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Dear Future Students,

Why prefer Pázmány?

People always ask us how a Catholic university is more than, or just different from, any other university. My answer is that one of the things in which Pázmány makes a difference is that it has an ideal. Our students, lecturers, and researchers work hard not only to comply with the law but also to achieve a much loftier goal: to preserve and promote our world as a beautiful and liveable place for the next generations. In short, we have a universal perspective.

We are deeply committed to innovation and research, not only in words but also in practice, as is clearly demonstrated by the programs of our doctoral schools, research laboratories, and the projects we have won and started to implement.

Pázmány is inspired by the spirit of the Gospel in its broadest sense. The term means “good news”. Good humour and the joy of living are just as important in our everyday lives as being earnest and responsible. We have the duty to pay attention to and help each other in what we can. We not only belong to Pázmány for graduation and scholarship but also for each other and a community that includes every single person.

Pázmány is a university of excellence that offers marketable degrees of a stable value. The quality we provide in teaching and research has gained recognition not only in Hungary but also in a scholarly environment across the globe. We believe that our work resting on such a solid ethical and scholarly foundation will have a future in 21st century society. Thus we have every reason to recommend to all the diverse array of programs from BA to PhD levels at our Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

REV. GYÖRGY FODOR PHD,
Dean
WHAT MAKES A CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY?

Named after Cardinal Péter Pázmány, our university belongs to the Catholic Church and hence to Hungarian Catholics. The term Catholic means ‘universal’ referring to the ideological foundation on which we can synthesise faith and knowledge. Our university is Catholic due to the personal conviction of our lecturers and staff in the first place but also because it is a place which shares the values of our Christian students and helps them practise their religion as part of a university community in multiple ways. Our universal community is open to students of other religions and atheists as long as they respect our values. Our courses providing general Catholic education foster universal values that are part of our European culture and civilisation irrespectively of ideology. In other words, our university’s Catholic identity offers an added value to all students.

HUNGARY HAS MANY UNIVERSITIES BUT ONLY ONE IS CATHOLIC – THE WORLD HAS MANY CATHOLIC UNIVERSITIES BUT ONLY ONE IS HUNGARIAN: PÁZMÁNY!

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 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.

On 1 February 2012, the Faculty was renamed Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences to reflect the growing number of its programs in social sciences.
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 neighbourhood of apartment houses, near a number of churches, universities and famous cultural institutions (1 Mikszáth tér, Budapest 1088). The other is Building Z of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics on Műegyetem rakpart, near downtown and the campus on Mikszáth Kálmán tér (2 Bertalan Lajos ú, Budapest 1111).

2. ESZTERGOM
Our Esztergom campus 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).
In September 2006, we adopted the Bologna regime of multi-cycle education, including BA, MA and PhD levels.

In this system all degrees are mutually recognised across Europe with broader opportunities of student and teacher mobility for the development of competitive and knowledge-based thinking of European standards.

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

The second cycle, internationally known as 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 a variety of specialisation courses or minor programs.

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.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Training level</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Training period</th>
<th>Number of credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BACHELOR’S</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>6–8 terms</td>
<td>180–240</td>
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<tr>
<td>MASTER’S</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>4 terms</td>
<td>120</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOCTORAL</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>8 terms</td>
<td>240</td>
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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 (Arabic, English, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Latin, Polish, Russian, 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 state-of-the-art doctoral training closely associated with current international research trends in major core areas of theoretical linguistics, including syntax, phonology, morphology and semantics, as well as sociolinguistics, Hungarian descriptive linguistics, historical linguistics, classical philology, Arabic Studies, English Studies, Germanic Studies, Romance Languages, and various branches of applied linguistics, including computational linguistics and language technology. The School’s program offers foundation and elective courses delivering a wide range of knowledge in each of the above areas and it provides students with personalised assistance in doing thorough research of their respective topics from the beginning of their training. The high number of areas where graduates can use their skills include secondary and higher education, research and development, and the language services industry, particularly in applied linguistics including computational linguistics.

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

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 church history, and in archaeology. 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 Őze.

Further information:
https://btk.ppke.hu/kepzeseink/doktori-kepzesek-ph-d-es-habilitacio

The Faculty offers accredited doctoral training in four academic fields: Literature and Culture, Linguistics, Political Science, and History. The location is Sophianum, Budapest.
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 more than 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 the academic year 2018/2019, we awarded a scholarship to 93 students and supported another 18 for an internship together with 10 lecturers and 8 staff members for mobility.

