

# Mitteilungsblatt – Sondernummer der Paris Lodron-Universität Salzburg

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## 81. Curriculum for the Study Programme „Master of Arts in Syriac Theology“ (MAST) at the University of Salzburg (Curriculum 2015S)

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The Senate of the Paris-Lodron-University Salzburg approved the following curriculum for the university course “Master of Arts in Syriac Theology in its meeting on 10.03.2015. This curriculum was agreed upon by the Curriculum Committee of the Faculty of Catholic Theology at the Paris-Lodron-University Salzburg on 04.02.2015.

Its legal basis is the Federal Act of the Organisation of the Universities and their Studies (Universitätsgesetz 2002 - UG, BGBl.I Nr. 120/2002) as well as the statutory provisions pertaining to matriculation in the statutes of the University of Salzburg in the respective current versions.

## **§ 1 General**

- (1) The university course MAST requires the completion of 120 ECTS points. It is a full-time study programme and its duration is four semesters. Graduates will be awarded the academic degree of “Master of Arts“, abbreviated “MA”.
- (2) ECTS points are allocated for all the work that students produce. One ECTS point corresponds to 25 full hours of work and describes the overall student workload necessary in order to achieve the learning outcomes expected. The workload of one academic year covers 1500 full hours of work, which corresponds to 60 ECTS points.
- (3) Students with disabilities or chronic illnesses may not be disadvantaged in the study programme. The regulations of the European Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Equal Treatment Directive as well as the Concept of Compensation for Disadvantages are to be applied.

## **§ 2 Admission**

- (1) Admission to the university course MAST is dependent on the prior completion of a relevant Bachelor's degree, diploma programme or secondary school teacher accreditation programme, or of an equivalent programme at a recognised domestic or international tertiary educational institution. In well-justified exceptions, admission can be granted based on professional experience of at least nine years (e.g. as a teacher, catechist, priest).
- (2) The course organisation decides upon the fulfillment of the criteria and admission to the study programme.

## **§ 3 Qualification Profile, Occupational Areas and Target Groups**

- (1) Alongside with the Byzantine (Greek) and the Western-occidental (Latin) tradition the Syriac (Aramaic) Tradition belongs to the most important currents of Christendom. It reached its greatest expansion until the 14th century, reaching from Egypt to Central Asia and China, from the Arabian Peninsula and India to the Caucasus. East Syriac as well as West Syriac Christianity developed a rich religious culture in the respective pluralistic contexts. Consequently an extensive non-European theological literature and spiritual tradition emerged.
- (2) The graduates of the study programme MAST receive academic training in Syriac theology, language and history. The study programme focuses on those aspects that are relevant for a cultural and religious understanding of this Semitic Christian tradition. This encompasses emphases on exegesis, liturgy, spirituality, patristic studies, canon law and church history as well as the training of the skills to apply the Syriac-theological knowledge in professional and in everyday life amidst the cultural and religious diversity of a globalising environment. Thereby the theoretical and the practical qualification for religious education, catechesis and pastoral work in the ecumenical and interreligious exchange is imparted.

### **(3) Content of the Study Programme**

The study programme MAST focuses on Syro-Aramaic language and literary competences, Syriac theology, exegesis, liturgy, spirituality and church history, pedagogy of religious education, pastoral theology and canon law.

In the course of the study programme the corresponding skills are acquired through the following contents:

- a) study of the Syro-Aramaic language and literature;
- b) Syriac biblical studies and exegetical methods;
- c) critical reflection on historic and current occurrences in Syriac christianity from late antiquity to the contemporary situation in the countries of origin and the diaspora;
- d) Syriac liturgy and sacramental theology;
- e) Syriac spirituality, hagiography and monastic literature;
- f) patristic studies and systematic theology;
- g) canon law, practical theology and pedagogy of religion in ecumenical and interreligious contexts.

