY**

The Faculty of Theology proposes to deepen the Catholic doctrine according to its proper scientific method, with particular reference to the Franciscan School and its tradition.

The curriculum of studies is distributed in three cycles, which lead to the conferment of the academic degrees of Baccalaureate, Licentiate and Doctorate.

### **I. First Cycle**

The program of the First cycle tends to give, within the course of six semesters, a solid, organic and complete theological formation, and confers the academic degree of Baccalaureate to students who have: a) passed the examinations prescribed by the plan of studies; b) discussed a written paper of at least thirty pages and undergone an oral examination on a set of themes, determined by the Faculty Council, in the presence of a commission of three professors.

### **II. Second Cycle**

The Second Cycle comprises four semesters and leads to the academic degree of Licentiate with specialization in Dogmatic Theology, in Spirituality, in Biblical Theology or, at the Institute of Ecumenical Studies *San Bernardino* of Venice, in Ecumenical Studies - the information concerning the courses of the Institute of Ecumenical Studies are available at the address [www.isevenezia.it](http://www.isevenezia.it).

### **III. Third Cycle**

The program of the Third Cycle comprises two cycles and leads to the academic degree of Doctorate with specialization in Dogmatic Theology, Spirituality, Biblical Theology or Ecumenical Studies, on condition that the student, having passed the prescribed examinations to the total of eight credits, publishes, or the doctoral dissertation discussed in the presence of a moderator and two correlators, or an extract of at least fifty pages of the same dissertation.

## **THE CANON LAW FACULTY**

The Canon Law Faculty seeks to promote the canonistic discipline of the Church, in the light of the evangelical law and with reference to the common and universal legislation of the Church

and to the legislation of the Franciscan Order.

The curriculum of studies is divided into three cycles, which lead to the academic levels of the Licentiate and the Doctorate.

### **I. First cycle**

Preliminary, dedicated to the study of the theological, juridical and philosophical disciplines necessary for a superior juridical formation, the First cycle's program is four semesters and provides prescribed courses and supplementary courses arranged with the Dean.

### **II. Second cycle**

A three-year commitment, directed toward the study of the Code of canon Law and the study of Franciscan legislation, the program of the Second cycle is arranged in obligatory courses - concerning the Code of canon law, the Code of canons of the Eastern Churches and Franciscan legislation in addition to the introductory disciplines -, optional courses, seminars and exercises of canonical practice.

The Second cycle program leads to the academic level of Licentiate, on the condition that the candidate has: a) taken the exams necessary to attain a total of eighty-six credits; b) written, under the guidance of a professor, a licentiate thesis of at least fifty pages; c) taken the oral exam *de universo codice* on a subject prepared in advance by the Faculty Council.

### **III. Third cycle**

Mainly oriented to the study of practical discipline, the Third cycle program has a duration of two semesters and provides prescribed courses, optional courses, seminars and exercises.

The Third cycle program leads to an academic level of Doctorate, provided that the student, having passed the exams needed to acquire a total of twelve credits, publish either the doctoral dissertation defended before a commission composed of a moderator and two co-examiners, or a summary of the same dissertation of at least fifty pages.

The Canon Law Faculty seeks to promote the canonistic discipline of the Church, in the light of the evangelical law and with reference to the common and universal legislation of the Church and to the legislation of the Franciscan Order.

The curriculum of studies is divided into three cycles, which lead to the academic levels of the Licentiate and the Doctorate.

## **THE FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY**

The Faculty of philosophy through teaching and scientific research promotes an adequate

formation of students in problems concerning «man, the world and God» (*Sapientia Christiana* 79, 1), in the light of Christian philosophy, with particular attention to the Franciscan School and its tradition.

The curriculum of studies is distributed in three cycles, which lead to the conferment of the academic degrees of Baccalaureate, Licentiate and Doctorate.

### **I. First Cycle**

In its aim at offering a fundamental philosophical formation, the program of the First Cycle or Philosophical Institutional Biennium includes four semesters and leads to the academic degree of Baccalaureate, on condition that the candidate: a) undergoes the prescribed examinations and obtains the total of 68 credits; b) elaborates during the first year a written work under the guidance of the General Methodology teacher; c) writes under the guidance of a professor a second dissertation - of about 50 pages - to be discussed at the end of the Biennium in the presence of a commission of three professors; d) undergoes an oral test on a list of theses, previously indicated by the teaching body.

