

**PÁZMÁNY PÉTER CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY**  
*Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences*

*1635*  
since

UNIVERSITY  
OF NATIONAL  
EXCELLENCE

**2018**

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# DEAN'S WELCOME



## Dear Future Students,

Why choose Pázmány?

Because it is a University of Excellence that offers marketable degrees of a stable value.

Because it is deeply committed to innovation and research, not only in words but also in practice, as is clearly demonstrated by the programs of its Doctoral Schools and the number of projects that it has won and implemented. Because it is our duty to pay attention to and help each other with what we can. We not only belong to Pázmány for graduation and science but also for each other and the community including everyone from the doorkeeper to the Rector.

Because the University is imbued with the joyful spirit of the Gospel. Good humour and the joy of living are just as important in our everyday lives as earnestness and responsibility.

Finally, because Pázmány Péter Catholic University has international connections that enable students to gather experiences in different academic fields abroad as well.

**REV. GYÖRGY FODOR PHD**  
dean

# THE HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY AND THE FACULTY

The University has been in continuous existence since its inception in 1635. It was founded by Archbishop of Esztergom Péter Pázmány during the Ottoman occupation, the most tragic years of Hungary, to mark an epoch in Hungary's history of education and religious culture. Pázmány was convinced that education was the guarantee for the nation's survival and morals.

The University was moved from Nagyszombat (now Trnava) to Buda by Queen Maria Theresa. In the spirit of the 1848 reforms, the University became a modern and autonomous educational centre. After a short period of limitations, it regained its rights in 1860 to become one of the world's

finest universities by the early 20th century. In 1921, after the grisly calamities of World War I and the restrictions imposed on it by the Hungarian Soviet Republic, the Royal Hungarian University in Budapest was once again named after its founder, Péter Pázmány, a name used until 1950. This year the communist state separated the Faculties of Medicine and Theology and founded Eötvös Loránd University.

In 1993, Parliament recognized and registered the Faculty of Humanities, established beside the Faculty of Theology still using Pázmány's name, declaring Pázmány Péter Catholic University a state-accredited university.

On 1 February 2012, the faculty was renamed Faculty of

Humanities and Social Sciences to reflect the growing number of programs in social sciences.

On 1 July 2013, the University Board resolved to integrate Vitéz János Faculty in Esztergom into our Faculty with the name Vitéz János Teacher Training Centre.

Currently, Pázmány Péter Catholic University has five faculties: the Faculty of Theology (Budapest), the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (Piliscsaba, Budapest, and Esztergom), the Faculty of Law and Political Sciences (Budapest), the Faculty of Information Technology and Bionics (Budapest), and the Postgraduate Institute of Canon Law (Budapest), which also has faculty status.





# LOCATIONS



## 1. BUDAPEST

The programs we offer in Budapest are available in two locations. One is in the 8th district, in the heart of the old palace district, near a number of churches, universities and famous cultural institutions (1 Mikszáth tér, Budapest 1088). The other location is a set of leased rooms at 2-4 Tárogató út, Budapest 1021.



## 2. PILISCSABA

Our campus in Piliscsaba is 14 km from Budapest, in a beautiful scenery, in the valley between the Pilis and the Buda Mountains (1 Egyetem tér, Piliscsaba 2087).



## 3. ESZTERGOM

Our campus in Esztergom is in the building of the former archiepiscopal teacher training school, in the historical city centre, near the Basilica (1-3 Májer István út, Esztergom 2500).

# EDUCATION

In September 2006, we adopted the Bologna regime of multi-cycle education, including BA, MA and PhD levels.

The degrees in this system are mutually acceptable across Europe with broader opportunities of student and teacher mobility and of developing competitive and knowledge-based thinking of European standards.

The first cycle, internationally called BA, is a training form of six to eight terms (180–240 credits).

The second cycle, internationally called MA, is a training form of

four terms (120 credits) which follows and is based on the BA cycle. The third cycle (doctoral training) is a training form of eight terms (240 credits) which follows and is based on the MA cycle, provides scientific training and prepares students to acquire the PhD degree.