### **(4) Qualification Profile and Competences (Learning Outcomes).**

The study programme MAST offers a qualified academic training for theologians belonging to the Syriac Christianity for work in the fields of pastoral care, catechesis, adult education and Syriac Orthodox religious education worldwide. Furthermore it provides scholarly specialisation for graduates of theological and cultural studies and humanities. The following competences will be achieved:

- a) independently working on texts of the Syriac theological literature;
- b) competently speaking about the fundamental scriptures of the Syriac tradition, their development and content;
- c) applying methods in order to deal with and interpret biblical, classical and other historical texts, works of literature and sources of the Syriac tradition;
- d) analysing, reassessing and conveying theological lines of thought and argument;
- e) adequately and critically scrutinising authoritative regulations of the Syriac tradition and discussing their potential for solving contemporary issues related to theory and practice;
- f) reflecting upon forms of Syriac religious practice in various, individual, socially and traditionally determined manifestations and communicating them responsibly;
- g) developing a concept for religious pedagogy and critically bringing forward the Christian faith in the challenges of today;
- h) communicating in the context of Christian ecumenism and the interreligious dialogue.

### **(5) Demand for and Relevance of the University Course to Society and the Labour Market**

Graduates of the study programme MAST are eligible i. a. for the following professional fields:

- a) academic career in Theology, History, Cultural and Social Science, Orientalism or in archives, museums, libraries and documentation services.
- b) teaching Syriac-Orthodoxy and the Syriac language at public and private schools that offer Syriac-Orthodox religious education (e.g. in Austria, Germany) or Syriac language teaching (e.g. in Sweden) as well as in parishes and community centres;
- c) educational system, catechetical and pastoral work in parishes and dioceses of the Syriac Church worldwide;
- d) institutes for the interreligious and ecumenical dialogue;
- e) social work (particularly in the context of integration and migration);
- f) media and public relations;

## (6) Target Groups

The study programme MAST is targeted at members of the Syriac Tradition worldwide who, as theologians, want to continue their studies in the fields of religious education and pastoral care as well as theologians, historians, orientalists and archaeologists who want to specialise in Syriac theology, tradition and culture.

## § 4 Structure and Organisation of the Study Programme

The study programme MAST includes seven modules that amount to 82 ECTS points. Furthermore students have to complete two elective courses, chosen from the range of courses offered at the Faculty of Catholic Theology, or an internship or an excursion approved of by the organisers of the study programme. Furthermore, students have to attend a master's thesis seminar (2 ECTS points), write a master's thesis (22 ECTS points) and (successfully) pass a master's examination (6 ECTS points).

	ECTS
Module 1: Syro-Aramaic Language and Literature	15
Module 2: The Bible and Exegesis in the Syriac Tradition	11
Module 3: History of Syriac Christianity	11
Module 4: Liturgical Science	10
Module 5: Spirituality and Monasticism	7
Module 6: Patristic Studies and Theology	13
Module 7: Canon Law and Practical Theology	15
Elective Module: Two courses chosen from the courses offered at the Catholic-Theological Faculty, or an excursion or practical training	8
Master's Thesis: Master's Thesis including the seminary and the examination	30
Total	120

## § 5 Types of Courses

For this curriculum the following types of courses are offered:

**Lecture (VO, Vorlesung)**: provides an overview over a subject or one of its branches as well as corresponding theoretical approaches and presents different schools of thought and methods. The contents are communicated by teacher-centred teaching. A lecture does not involve continuous assessment and attendance is not compulsory.

**Lecture with a Tutorial Course (VU, Vorlesung mit Übung)**: combines the theoretical introduction to a topic area with the impartation of practical skills. A lecture with a tutorial course involves continuous assessment and attendance is compulsory.

**Exercise/Tutorial Course/ (UE, Übung)** promotes the acquisition, training and perfecting of practical skills and knowledge of a field of study or one of its branches. A tutorial course involves continuous assessment and attendance is compulsory.

**Excursion (EX, Exkursion)**: serves to impart expert knowledge and illustrate the subject matter taught outside the place of study. An excursion involves continuous assessment, attendance is compulsory.