### **II. Second Cycle**

This cycle offers, during the prescribed four semesters, a historic-theoretic specialization leading to the academic degree of Licentiate, on condition that the candidate: a) undergoes the prescribed examinations and obtains the total of 46 credits; b) elaborates three written exercises; c) submits a written report on the reading and study of two particular works pertaining to ancient, medieval, modern and contemporary philosophers, for each semester; d) undergoes in the presence of a commission, composed of a moderator and two correlators, the Licentiate examination, with the discussion of a written dissertation (of about 80 pages), elaborated under the guidance of the above mentioned professors, and the test on the themes previously selected.

### **III. Third Cycle**

This cycle proposes to offer a further deepening in philosophical specialization, through attendance, at the Pontifical Athenaeum

Antonianum or other Universities, of courses and seminars necessary to obtain the total of 12 credits. The Third Cycle comprises two semesters and leads to the conferment of the academic degree of Doctorate on those candidates, who publish either the entire doctoral dissertation discussed in the presence of a commission, composed of a moderator and two correlators, or an extract of the same dissertation consisting of at least 50 pages.

## **THE FACULTY OF BIBLICAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

The Biblical and Archeological Sciences is a Pontifical faculty that offers courses leading to both the licentiate (S.T.L.) and the doctoral (S.T.D.) degrees in Biblical Studies and Archaeology. The program of studies leading to the licentiate includes two semesters of introductory studies and five regular semesters. The program of studies leading to the doctoral degree requires four additional semesters and the writing of a dissertation.

Other programs of studies lead to diplomas in Oriental Biblical Studies and Archaeology and in Biblical Formation. Each involves two semesters of studies. Also offered is a program of continuing education for those who serve as guides to pilgrims. The Faculty offers the student the unique opportunity for a direct, personal, and extended study of the Bible in its cultural context.

The Faculty offers courses in biblical and oriental languages, methodology, history and geography, archaeology, as well as a range of courses in exegesis and biblical theology. Integral to the program of studies are field trips to historical and archaeological sites in Israel, Sinai, Jordan, Egypt and other biblical lands. The usual language of instruction for the courses is Italian, but for written essays and dissertations other languages are accepted. At the time of registration students are expected to show a sufficient knowledge of Italian to be verified by a specific certificate or by an oral conversation.

The Faculty is open to all -men and women, clerical and lay- with adequate preparation to begin the academic study of the Bible on the graduate level. Students fall into three categories: *ordinary*, students in a program leading to an academic degree or a diploma; *extraordinary*, students taking courses for credit without being enrolled in a degree or diploma program; auditors, students who take courses but not for academic credit. It is also possible for students to participate in the excavation projects of the Faculty.

The Faculty's tuition and fees are relatively modest. Accommodations at the Monastery of the Flagellation are available to "ordinary students" who are Roman Catholic priests by arrangement with the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land.

## **THE SCHOOL OF HIGHER MEDIEVAL AND FRANCISCAN STUDIES**

### **I. Nature and purpose of the School**

The School of Higher Medieval and Franciscan Studies is an academic center open to all: professors, researchers and doctoral students. It is open to anyone who wishes to deepen his or her knowledge of medieval culture.

Its primary area of historical interest covers the XI - XIV centuries. The program also offers

courses, which refer to authors and doctrinal themes prior to or after this period.

Its specific aim is to promote interdisciplinary research. It caters to the formation of specialists in different areas, particularly those of philosophy, theology, law and history, through editing medieval texts.

Study and research are promoted through courses, lessons, seminars, specialization meetings, public lectures, symposiums and congresses. In addition, Scientific methods are used. Tools are provided by some of the auxiliary and propaedeutic disciplines. The teaching body uses strict criteria, which are necessary for the highest qualification. The School has the services of specialists from Italian and international academic centers. The scientific contributions of professors and students from the School have been collected in a new series published by the Pontifical University *Antonianum* under the name: *Medioevo*. Further, the School publishes: *Testi Francescani Medievali* (TFM), *Bollettino di informazione*.

The School of Higher Medieval and Franciscan Studies works in close collaboration with the publishers of St. Bonaventure College at Claras Acquis (Editori di Quaracchi, Grottaferrata) and with the International Scotist Commission. The School is a member of F.I.D.E.M., *Fédération Internationale des Instituts d'Études Médiévales*, under the patronage of UNESCO.

## **II. Those for whom the School is intended and the diploma**

The School is intended for different groups of researchers and scholars. Its objectives are as follows.

