



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATOR PROGRAM

Master of Theology (2 Years), 120 university credits,  
with an additional 1 year-full time at Folkhögskola

**A** religious educator is a teacher and theologian who plays a key role in the life of the church and in its future development. An educator inspires and stimulates clergy and laity to deepen their understanding and to relate their faith to the world outside the Church. Therefore, an educator must have an in-depth understanding of the Church's tradition, as well as the tools which will allow him or her to communicate that understanding to others. Students on this program receive a master's-level theological education in the Department of Eastern Christian Studies at Stockholm School of Theology. In addition, they learn how to create a safe and stimulating learning environment within a church congregation or a diocese, and how to encourage participation in the life of the church by clergy and lay members. The successful student will be well equipped to help the church to meet the challenges it faces today.

The program can be taken over two years (for students who already have a bachelor's degree in a theological subject or a biblical subject) or over three years (for students who already have a bachelor's degree in a subject within the humanities other than theology).

**Length:** 2 or 3 years, 120 ECTS credits

**Study pace:** Full-time

**Type of instruction:** On-campus

**Language of instruction:** English

**Location:** Campus Södertälje & Campus Bromma

**Level:** University (MTh) and Folkhögskola

**Organizer:** Stockholm School of Theology (University College Stockholm) and Sankt Ignatios Folkhögskola

## STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAM

Module	University	Folkhögskola	
<b>Year 1</b>			
		<b>Language</b>	<b>Pedagogics</b>
<b>Module 1</b>	<b>Theory and Method in Eastern Christian Studies</b> 7.5 credits	<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Intermediate A</b>
	<b>The Scriptures and Eastern Christianity</b> 7.5 credits		
<b>Module 2</b>	<b>Patristics: Sources and Methods</b> 7.5 credits	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Intermediate B</b>
	<b>Eastern Christian Liturgy and Liturgical Theology</b> 7.5 credits		
<b>Module 3</b>	<b>The Church as Polis</b> 7.5 credits	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Advanced A</b>
	<b>Text and Context in Eastern Christian Studies</b> 7.5 credits		
<b>Module 4</b>	<b>The Church in Theory and Practice</b> 7.5 credits	<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Advanced B</b>
	<b>Elective course</b> 7.5 credits		
<b>Year 2</b>			
<b>Module 1</b>	<b>Elective courses</b> 15 credits	<b>Step 5</b>	<b>Advanced C</b>
<b>Module 2</b>	<b>Thematic course</b> 15 credits		
<b>Module 3–4</b>	<b>Master's Thesis</b> 30 credits		

The students choose either to specialize in languages or pedagogics.

Language	Pedagogics
<b>Introduction</b> (Second week) The introductory week aims to identify the language level of each student. There are four levels, each level is divided in five steps.	<b>Introduction</b> (Second week) The introductory week deals with the Christian faith in relation to pedagogy with special focus on the mission of the religious educators to learn and teach for life.
<b>Step 1</b> <b>Beginners level:</b> Learn the alphabet. <b>Intermediate level:</b> Be able to read and recite liturgical texts. <b>Advanced level A and B:</b> Be able to write shorter texts using aids. <b>Advanced level C and D:</b> Be able to write texts independently.	<b>Intermediate A</b> The focus of this course is on issues such as interpersonal relationships, human development and learning. Concepts such as knowledge formation, socialization, meaning-making and communication are used to analyze educational processes in everyday and formal contexts. Students are also able to practice within a real-life teaching setting.
<b>Step 2</b> <b>Beginner's level:</b> Be able to read without much difficulty. <b>Intermediate level:</b> Be able to actively formulate simpler sentences in writing, and know everyday phrases. <b>Advanced level A and B:</b> Be able to translate selected liturgical texts without aids, and conduct a simple conversation. <b>Advanced level C and D:</b> Be able to conduct different types of conversation.	<b>Intermediate B</b> This course compares different didactic methods and disciplines, with a focus on the relationship between teaching and learning, the use of concepts, the relationship between pedagogy, didactics and methodology and the distinction between general and specific-subject didactics. Students will also learn how to conduct a literature search within a research field. Students learn how to plan their teaching.