**Proseminar (PS)**: is a scientifically oriented course and represents a preliminary stage to seminars. It equips students with the skills and knowledge necessary for undertaking independent research. Students are required to actively participate in the class sessions. A proseminar involves continuous assessment, attendance is compulsory.

**Seminar (SE)**: is a scientifically advanced course. It provides the forum for academic discussion and examination of debates pertinent to the field. Students are required to actively participate in the class sessions. A seminar involves continuous assessment, attendance is compulsory.

The focus of a seminar is identified in the course description (for instance: seminar with supervision, empirical seminar, project seminar, interdisciplinary seminar, ...).

**Language Course (SK, Sprachkurs)** promotes the acquisition and consolidation of linguistic skills. Students are required to actively participate in the class sessions. A language course involves continuous assessment and attendance is compulsory.

**Work Experience (PR, Praktikum)** promotes the application and consolidation of acquired knowledge and methods and the acquisition of practical skills. A practical class involves continuous assessment, attendance is compulsory. The focus of a practical class is identified in the course description (for instance: teaching practice, ...).

One teaching unit is equivalent to 45 minutes. / The duration of one teaching unit is 45 minutes.

## § 6 Content and Structure of the Study Programme

In the following the modules and courses of the study programme MAST are listed. The allocation to the various semesters is a recommendation and ensures that the succession of courses can build upon prior knowledge. Modules 2, 3 and 6 cover three semesters since their contents are consecutive. A detailed description of the modules, including the knowledge, methods and skills that are taught can be found in Appendix I: Module Descriptions.

Study Programme "Master of Arts in Syriac Theology"								
Module	Course	Contact Hours	Type	ECTS	Semester			
					I	II	III	IV

**(1) Compulsory modules**

Module 1: Syro-Aramaic Language and Literature								
Syriac Language		5	SK/UE	10	10			
Introduction to Syro-Aramaic Studies		1	VO	2	2			
(Targum-)Aramaic		1	VU	1.5		1.5		
Neo-Aramaic/-Syriac		1	VU	1.5		1.5		
Subtotal Module 1		8		15	12	3		

Module 2: The Bible and Exegesis in the Syriac Tradition								
The Bible in the Syriac Tradition		1	PS	2	2			
Syriac Exegesis: Old Testament		2	VO	3		3		
Syriac Exegesis: New Testament		2	VO	3			3	
Advanced Seminar: Syriac Biblical Exegesis		1	SE	3			3	
Subtotal Module 2		6		11	2	3	6	

Module 3: History of Syriac Christianity								
Beginnings of Syriac Christianity until the Umayyad Period (1 <sup>st</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> century)		2	VO	3	3			
From the Umayyad Period until the End of the Ottoman Empire (7 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> century)		2	VO	3		3		
Syriac Christianity in the 20 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> Century		2	SE	5			5	
Subtotal Module 3		6		11	3	3	5	

Module 4: Liturgical Science								
Introduction to the Liturgical Year, Feasts and Liturgical Literature		1	VO	3	3			
Prosody and Liturgical Music		1	VU	2	2			
Syriac Commentaries on the Liturgy		1	VO/VU	2	2			

Syriac Liturgical Commentaries							
Specialisation in Liturgical Science: Sacramental Theology ( <i>roze</i> ) and Eucharistic Prayers ( <i>Anaphoras</i> ) in the Ecumenical Context	2	VO	3		3		
<b>Subtotal Module 4</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>		

#### Module 5: Spirituality and Monasticism

Development and Theology of Syriac Spirituality and Syriac Monasticism	2	VO	4	4			
Saints and Martyrs	1	SE	3		3		
<b>Subtotal Module 5</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>		

#### Module 6: Patristic Studies and Systematic Theology

Early Syriac Authors (1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> century): Semitic-Poetic and Symbolic Theology	1	VU	2	2			
The Great Theologians in the Golden Age (5 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> century): Christology und Ecclesiology	2	VU	3		3		
Selected Theological Topics of the Syriac Renaissance (11 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> century)	1	VU	2			2	
Philosophy and Natural Sciences in the Works of Syriac Ecclesiastical Writers	2	SE	6			6	
<b>Subtotal Module 6</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	

