



PONTIFICIA  
UNIVERSITÀ  
GREGORIANA

# INSTITUTE OF PSYCHOLOGY

GENERAL INFORMATION

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### *The Aim of the Institute*

The Institute aims to prepare specialists in psychology who will integrate the spiritual and psychological dimensions in the apostolic and educational activities for which they are responsible, as Spiritual Directors in seminaries, as vocational Formators, Educators etc., and to promote the progress of these disciplines through the scientific research of its Professors and through a deeper formation of some selected students who may later engage in scientific research as well as teaching and other intellectual activities.

### *Curriculum of Studies*

The curriculum of studies at the Institute of Psychology comprises a Propedeutic Year, a Licentiate Cycle, a further year of Supervised Practice and a Doctoral Cycle.

The *Propedeutic Year* provides a general formation in the psychological and sacred disciplines, in an interdisciplinary perspective, in view of admission to the Licentiate Cycle. In addition, the students are introduced to the method of scientific research.

The Licentiate Cycle or *Second Cycle*, which is of two years' duration, leads the student to a deeper knowledge and experience of the materials taught; furthermore, it develops in the students the capacity to apply the notions which they have acquired, both in practical work and in scientific research.

The year of *Supervised Practice*, of two semesters' duration, aims at the professional consolidation of the students, offering the opportunity of further supervised practical experience in which they may apply what has been learned during the two years of the Licentiate Cycle.

The Doctoral Cycle, or *Third Cycle*, involves the completion and discussion of a dissertation embodying scientific research, leading to the degree of Doctorate in Psychology.

Given the sensitive nature of the task for which the students are being prepared, the Institute of Psychology reserves the right to evaluate and to decide – also during the period of formation – whether a particular student is suitable to continue in the programme.

### *Teaching Method*

While some courses within the curriculum are taught by way of lectures, the form of teaching generally followed is that of the “seminar”, conducted by the staff of the Institute and requiring the active participation of the students.

Each student participates in individual *vocational growth sessions* (corresponding within the Institute's specific anthropology to a didactic psychotherapy) for at least two years. An experience of accompanying others in spiritual and psychological discernment is also a part of the formation offered at the Institute.

### *Requirements for Admission*

Applicants to study at the Institute must possess a Bachelor's degree, as well as having sufficient preparation in theology (systematic, biblical and moral) and in philosophy (history of ideas, metaphysics, ethics, epistemology); applicants should also possess a sufficient knowledge of both Italian and English, as well as of the general notions of psychology. Such knowledge may be verified in an examination.

The Director with the Consultors and the Professors of the disciplines involved may give recognition to courses for which a candidate has successfully acquired credits in another institution of university level. Such recognition may not be granted until the student has completed at least one semester at the Institute.

Admission to the *Second Cycle* is granted only to those who have completed the Propedeutic Year at the Institute and who have been successful in the examinations in the stipulated courses.

Admission to the year of *Supervised Practice* is reserved to those who have completed the Licentiate at the Institute.

Admission to the *Third Cycle* is reserved to those who, on completion the courses of the Second Cycle, have obtained the Licentiate degree with a more than satisfactory result, and who have also completed with profit the year of Supervised Practice. In addition, a capacity to read in those modern languages which are necessary for scientific research within their specialization is also required.

Applications for admission should be completed on the official form, which may be requested at [psicolcand@unigre.it](mailto:psicolcand@unigre.it).

These forms, duly completed in all their parts and accompanied by the necessary attachments (official copies of academic qualifications with marks obtained, letters of recommendation, etc.) should reach the Institute by 15 January of the year for which the application is being made. By the end of April applicants will be informed whether they have been accepted or not.