

DESCRIPTION OF THE FIELD OF HABILITATION AND INAUGURATION PROCEEDINGS

Name of the Field of Habilitation and Inauguration Proceedings	Orthodox Theology
Study Field to which the Field is assigned	Theology
3rd Degree Study Programs (Doctoral) in the Field	Orthodox Theology
2nd Degree Study Programs (Master's) in the Field	Orthodox Theology

Content of the Field

The Field of Habilitation and Inauguration Proceedings titled Orthodox Theology is assigned to the study field of Theology. The Field of Habilitation and Inauguration Proceedings Orthodox Theology is a standard, internationally recognized theological field focused on the Byzantine and Eastern Christian tradition. This field is oriented towards biblical exegesis, theological synthesis, the study of patristic literature, Byzantine studies, the deepening and development of practical theology, basic research into the history of the Orthodox Church, the functioning of Church Slavonic in the Carpathian region, interconfessional relations, and current issues of charitable and social service, ethics, and canon law.

Definition of the Field

Orthodox Theology examines religious doctrine, spiritual tradition, and practical aspects of the Orthodox faith. Its methodology bridges rational inquiry and spiritual experience, aiming not only to acquire knowledge but also to deepen the understanding of faith. As a scientific discipline, it relies on historical-critical examination of sources, systematic reflection, and philosophical-theological analysis. Orthodox Theology as an academic discipline utilizes multiple research methods while avoiding a purely scholastic or rationalistic approach.

Main Methodological Approaches:

1. Biblical Hermeneutics – Interpretation of the Holy Scripture in accordance with the patristic tradition and, simultaneously, with the latest discoveries of modern hermeneutics. Orthodox theology is not limited to the historical-critical method but also considers the spiritual and liturgical context of the Scripture.
2. Dogmatic-Historical Analysis – Study of the development of Orthodox doctrine, conciliar decisions, and patristic thought with the aim of systematizing and interpreting Orthodox teaching.
3. Liturgical-Theological Approach – Examination of the meaning of Orthodox worship as a source of theological knowledge, wherein the liturgy is not merely an object of analysis but also a means of preserving and transmitting the faith.
4. Philosophical Reflection – Orthodox theology addresses questions of being, knowledge, and ethics within the context of Christian faith, utilizing not only ancient philosophy (Plato, Aristotle) and positive findings of modern philosophical research but also its own patristic tradition.
5. Ecumenical and Interreligious Theology – Within academic research, Orthodox theology conducts dialogue with other Christian traditions as well as other religions, examining their relationship to Orthodox teaching and society.

Interdisciplinary Context

Modern Orthodox theology engages in dialogue with other scientific disciplines. Historical and biblical sciences contribute to a deeper understanding of the historical context of Christianity; philosophy assists in the reflection of metaphysical and epistemological questions; and social sciences offer tools for analyzing church life and its impact on society. Cooperation with natural sciences is also significant, particularly in the field of bioethics and ecology. Orthodox theology reflects on issues of nature conservation, genetic engineering, and artificial intelligence from the perspective of Christian anthropology and morality.

Persons Responsible for the Development and Quality Assurance of the Field

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