#### Module 7: Canon Law and Practical Theology

History and Development of Canon Law in Syriac Christianity	2	VU	3		3		
Specialisation in Canon Law: e.g. Current Synodal Decisions, Matrimonial Law, Ecumenical Agreements	1	VU	2			2	
Pastoral Theology and Pastoral Care	2	SE/PR	5			5	
Introduction to the Pedagogy and Didactics of Religious Education	2	SE/PR	5		5		
<b>Subtotal Module 7</b>	<b>7</b>		<b>15</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	

<b>Total Compulsory Modules</b>	<b>41</b>		<b>82</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	
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## (2) Elective Modules acc. to § 7

<b>Elective Module: see §7</b>							
<b>Total Elective Modules</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>8</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	

## (3) Master's Thesis and Examination

Master's Thesis Seminar	1	SE	2				2
Master's Thesis			22				22
Master's Examination			6				6
<b>Total Master's Thesis and Examination</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>30</b>				<b>30</b>

<b>(Sum) Total</b>	<b>46</b>			<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>
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## § 7 Elective Module

An elective module has to be completed. In consultation with the study programme organisers students can choose either two courses, from the range of courses offered at the Faculty of Catholic Theology, each of them amounting to 4 ECTS points, or complete a practical training, respectively attend a subject-related excursion.

<b>Elective Module:</b> Two courses offered at the Catholic-Theological Faculty, or an excursion or a practical training							
Elective Course I ( <i>resp. excursion or internship</i> )	2	SE/EX/PR	4		4		
Elective Course II ( <i>resp. excursion or internship</i> )	2	SE/EX/PR	4			4	
	<b>4</b>		<b>8</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	

## § 8 Master's Thesis

- (1) The master's thesis serves to show a student's ability to deal with scientific topics from the field of Syriac theology independently and with regard to their content as well as methodically in accordance with current scientific knowledge.
- (2) The topic of the master's thesis has to be thematically related to one of the modules of the study programme. Students are invited to propose a topic for their master's thesis or choose a topic proposed by their supervisor. The scope of the topic must be such that it can be realistically researched and written within six months.
- (3) While working on the thesis and supervising students the regulations of copyright law, BGBl. Nr. 111/1936, must be observed. The master's thesis is to be submitted in written form and on a CD-Rom.

- (4) The extent of the master's thesis must be approximately 220,000 characters (incl. blanks). The workload for the master's thesis is equivalent to 22 Credits (= 550 hours).
- (5) The master's thesis will be assessed and the master's examination will be held by the course organisation or a person, belonging to the University of Salzburg or another highly qualified person in this field of study, appointed by the course organisation.

### **§ 9 (Compulsory) Practical Training**

- (1) The study programme MAST does not include a compulsory internship. However, a thematically related internship amounting up to 200 working hours (equivalent to 8 ECTS points) can be completed as an elective module.
- (2) Principally the internship is to be completed outside of the university at an institution that is approved of by the course organisation. The internship and the chosen institution has to be reported to the course organisation and has to be approved by it.
- (3) Students with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses will be supported by the study programme organisation. Should it be impossible to find a work place due to discriminatory infrastructure (lack of physical and infrastructural accessibility) students with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses are granted other options to fulfill this part of the curriculum.

### **§ 10 Examinations**

The regulations of §§ 72-79 UG 2002 and the statutory provisions pertaining to matriculation in the statutes of the University of Salzburg apply.

### **§ 11 Final Examination Taken in front of a Committee (Master's Examination)**

- (1) The requirement for the master's examination taken in front of a committee is the completion of all compulsory examinations and modules, the completion of the master's thesis seminar and the positive evaluation of the master's thesis.
- (2) The study programme MAST finishes with a master's examination taken in front of a committee. The examination is worth 6 ECTS points and consists of:
  - a. a short presentation about the master's thesis delivered by the candidate;
  - b. the subsequent answering of questions posed by the examination committee according to the module of the master's thesis (Defensio);
  - c. and a second subject from the study programme MAST. The second subject can be proposed by the candidate, however, it may not belong to the same area of studies in which the master's thesis was written.

