



Study programme: **ORTHODOX THEOLOGY**
Study field: **6171V00 Theology**
Degree of university education: **3rd degree**
Form of study: **full-time, part-time**
Duration of study: **4 years / 5 years**
Academic degree: **PhD.**

The study programme ORTHODOX THEOLOGY is focused on:

- quantitative and qualitative research methods in theology,
- the methodology of social sciences and the theory of social work and social sciences,
- the charitable ministry of the Church and its social contribution,
- the biblical and spiritual-ethical foundations of charitable ministry,
- Christian charity,
- the missionary, charitable and social ministry of the church (for example, in Roma and other ethnic minority settings),
- current contemporary social issues: family, society, social communication, ecology, addictions, etc,
- biblical exegesis and Christian anthropology,
- theological synthesis and the spiritual values of man.

The study programme ORTHODOX THEOLOGY consists of compulsory subjects: *Foreign Language in Academic Discourse / Dissertation with Defense / Dissertation Examination with Defense of Dissertation Research Project / Biblical Theology and Exegesis / Methodology of Systematic Theology / Historical Context of Theology / Basics of University Pedagogy* and obligatory electives: *Methodology of translation of Holy Scripture and liturgical texts / Biblical hermeneutics / Exegesis of Holy Scripture / Church and society (Christian sociology) / History of Byzantium and Byzantine theology / Dogmatic theology / Orthodox theology / Opposition of the thesis Thesis of the Bachelor's Degree / Greek Liturgical Terminology / Greek Language and Culture / Canon and Ecclesiastical Law / Christian Pedagogy and Psychology / Liturgics / Pastoral Theology / Orthodox Spiritual and Ethical Life / Holy Mysteries / Study, Or. Research stay (internship) at a university or scientific university research workplace / Scientific designing / Leading the final thesis of bachelor's studies / Doctoral student's own pedagogical activity 2 hours/week. / Doctoral student's own pedagogical activity 4 hrs./week. The study also includes units of scientific creative activity: *Active participation in domestic scientific events / Active participation in foreign scientific events / Published papers from domestic scientific conferences / Published papers from foreign scientific conferences / Reviews / Editorial and compilation work / Participation in the solution of a scientific grant project / Scientific monograph co-authored or a chapter in a monograph (min. 1 AH) / Scientific papers in domestic peer-reviewed scientific journals or proceedings / Scientific papers in foreign journals or proceedings / Scientific papers in domestic peer-reviewed journals or journals registered in databases (WoS, Scopus) / Scientific papers in foreign peer-reviewed journals or journals registered in databases (WoS, Scopus) / Leadership of "PU Grant for PhD Students" or other research grant / University textbook or teaching texts in co-authorship (min. 1 AH).**

General characteristics of the profile of the graduate of the study programme **ORTHODOX THEOLOGY** is primarily the preparation of professional pedagogical-scientific cadres and scientific-research staff for the needs of tertiary education, research institutions, the church and professional staff for governing bodies at higher levels.

A graduate of the doctoral studies in the field of **ORTHODOX THEOLOGY** is able to solve demanding theological-practical, dogmatic, pastoral-liturgical, catechetical, historical and philosophical questions, is able to engage in team scientific work, is able to participate in the solution of grant projects, is prepared for university teaching activity, to apply the acquired knowledge in ecclesial and social practice, both in the popularization of theological and spiritual knowledge and in entering into concrete ecclesial, administrative, managerial, missionary and spiritual activity. The graduate level of this degree program is determined by the quality of

mastery of the specified requirements for both the academic-pedagogical and the scholarly-creative components of the degree. The graduate is able to enter the competitive (also foreign) scientific and pedagogical environment, is able to acquire scientific and scientific-pedagogical contacts, to engage in team scientific work, to enter grant projects at the level of domestic and international organizations. He/she is prepared for university teaching activities. At the same time, he/she is prepared to apply the acquired knowledge in wider social practice, both in the popularisation of theological knowledge and by entering into concrete publishing, reviewing and wider scientific and cultural practice.

ORTHODOX THEOLOGY as a study program is oriented to solving partial tasks in the basic areas of theological study:

- biblical studies, specially biblical exegesis,
- systematic theology,
- practical theology,
- patristics,
- church history (general and local),
- liturgical language,
- interreligious relations in Slovakia,
- current contemporary social issues (ecology, addictions, etc.),
- Christian psychology and pedagogy,
- Christian sociology and anthropology.

Additional knowledge, skills and abilities of the graduate:

The characteristics of the profile of the graduate of the doctoral studies in the study programme **ORTHODOX THEOLOGY** are conditioned by the learning outcomes that the graduate possesses after successful completion of the studies and is able to apply them in practice.

The graduate is proficient in advanced quantitative and qualitative methods and model simulations and methodologies that allow for creative assessment of selected fields of theology. Upon completion of the program, graduates will be able to independently formulate and seek solutions to scientific and research questions in theology and its interdisciplinary intersections. Doctoral students will acquire the ability to think critically, to independently propose solutions to complex problems, and to work as members of a research team. They will also be able to analyze, evaluate competently, even complex practical and conceptual issues, and propose appropriate approaches and solutions in the context of scholarly inquiry.