BA applicants can seek admission to BA programs and specialisation courses in some programs depending on their academic and high school achievements. BA students can

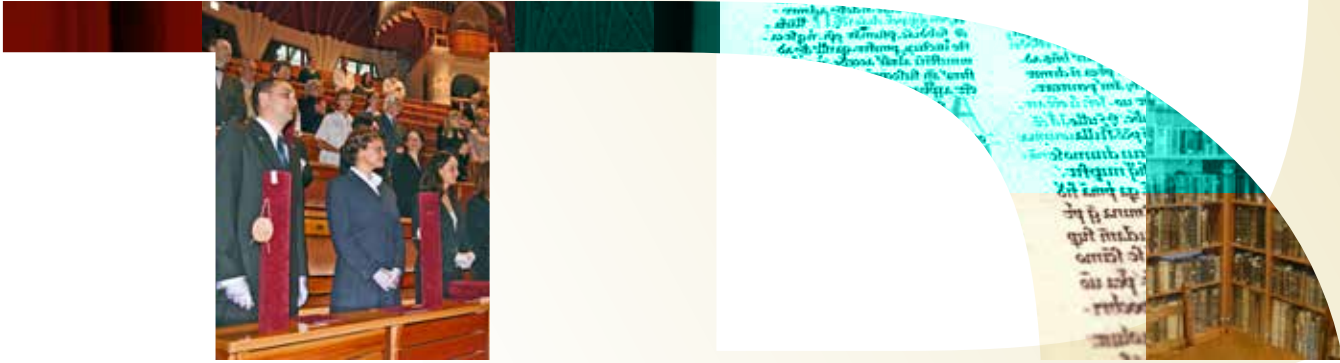
choose from minor programs and a variety of specialisation courses in addition to their majors.

The MA programs are available to people who hold at least a BA degree. The admission criteria are laid down in the training and graduation requirements of each program. Applicants can choose from our disciplinary MAs according to their fields of interest.

Training level	Degree	Training period	Number of credits
BACHELOR'S	BA	6–8 terms	180-240
MASTER'S	MA	4 terms	120
DOCTORAL	PhD	8 terms	240



# DOCTORAL TRAINING



The faculty offers accredited doctoral training in four academic fields: Literature and Culture, Linguistics, Political Science, and History. The location is Sophianum, Budapest.

## Doctoral School of Literature

The workshops of the Doctoral School of Literature rely on our MA programs offering a deeper insight and helping to achieve new research findings.

The School looks at literature as a form of art from theoretical, historical, and cultural perspectives and enables students to become thoroughly acquainted with the literature of different periods (e.g. Old Hungarian literature) or different languages (English, Arabic, French, Hebrew, Latin, Polish, German, Italian, Spanish) and to do research in philology, literary history, and theory. Our PhD graduates can pursue a career in research groups and in secondary and higher education.

The Head of the Doctoral School is Prof. Emil Hargittay.

## Doctoral School of Linguistics

The Doctoral School of Linguistics offers doctoral programs in major core areas of linguistics, such as theoretical linguistics, including syntactic theory, phonological theory, sociolinguistics, Hungarian descriptive linguistics, historical linguistics, classical philology, Arabic Studies, English Studies, Germanic Studies, Romance Languages, as well as applied linguistics, including computational linguistics. While a PhD in most of the above fields primarily qualifies graduates to do research and work in higher education, a PhD in theoretical linguistics also provides competitive skills in research and development.

The Head of the Doctoral School is Prof. Katalin É. Kiss.

### Further information:

<https://btk.ppke.hu/kepzesek/doktori-kepzesek-ph-d-es-habilitacio>

## Doctoral School of Political Theory

The Doctoral School of Political Theory offers a doctoral program which is common abroad including the UK and the USA with an approach to the increasingly important basics of political theory from two different directions. On the one hand, it builds on the foundations of political philosophy and the history of political ideology. On the other hand, it provides some insight into the research methods of the most modern social sciences, such as political sciences, international studies, sociology and communication theory. It rethinks the traditions of ancient and Christian philosophy in opposition to current social and political challenges as an opportunity for profound research into recent problems of politics and for an analysis of the latest political phenomena in terms of empirical and theoretical political science. A key element of the training is interdisciplinarity and the focus on the practical applicability of the humanities and social sciences.

The Head of the Doctoral School is Prof. Balázs Mezei.

## Doctoral School of History

The Doctoral School of History follows the motto, "He who knows not his past has no future." The school offers workshops in a wide range of topics and research methods to thoroughly immerse students in economic, social, and religious history. Our workshops of ideological history study ancient religions and modern denominations in addition to philosophical history and visual memory relying on images and works of art as sources. In each research workshop students can look at the sources that are relevant to their areas in the original languages for thorough familiarity and new research findings.

The Head of the Doctoral School is Prof. Sándor Óze.



# INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS



Our diverse long-running exchange programs and international dual training scheme have enabled an increasing number of students and lecturers to complete foreign study trips and courses.



The Erasmus+ Mobility Program enables nearly 100 students each year to spend a term or a full year at some renowned European university, such as the Catholic University of Leuven, the University of Heidelberg, and the Radboud University in Nijmegen.