### **§ 12 Tuition Fee**

Participants have to pay a tuition fee for attending this course of study.

### **§ 13 Evaluation**

The study programme is continuously assessed by the participants, the lecturers as well as by the organisers of the study programme.

### **§ 14 Coming into Force**

This curriculum as well as any changes enter into force on 1<sup>st</sup> of the month after being publicised.

## Appendix I: Module Descriptions

<b>Module Name</b>	Syro-Aramaic Language and Literature
<b>Modul Code</b>	MAST 1
<b>Workload</b>	15 ECTS points
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mastering the Syriac language as a medium for Syriac literature and employing it within the specific framework of Syriac theology, understanding the history of Syriac, its structure, its poetry and its research methodology and locating it within a greater context;</li> <li>- putting Syro-Aramaic as the language of Syriac christianity into proportion to Old Aramaic- and Neo-/modern dialects;</li> <li>- being able to independently and scientifically deal with the sources of the Syriac tradition.</li> </ul>
<b>Module Content</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Intermediate and advanced language course;</li> <li>- research methodology, catalogues of Syriac manuscripts and printed works as well as related literature, codicology, grammar, lexica, series, periodicals, journals, bibliographic tools and manuscripts;</li> <li>- introduction to Old Aramaic language and its dialects (biblical and Targum-Aramaic);</li> <li>- introduction to contemporary spoken Aramaic/Syriac Dialects and languages.</li> </ul>
<b>Courses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Syriac Language (10 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>b) Introduction to Syro-Aramaic Studies (2 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>c) (Targum-)Aramaic (1.5 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>d) Neo-Aramaic/-Syriac (1.5 ECTS-AP)</li> </ul>
<b>Type of Examination</b>	Course examinations; contain individual parts of the module: a) + b) + c) + d)

<b>Module Name</b>	The Bible and Exegesis in the Syriac Tradition
<b>Modulcode</b>	MAST 2
<b>Workload</b>	11 ECTS points
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Being familiar with the fundamental contents of the Bible and how they were passed on in the Syriac tradition</li> <li>- classical exegesis, e.g. literary-historic, allegoric, topological and anagogic interpretation;</li> <li>- being familiar with and being able to apply the methods of contemporary biblical exegesis and biblical studies.</li> </ul>
<b>Module Content</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Bible in the Syriac tradition: Peshitta, Syro Hexapla, Diatessaron, Syriac Curetonian, Sinaiticus, Philoxenus, Harclensis;</li> <li>- biblical manuscripts, lectionaries and their usage in the liturgy, printed editions, translations;</li> <li>- Syriac scholars and sacred scriptures (i. a. Ephrem, Jacob of Edessa, John of Mossul, Moses Bar Kepha, Daniel of Salah, Dionysius Bar Salibi, Philoxenus of Mabbug, Ishodad of Merv);</li> <li>- classical exegesis in the context of modern hermeneutics.</li> </ul>
<b>Courses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The Bible in the Syriac Tradition (2 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>b) Syriac Exegesis Old Testament(3 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>c) Syriac Exegesis New Testament (3 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>d) Advanced Seminar: Syriac Biblical Exegesis (3 ECTS-AP)</li> </ul>
<b>Type of Examination</b>	Course examinations; contain individual parts of the module: a) + b) + c) + d)