### *1. Diploma of specialization in medieval studies at the university level*

Students who enroll and complete all the curricular requirements may achieve the diploma of specialization in medieval studies at the university level. Requirements for enrolment and obtention of the diploma:

- a) A Pontifical academic licentiate or a civil doctorate, or a foreign equivalent;
- b) A knowledge of Latin and/or Greek; and of at least two modern languages;
- e) A minimum of 432 hours of lectures equivalent to a total of 36 credits in 4 semesters;
- d) The successful completion of exams as outlined in the program of study and the fulfillment of the tasks set out in the seminars;
- e) Participation in interdisciplinary sessions and other activity promoted by the School;
- f) A research project pursued under the guidance of a lecturer and followed by a public defense.

## *2. Courses and seminars to complete the specialty of a study program*

Students in the II and III cycles of faculties at the Pontifical University *Antonianum*, and those attending other universities and Pontifical athenaeums, may attend courses and seminars which they consider necessary for their own study programs.

## *3. Particular studies in depth*

Students in the II and III cycle, or those who possess a university degree, may attend one or more of the courses set out in the general program and do the required exam.

### **III. Academic organization**

1. The School consists of four areas:

- a) philosophical-theological;
- b) historical-literary;
- e) religious traditions and studies (Franciscan studies);
- d) Byzantine studies.

2. Each academic year is subdivided into two semesters and three exam sessions (February, June and October). Some courses and seminars require one semester, others a month, and still others, a week.

3. The courses are divided into common foundational courses (MP), courses for deepening interdisciplinary concerns, particular directions (MO).

a) The basic foundational courses are introductions to the study of medieval sources. These are all required as obligatory courses: Medieval Latin, General codicology, Special codicology, Medieval paleography, Textual criticism, Paleography and Greek codicology, Byzantine liturgy, Iconology and byzantine iconography.

b) The courses for deepening interdisciplinary concerns and in particular directions are all optional and variable. They correspond to the interdepartmental nature of the School and, vary from year to year. They are chosen from the following groups of interest: theology, philosophy, history, exegesis, Greco-Latin and patristic sources, liturgy, Communications and cultural diffusion, Hebrew thought, mysticism; law, society, politics, economics, urban studies, the Germanic and Anglo-saxon world, the Greco-byzantine and Slavic world; literature, arts and trades, aesthetics, sciences.

e) It is also obligatory to participate in three seminars (MS) during the four semesters.

4. In working out courses and seminars, the unit of measure is the credit, which equals 1 hour

of lectures weekly during a semester. Credits are distributed as follows during the two years:

5. The School reserves the right to have a preliminary discussion in cases where the President, taking into consideration the student's *curriculum*, deems it necessary.

## THE HIGHER INSTITUTE OF RELIGIOUS SCIENCE "REDEMPTOR HOMINIS"

The Higher Institute of Religious Science "Redemptor Hominis" intends to provide students with an institutional undergraduate preparation in order that they could carry out a qualified ecclesiastical and civil ministry, by virtue of an organic formation in theological and philosophical disciplines and in those connected with human science.

The Institute promotes courses for Mastery in Religious Science, Diploma in Religious Science and Diploma in Religious Culture, open to laymen and woman, religious brothers and sisters who have a General Certificate of Education.

### **I. Mastery in Religious Science**

The course of Mastery in Religious Science is distributed in two periods of two years: the first two years are oriented to give a fundamental formation while the last two years aim to offer a professional qualification. The course consists of three areas: didactic-pedagogical - for those who want to teach religion in schools -; catechetical-ministerial - for those who aspire to practice the pastoral activity or the diaconate or other ecclesiastical ministries -; spiritual theology and Franciscan Formation - for those who want to prepare for roles in formation in their religious or lay communities -. The students who mean to achieve the Academic degree of Mastery have to pass the examinations prescribed by the plan of studies and a final examination on a set of themes determined by the Institute. Moreover they have to discuss a written paper, pursued under the guidance of a professor, in the presence of a commission composed by three professors.

### **II. Diploma in Religious Science**

The course of Diploma in Religious Science comprises six semesters and it is intended to those who already have a university degree or a diploma and who aspire to teach religion in secondary school (the former) and in primary school (the latter).

### **III. Diploma in Religious Culture**

The Course of Diploma in Religious Culture comprises four semesters. The students who want to achieve the Diploma have to pass the examinations prescribed by the plan of studies and they have to draw up a written paper under the guidance of a professor.