The graduate is able to specify and apply the acquired knowledge in both the theoretical and practical spheres, to effectively manage the processes of desirable and undesirable changes in spiritual and social life on the basis of the biblical and ecclesial understanding of the meaning of life and the almost two thousand years of experience of the Church, which must be known in detail and in perfection. Able to demonstrate a thorough understanding of the supporting areas of knowledge and theory of spiritual and social life, along with the ability to exercise critical judgment across the range of issues presented, working in projects (e.g., the Roma problem, drug and other addictions, homelessness, the unemployed, etc.) that impose problem identification, analysis, design, and application of large-scale solutions, along with testing and appropriate documentation. The graduate's level of knowledge is enhanced by the skills of scholarly research in theological, historical, social, and cultural areas, and he or she is equipped to perform demanding management functions at all levels of church work, such as eparchies, the office of the Metropolitan Council, and various commissions that examine problems in the areas of canonical offenses, liturgical and ethical issues of social life. He is eligible to work as a clergyman in the armed forces of the Slovak Republic. He is able to participate fully in the scientific and pedagogical work of the faculty and beyond.

Learning outcomes are verifiable and correspond to the mission of the University of Prešov, the SKKR8 qualification framework and the field of knowledge according to the field of study of theology.

The graduate knows and can choose specific scientific methods of basic and applied research in the relevant field of theology (biblical sciences, church history, systematic theology, philosophy, practical theology, church law). The graduate has general knowledge at the level of assessment, knowledge of the priorities needed for the development of society, professional and methodological knowledge in several areas of the discipline, serving as a basis for designing research and development in particular theological areas with links to the needs of current pastoral practice in various spheres. The graduate will be able to formulate new hypotheses and

strategies for further research and development of the field of study of theology in interdisciplinary connection with andragogical, historical and social sciences.

He/she applies his/her own findings of his/her theoretical analysis and his/her comprehensive scholarly research in solving problems in the field. Has a working knowledge of selected research methods and uses them to analyze relevant details and important interdisciplinary connections. Based on his/her outputs and findings, he/she is able to design, validate and implement new research and working practices within the broader context and possible implications of proposed solutions.

Graduate employment:

Graduates meet the qualification for the performance of the activity of assistant professor in the field of theology. Specifically, they can be employed, for example, as an assistant professor at a university:

- [2310003 Assistant Professor of Higher Education](#)
- [2310004 University teaching assistant](#)
- [2310005 University lecturer](#)
- [2422016 Specialist in the development of science, research and innovation](#)
- [1345003 Head of Department](#)
- [1223001 Director of a research institution](#)

Graduates also meet the qualification requirement for the activity:

- the highest representative of the Church (2636002) - metropolitan, archbishop, bishop
- a manager in an ecclesiastical organisation (2636003) - protosynkel (director of the episcopal office)
- a clerical member of the central body of the Church (2636004) - synkel (secretaries of metropolitan and eparchial offices)
- spiritual administrator, administrator, parish administrator (2636005) - archdeacon, dean, administrator of a religious community
- parish priest, religious priest (cleric, monk in the rank of priest or deacon (2636006)
- chaplain, assistant priest (2636009).

The qualification requirements for the exercise of the above activity are subject to the requirements of the internal regulations of the Orthodox Church: <https://orthodox.sk/pravoslavna-cirkev/ustava/> https://www.slov-lex.sk/pravne-predpisy/prilohy/SK/ZZ/2020/449/20210101_5289809-2.pdf;

- Graduates meet the qualification requirement to serve in the officer corps for the military specialty of military chaplaincy: <https://www.epi.en/zz/2019-443#p3>;

- a clergyman exercising pastoral ministry in a university pastoral centre: <https://www.slov-lex.sk/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/2004/395/20040713> Article 5, paragraph 3;

- Graduates meet the qualification prerequisite for the performance of the activity of a teacher of religion within the meaning of Section 11-13 of Act No. 138/2019 Coll. on pedagogical employees and professional employees and on amendment and supplementation of certain acts: <https://www.minedu.sk/data/att/18688.pdf>. The fulfilment of the qualification prerequisites for the performance of the pedagogical activity of a teacher of religion and religious education is explained in the opinion of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic: https://www.minedu.sk/data/files/6522_kvalif_predpoklady.pdf).

Level of students and graduates of the study programme

The graduate of the study programme **ORTHODOX THEOLOGY** is able to transfer his/her theoretical and practical knowledge into practical social and ecclesiastical life. He/she is able to organize operational, diagnostic, verification, experimental and other investigations. He/she has the necessary knowledge and skills related to the competence to educate in universities in the field of theology. The graduate has the theoretical knowledge and training for scholarly activity and has already demonstrated mastery of activities related to the development of the theory and methodology of theology and to teaching in higher education.