<b>Module Name</b>	History of Syriac Christianity
<b>Modulcode</b>	MAST 3
<b>Workload</b>	11 ECTS points
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Understanding the development of Syriac christianity and the Christian churches within the wider framework of general historic development and understanding the interconnectedness of other areas of religion and culture</li> <li>- being aware of the central aspects of the historic journey of the Syriac churches from the beginning until the present time;</li> <li>- understanding and reflecting upon the complex historical and contemporary developments of Syriac christianity in its countries of origins and in the pluralistic contexts in the diaspora.</li> </ul>
<b>Module Content</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Syriac Christianity in the Roman and Persian Empire of the Late Antiquity, synods and councils in the area of tension between reception and opposition, the historico-political context;</li> <li>- the dissemination of Syriac churches in Central Asia, China and India in particular (Saint Thomas Christians);</li> <li>- Christians in the context of Islam and the Mongols;</li> <li>- encounters with the West: crusaders, Catholic and Protestant missions;</li> <li>- Christians in the area of tension between the Ottoman Empire and colonial powers, ramifications of World War I to the contemporary stituation of Syriac christianity worldwide;</li> <li>- the role of the Syriac-Orthodox Church in ecumenism.</li> </ul>
<b>Courses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Beginnings of Syriac Christianity until the Umayyad Period (1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> century) (3 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>b) From the Umayyad Period until the End of the Ottoman Empire (7<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century) (3 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>c) Syriac Christianity in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century (5 ECTS-AP)</li> </ul>
<b>Type of Examination</b>	Course examinations; contain individual parts of the module: a) + b) + c)

<b>Module Name</b>	Liturgical Science
<b>Modulcode</b>	MAST 4
<b>Workload</b>	10 ECTS points
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Understanding the liturgy of the Syriac churches, its theology, structure and practice in its context;</li> <li>- being familiar with and critically evaluating the findings of comparative liturgical science;</li> <li>- critically analysing ecclesiastical practices and being able to contribute to their further development according to the standards of the church.</li> </ul>
<b>Module Content</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Liturgical calendar and the feasts of the liturgical year;</li> <li>- liturgical books (lectionaries, Shhimo, Penqitho, Huthoyo, M'ad'dono, Shbitho, Hudra);</li> <li>- theology of Syriac liturgical annotators (i.a. Jacob of Edessa, George Bishop of the Arabs, Dionysius Bar Salibi);</li> <li>- West and East Syriac hymnody (mimre, madrashe, qole, Onitho etc.), metre, stanzas, rhyme, rhythm, acrostics;</li> <li>- music terminology and hymnographs;</li> <li>- Syriac sacramental theology and its ecumenical context.</li> </ul>
<b>Courses</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Introduction to the Liturgical Year, Feasts and Liturgical Literature (3 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>b) Prosody and Liturgical Music (2 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>c) Syriac Liturgical Commentaries (2 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>d) Specialisation in Liturgical Science: Sacramental Theology (<i>roze</i>) and Eucharistic Prayers (<i>Anaphoras</i>) in the Ecumenical Context (3 ECTS-AP)</li> </ol>
<b>Type of Examination</b>	Course examinations; contain individual parts of the module: a) + b) + c) + d)

<b>Module Name</b>	Spirituality and Monasticism
<b>Modulcode</b>	MAST 5
<b>Workload</b>	7 ECTS points
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Understanding and reflecting upon the historic development of ascetic and monastic ways of living;</li> <li>- reading hagiographic and monastic texts with the historical-critical methode and discussing them from a theological viewpoint;</li> <li>- assessing the relevance of monastic theology for the present.</li> </ul>
<b>Module Content</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- History of Monasticism in the Syriac East and types of asceticism in Syriac monastic life;</li> <li>- sons and daughters of the covenant, hermites, stylites, cenobites, Tur Abdin;</li> <li>- hagiographies and acts of the martyrs as a literary genre (e.g. Persian Acts of the Martyrs);</li> <li>- reading and interpretation of spiritual texts of Syriac theologians (i. a. Isaac of Niniveh, Joseph Hazzaya).</li> </ul>
<b>Courses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Development and Theology of Syriac Spirituality and Syriac monasticism (4 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>b) Saints and Martyrs (3 ECTS-AP)</li> </ul>
<b>Type of Examination</b>	Course examinations; contain individual parts of the module: a) + b)

