

Are you interested in studying Orthodox Christianity at university level?

You can do so at St Irenaeus Orthodox Theological Institute, based at Radboud University in Nijmegen. There is the option of the full Pre-Master Orthodox Christianity programme or of a minor consisting of several courses of the pre-master. Upon completion you may continue with a related master's programme.

Pre-master programme

The Pre-Master Orthodox Christianity provides students with an introduction to Orthodox Christianity as it is lived in its rich diversity. The programme focuses on what is shared by the Orthodox of both families: the 'Eastern Orthodox' (Greek, Slavic, Arabic, Romanian etc. traditions) and the 'Oriental Orthodox' (Armenian, Coptic, Syriac, Ethiopic and Eritrean traditions). Students will study Orthodoxy in its own right, rather than highlighting the differences with the other two forms of Christianity (Roman Catholicism and Protestantism).

Although this programme prepares students for continuing with a master's programme offered by Radboud University, some students use the pre-master as a 'mini bachelor' in Orthodox Christianity without continuing their studies at master's level.

To enrol you need a Dutch bachelor's degree (university or HBO) or a foreign degree recognised in The Netherlands. The fees for the programme are approximately the same as for a regular university bachelor.



Minor

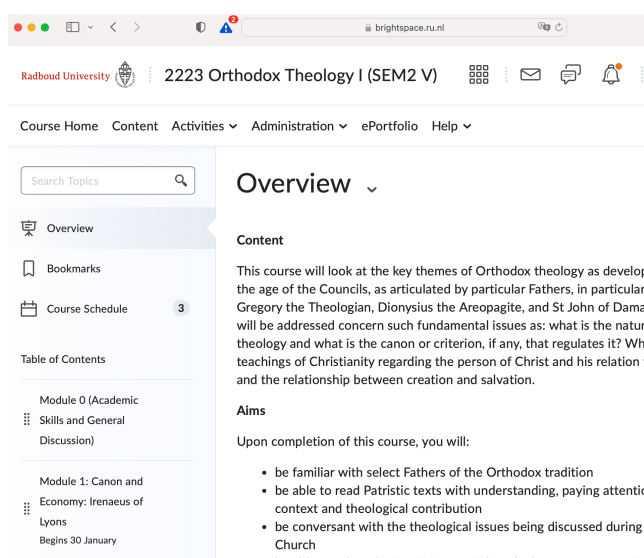
Students at any Dutch university may incorporate courses of our pre-master as a minor in their main programme. Students at an HBO institution can (under certain conditions) do the same. You will probably need permission from the exam committee of your main institution.

Programme

The pre-master programme consists of eleven courses. In nine of these courses various aspects of the Orthodox traditions are examined. These courses are taught in English by the teaching staff of St Irenaeus: Fr John Behr (full professor), Fr Michael Bakker (rector), Fr Joan Lena (lecturer). The two remaining courses are general courses taught in Dutch or English by our faculty colleagues.

Blended Learning

We use the innovative 'blended learning' format, which allows students to participate almost entirely online. Each course consists of eight study weeks, during the last of which students finish their final paper for the course. During the preceding seven weeks you will study reading materials and videos available in the electronic learning environment Brightspace (see screenshot to the right). You will participate in weekly online meetings ('virtual classrooms') and answer questions in writing. Each course is completed by a live meeting at Radboud University, during which students will present (the drafts of) their final papers. This form of teaching allows you great flexibility and minimises travel time. The virtual classrooms are scheduled at 18-19 hours, which usually does not interfere with work or other activities.



Master programmes

Students who have completed the pre-master may continue their studies with the Master Geestelijke Verzorging (Spiritual Care), the Educatieve Master Godsdienst en Levensbeschouwing (Educational Master), both of which are taught in Dutch. A third master programme is currently being developed: a sub-specialisation Orthodox Christianity within the one-year Master Theology (in English).

Schedule Pre-Master Orthodox Christianity (2023-2024)

The table below shows the part-time study schedule (combining both years results in a full-time programme):

YEAR 1 (Part-time)			First Semester		Second Semester		Virtual Classroom		Presentations
							On-line		On campus
Course	Teacher	EC	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Time	Weeks	Date & Time
History of Orthodoxy 1	Joan Lena	5					Th 18-19	36-42	Fr 20 Oct 10-14
Scripture in Orthodoxy	John Behr	5					We 18-19	36-42	Fr 20 Oct 14-18
Liturgy of Orthodoxy 1	Joan Lena	5					Th 18-19	45-51	Fr 22 Dec 10-14
Theology of Orthodoxy 1	John Behr	5					We 18-19	5-11	Fr 15 March 10-14
Anthropology of Orthodoxy	Michael Bakker	5					Th 18-19	5-11	Fr 15 March 14-18
Liturgy of Orthodoxy 2	Joan Lena	5					Th 18-19	15-17, 19-23	Fr 7 June 14-18
YEAR 2 (Part-time)									
World religions		5						36-42	
Methoden		5						36-42	
History of Orthodoxy 2	Joan Lena	5					We 18-19	45-51	Fr 22 Dec 14-18
Thesis	Michael Bakker	10					Th 15:30-17	5-22, campus	
Theology of Orthodoxy 2	Michael Bakker	5					We 18-19	15-17, 19-23	Fr 7 June 10-14
Total		60							

More information

If you are interested, please visit our website for more information at www.irenaeus.nl or send an email to office@irenaeus.nl.