Language	Pedagogics
<p><b>Step 3</b>  <b>Beginner's level:</b> Know enough grammar to analyze simpler texts.  <b>Intermediate level:</b> Be able to translate selected liturgical texts using lexical and grammatical aids, and have an in-depth knowledge of grammar.  <b>Advanced level A and B:</b> Translate more difficult texts independently, and translate advanced texts using aids.  <b>Advanced level C and D:</b> Recognize the styles of each of the church fathers.</p>	<p><b>Advanced A</b>  Being a leader means talking and listening. The central role of communication in leadership and development has inspired the design of a communicative leadership model based on knowledge of the functions, conditions and potential of communication. This course emphasizes the professionalism of leaders and aims to develop both the understanding of and practical skills in successful communicative leadership. The qualities and challenges of leadership are given a theoretically sustainable and practically useful basis. Students are given the opportunity to put these ideas and skills to use in real-life school and parish settings.</p>
<p><b>Step 4</b>  <b>Beginner's level:</b> Translate simpler texts independently.  <b>Intermediate level:</b> Be able to translate and analyze difficult texts using aids.  <b>Advanced level A and B:</b> Be able to analyze texts independently and regardless of difficulty.  <b>Advanced level C and D:</b> Reproduce the styles of the church fathers.</p>	<p><b>Advanced B</b>  In this course we will work on describing, analyzing and recognizing the difficulties in the different types of multimodal communication in different learning situations. Students will learn how use the relevant theoretical concepts and practical methods to do this. The aim is for students to learn how to design learning situations so that environment, methodology and participants can work together to achieve the best possible educational effect.</p>
<p><b>Step 5</b>  <b>Beginner's level:</b> Be able to read and recite liturgical texts.  <b>Intermediate level:</b> Be able to write shorter texts using aids.  <b>Advanced level A and B:</b> Be able to write texts independently.  <b>Advanced level C and D:</b> Demonstrate the capability to formulate prayers and hymns in the traditional style of the respective tradition.</p>	<p><b>Advanced C</b>  In this course we work with different theoretical perspectives on learning (socio-cultural, constructivist and behaviourist), with the aim of giving students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with pedagogical and didactic research in practice. We study and compare the different approaches in order to be able to draw conclusions about the possibilities and limitations they provide with respect to the planning of teaching and other educational activities. Auscultation<sup>1</sup> in pedagogy takes place during this course.</p>

1 study week equals one week of full-time study (40 hours). Of these 40 hours, 20 will be contact hours (teacher-led), typically 4 hours a day for 5 days per week.

This combined coursework will lead to a Master of Theology degree in Eastern Christian Studies (120 university credits) and 1 year of full-time credit at folkhögskola. The combination will lead to a Religious Educator professional qualification (Swedish: yrkesexamen) issued by Sankt Ignatios College.

---

<sup>1</sup> *Auscultation* is a concept used in Nordic pedagogy to refer to paying attention to sensory experiences that often operate at an unconscious level and resist verbal articulation.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to be admitted to either program, an applicant must either have a bachelor's degree in theology/religious studies, comprising 180 ECTS credits, or a degree in another subject as part of which they have taken religious studies or theological courses worth at least 60 credits, including a thesis of at least 15 credits.

At least 15 credits should be in Eastern Christian studies or an equivalent subject area within religious studies studied at an advanced level (i.e., 3<sup>rd</sup> year courses of a three-year bachelor's degree program, 3<sup>rd</sup> year and 4<sup>th</sup> year courses of a four-year bachelor's degree program). Students with other relevant subjects or an equivalent degree from an educational institution outside of Sweden may be admitted on the basis of individual assessment and examination. Students may also be admitted to later parts of the program (61–120 ECTS credits) on the basis of a special application, provided that the relevant prerequisites have been met. For more information about such special application please contact the Director of Studies.

English language proficiency: the English proficiency requirement for academic studies at Sankt Ignatios is equivalent to the English 6 course in Swedish upper secondary school. Students from outside Sweden, or students who cannot verify proficiency in English, are required to take an internationally recognized test (e. g. TOEFL, IELTS, or equivalent). More information about the required score on internationally recognized English tests can be found at [English language requirements \(universityadmissions.se\)](https://ehs.se/universityadmissions.se); see section *Meeting the English requirements with an English test*.

## COST OF STUDY

Students at Stockholm School of Theology (University College Stockholm) are not required to pay tuition fees if they are citizens of Sweden, another EU/EEA country or Switzerland, or if they have been granted permission to live in Sweden. Students coming from countries other than those listed above are required to pay tuition fees. See <https://ehs.se/tuition-fees>.

Education at Sankt Ignatios Folkhögskola is tuition-free for everyone who is a citizen of Sweden or another EU country, or who has been granted a Swedish residence permit. Students must be registered as living in Sweden. Students are required to pay a service fee which covers refreshments, insurance, administration, and some materials used by students in connection with their studies. More information is available at <https://www.sanktignatios.org/admissions-and-finance/>.

## HOW TO APPLY

Apply through [www.universityadmissions.se](https://www.universityadmissions.se) or [www.antagning.se](https://www.antagning.se) until April 19, 2022.

For all questions related to the program please visit <https://ehs.se/en/academics/professional-programs/religious-educator/>, or contact Dr. Grant White at [grant.white@ehs.se](mailto:grant.white@ehs.se), or Fr. Serafim Smensgård at [serafim.smensgard@ehs.se](mailto:serafim.smensgard@ehs.se).

Contacts for questions related to the application process can be found [here](#).