<b>Module Name</b>	Patristic Studies and Systematic Theology
<b>Modulcode</b>	MAST 6
<b>Workload</b>	13 ECTS points
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Being familiar with the specific development concerning the history of dogma in the Syriac language and culture and contextually analysing it;</li> <li>- being familiar with the main features of systematic theology of the Syriac churches, classification and portrayal;</li> <li>- identifying current issues within Syriac theology and independently reflecting upon them;</li> <li>- qualification for independent analysis and representation of central beliefs und ethical norms;</li> <li>- qualification for theological discourse in the area of tension between reason and faith.</li> </ul>
<b>Module Content</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Semitic-poetic and symbolic theology of the early Syriac church in hymns, memre and madrashe (i.a. Ephrem, Aphrahat, Jacob of Serugh, Narsai);</li> <li>- christological and ecclesiological developments in East and West Syriac theology (i. a. Philoxenus of Mabbug, Severus of Antioch, Babai the Great);</li> <li>- selected aspects of the Syriac Renaissance (i.a. Bar Hebraeus, Michael the Great, Abdisho bar Berika);</li> <li>- reading and interpretation of theological, philosophical and scientific Syriac and Christian-Arabic literary texts (i.a. Timothy I., Hunain Ibn Ishaq).</li> </ul>
<b>Courses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Early Syriac Authors (1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> century): Semitic-Poetic and Symbolic Theology (2 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>b) The Great Theologians in the Golden Age (5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> century): Christology und Ecclesiology (3 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>c) Selected Theological Themes of the Syriac Renaissance (11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> century) (2 ECTS-AP)</li> <li>d) Philosophy and Natural Sciences in the Works of Syriac Ecclesiastical Writers (6 ECTS-AP)</li> </ul>
<b>Type of Examination</b>	Course examinations; contain individual parts of the module: a) + b) + c) + d)

<b>Module Name</b>	Canon Law and Practical Theology
<b>Modulcode</b>	MAST 7
<b>Workload</b>	15 ECTS points
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Understanding the development and history of Canon Law in the East and West Syriac Tradition;</li> <li>- critically questioning canonical and synodal decisions as regards their feasibility in practice and contributing to their further development;</li> <li>- adopting ecumenical agreements (e. g. marriage law, baptism) and canonical decisions in the contexts of today's pluralistic society, and putting them into practice;</li> <li>- acquiring and applying pastoral theological knowledge, pastoral sphere of activity and pastoral self-competence;</li> <li>- developing methods of religious education and religious teaching in the context of a religious environment and intercultural formation;</li> <li>- designing religious education classes on the basis of curricula, teaching material and media in a way that is didactically and methodically suited to the target group and putting it into practice;</li> <li>- contributing to and reflecting upon interdenominational and interreligious projects.</li> </ul>
<b>Module Content</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Canon law: East Syriac and West Syriac;</li> <li>- synodal decisions and ecumenical agreements;</li> <li>- pastoral situation of Syriac Christians in their countries of origin and the diaspora;</li> <li>- religious and cultural experiences of the believers in parishes, in professional life and schools, questions concerning the connection between tradition and modernity, culture and religion;</li> <li>- principles of interdenominational and interreligious learning;</li> <li>- didactic concepts in general and didactic approaches for religious education, teaching methods, syllabi, teaching models and analysis of school books;</li> <li>- religious education teachers in the area of tension between church and state.</li> </ul>
<b>Courses</b>	<p>(a) History and Development of Canon Law in Syriac Christianity (3 ECTS-AP)</p> <p>(b) Specialisation in Canon Law: e.g. Current Synod Decisions, Matrimonial Law, Ecumenical Agreements (2 ECTS-AP)</p> <p>(c) Pastoral Theology and Pastoral Care (5 ECTS-AP)</p> <p>(d) Introduction to the Pedagogy and Didactics of Religious Education (5 ECTS-AP)</p>
<b>Type of Examination</b>	Course examinations; contain individual parts of the module: a) + b) + c) + d)

**Impressum**

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