In academic year 2016/2017, we awarded a scholarship to 70 students and supported another 8 for an internship together with 25 lecturers and 4 staff members for mobility. Within the program, the Faculty receives a steadily increasing number of students each year. In academic year 2016/2017 we had 115 students and 16 lecturers and staff members.

The number of our partners is also on the rise from year to year. Within the Erasmus+ Program we cooperate with more than 120 universities across Europe, partly because the Program has been extended to include regions outside Europe, which has enabled us to develop exchange programs with Armenia, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Israel. CEEPUS (Central European Exchange Program for University Studies) is a network which allows about 30 students each year to complete a part of their study period at Jagiello University (Krakow), Babes-Bolyai University (Cluj) and Palacky University (Olomouc), to name but a few institutions.



The program relies on network cooperation. In academic year 2016/2017 the University was a member of five networks, acting as senior coordinator in two (FISH and Habsburg). The networks allow the universities of the member countries to exchange visiting lecturers and students, and to manage language and speciality courses and summer universities. Also, this type of mobility offers research scholarships of 1-2 months for writing theses and dissertations. In July 2017, the Faculty ran a summer university program to host the students and lecturers of the FISH network.

In academic year 2016/2017, we received and sent a total of 48 students, lecturers and staff members.

Our MA in International Studies is a dual English language program which offers a one-year exchange of experiences abroad. At the end of the two-year program, students receive a degree from PPCU and from our French or Portuguese partner.

Our Faculty submitted a successful bid called "Reading in Europe Today – Reading and Writing Literary Texts in the Age of Digital Humanities" within the Higher Education Strategic Partnership Tenders. In each of the three sponsored years



we offer multiple opportunities to both students and lecturers for gaining experiences abroad.

In two consecutive years we ran a successful summer university program in collaboration with the Armenian State Pedagogical University. The two-week course is available to 10–15 students from both universities in each other's country with overall financial support. The program is open on both parties' side for students from other parts of the world. This year our Faculty hosted students from Japan, Taiwan, Germany, Russia, the Czech Republic, Canada, Portugal and France. In academic year 2016/2017 we received about 150 international students within the above programs. Such students

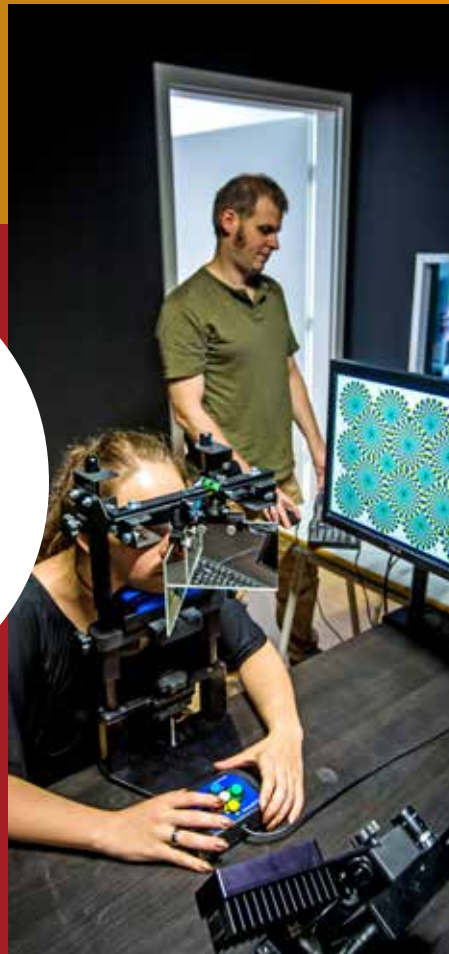
increasingly make a conscious choice as their peers recommend them our Faculty on returning home. They justify their choice with the high level of professionalism at the courses, the diversity and quality of program offering, the efficient student mentoring network, and the diverse cultural and leisurely activities.

Information on scholarship options is available all year in the International Office.



# FACULTY RESEARCH

We do research in almost all programs in humanities, social sciences and pedagogy. These projects are sponsored partly by the University and partly by domestic and international support schemes. The findings appear in the lessons and some projects involve MA and PhD students as an integral part of training new generations of researchers. A number of (individual and team) projects are sponsored by the National Research, Development and Innovation Office and some Faculty members are supported by the Bolyai Grant and the Research Team Grant of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Such valuable forms of support and the considerable international grants reflect the high standards of our research. Our projects open new perspectives in aesthetics, philology, philosophy, literature, communication and media, the history of culture, ideology, society and art, linguistics, ancient studies, oriental studies, pedagogy, psychology, archaeology, sociology, historiography, and religious history.





# LIBRARY

Our Faculty Library is a Church run higher education library open to the public, designed to serve high standard university instruction and research and to create a background for reference services. It does this partly by building its own collection, partly by using the databases of third-party electronic content providers and distributors, and partly by involving our partner libraries in cooperation with the domestic and international library networks.

We have a total of around 300,000 printed documents to which we regularly add the latest titles of Hungarian and foreign literature. We receive 210 journals every year ordered as individual titles. We also offer a wide range of domestic and foreign online academic databases, both by subscription and by other licences, with full access to thousands of journals through the Faculty's network or by remote log-in.

**Our agreements with ELTE and Sapientia College of Theology of Religious Orders have granted Pázmány students and lecturers unlimited free access to the their prestigious libraries in Budapest.**

We have a library service point in each of our campuses in Piliscsaba, Budapest and Esztergom. Two thirds of the conventional publications are available on the Piliscsaba campus. Their subjects cover all programs of the Faculty. The library in Esztergom promotes local courses with extensive literature of pedagogy and methodology. In Budapest, some institutes and departments in Sophianum offer off-site collections and our campus in Tárगतó út has minor reference libraries. Information on the available books is found in an online catalogue. Some older acquisitions can be searched in a card register.

Our staff are happy to give guidance about our own collections and provide information about the international library system, help find the right literature, and can offer useful tips



and advice on the use of search systems and databases. For more information on the off-site collections of departments, please refer to the training coordinators.

The library website provides updated information on the current opening hours and all options that students can use as a source of literature. The catalogue containing the University's conventional collection and the list of links to online databases and journals can always be a good starting point for beginning and expanding a literature review.

Library homepage: <http://btk.ppke.hu/konyvtar>

# TRADITIONS AND EVENTS



## Pázmány Day

Held in honour of Péter Pázmány, the founder of our University, this ceremony involves the delivery of Pázmány Awards and PhD degrees.

## Fresher Picnic

The first meeting before Fresher Camp

## Fresher Camp

This is a three or four day camp for the Faculty's first year students with civilised and creative events and some useful practical information for life at the University. Fresher Camp offers fun to the prospective first year students.

## Opening Party

This is the very first event of each academic year to help students find their way back to university life after their summer holidays. The Opening Party is usually preceded by Information Day, which provides students with key information about the University.

## Freshers' Ball

As the name suggests, this elegant ball is mainly meant for freshers and usually features live music and an opening dance.

## Pázmány Cultural Talk Show

The monthly Pázmány Cultural Talk Show is a series of informal chats with public figures, artists, and athletes who, due to their lives or work, may lend a fresh perspective to the students with their reflections.

## Pázmány Park

This event draws the largest crowd to the campus at Piliscsaba evoking the atmosphere of former May Days and Pázmány on the Move events in the Pilis. There are usually competitions between the different departments, cooking together, and musical and sports events.



## Faculty Football Championship

This championship is held each term to match the best teams all day long.

## Department Trips and Evenings

Most departments organise a Department Evening and Trip once a year to help students find out more about their fellow students and meet their lecturers in different situations.



# UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

An integral part of our Faculty, the University Chaplaincy offers holy mass and special events to students together with spiritual talks at any time by previous appointment. The Christian Student Circle (Szósz) is a group of volunteers under the auspices of the Chaplaincy, organising a number of events open to all students.

The Faculty Chaplaincy also offers students the Tuesday evening meetings organised by Father Feri Pál together with different self-knowledge and skills development groups, devotion circles and charity work.

We also run preparatory courses for confirmation and marriage in small groups as requested.

Our professionals provide pastoral care in topics related to lifestyle and religious life, helping students to improve their spiritual, mental and physical well-being, and to cherish their human relations.

Our regular weekly events and high-profile annual events aim to help students re-charge in spiritual terms and to spend some memorable years at the Faculty.

**András Hodász**  
*University Chaplain*

## UNIVERSITY CHURCH

*The University's Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1715–1742) is a Baroque style Roman Catholic church in the fifth district of Budapest. It used to be the central church of the Order of St. Paul until its takeover by Pázmány Péter Catholic University in 1786.*





# CONTACT DETAILS AND ADDRESSES

## INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

Address: 1088 Budapest, Mikszáth Kálmán tér 1. - Sophianum 003, 004/b

Phone: +36 1 235 30 35

e-mail: [international.office@btk.ppke.hu](mailto:international.office@btk.ppke.hu)

Web: <https://btk.ppke.hu/en/international-office>



[www.btk.ppke.hu/en](http://www.btk.ppke.hu/en)