Within the program, the Faculty receives a steadily increasing number of students each year. In the academic year 2018/2019, we had 130 students and 12 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 5 students each year
to complete a part of their study period at Jagiello University (Krakow), Babes-Bolyai University (Cluj), the University of Vienna, and the University of Graz, to name but a few institutions.

The program relies on network cooperation. In the academic year 2018/2019, the University was a member of five networks, acting as senior coordinator in two (FISH and Confessional and Ethnic Interactions in the Habsburg Monarchy). The networks allow the universities of member countries to exchange visiting lecturers and students, and to manage language and specialty courses and summer universities. Also, this type of mobility offers research scholarships of 1-2 months for writing theses and dissertations. In the academic year 2018/2019, we received and sent a total of 32 students and lecturers.

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.

In September 2017, the Faculty started to implement its higher education strategic partnership project called “Reading in Europe Today — Reading and Writing Literary Texts in the Age of Digital Humanities”. During the three-year project, students of the French Department have the opportunity to attend seminars held by our French, Spanish, and Portuguese partners and to exchange valuable experiences. With their professional materials presented at the events, the grant holders also contribute to the RAS program corpus, the project’s intellectual product which links literary works with their respective reviews.

In the academic year 2018/2019, we received about 162 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 in the International Office all year.
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 Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the Eötvös Loránd Research Network, 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.
Our Library provides professional activities and services to help students with their training, contributes to the conditions for high-quality education, and acquires and processes the appropriate literature. It offers a space for library research, grants continuous access to electronic contents, and supports research in many other ways.

The Library’s collection covers all branches of arts and social sciences for each program offered at the Faculty. Main specialty areas include philosophy, religion, classical philology, history, archaeology, art history, communication, Hungarian and foreign literature, linguistics (especially English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Slavic, Armenian, and Eastern languages and cultures), international studies, political science, sociology, psychology and pedagogy.

Library service points
Much of the total stock of approximately 300,000 titles is searchable in the online catalogue. Certain thematic collections, such as separate collections and selections that assist the work of departments, are available for limited use. Enrolled students are free to use our comprehensive library services in our Piliscsaba and Esztergom campuses, where the bulk of the stock is searchable by topics on the free shelves. Also, students can ask our librarians for personal help to find the right literature and use any database. On our Budapest locations, some of the local collections assisting the work of Institutes are subject to limited use. Students are advised to ask training managers for information on the conditions of access.

Electronic databases
The University offers a wide range of subscribed electronic databases along with a number of domestic and foreign journals by individual order. Contents are available via Cable Internet or institutional WiFi access on each campus. Students and staff are free to study a number of portals wherever they are with EduId (Shibboleth) log-in and full entitlement.

Information on the literature, research support
Librarians use domestic and international opportunities to help students find information, collect the appropriate literature, and give them useful ideas and tips to use the search systems. They manage our lecturers’ scientific publication data in the Hungarian Scientific Bibliography, and perform a number of other mentoring, methodological, administrative and knowledge transfer responsibilities associated with information sources and research support.

Website and search options
Our website offers up-to-date information about the current opening hours, borrowing conditions, the collection and the University’s subscribed databases. The traditional publications are contained in a web based catalogue and a collection of links offers access to online databases and journals. Discovery Service, a new generation search engine managing multiple databases on a single-window platform, provides valuable help with finding information in the literature, searching for documents and downloading articles.

Partner libraries
Our interuniversity agreements enable our lecturers and students to use two renowned libraries in Budapest, of ELTE and Sapientia College of Theology of Religious Orders. Visitors from Pázmány are free to use the collections and their services according to the host institutions’ regulations.

Contact data are available on the Library’s website.

Faculty Library’s homepage: http://btk.ppke.hu/konyvtar
Catalogue: http://catalogus.btk.ppke.hu/
Databases: https://ppke.hu/egyetemunk/tudomanyos-informaciok/adatbazisok
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.

Freshman Picnic
Freshman Picnic is the first university event organised by the Student Union for newly admitted students after minimum admission scores are announced to help their integration. The Picnic is usually held on Margaret Island so that students can ask questions and request advice from their senior peers in an informal and relaxed atmosphere. They primarily get acquainted with the committees of the Student Union and Board, and with the tutors and demonstrators of each program to know their experiences about the given form of training. They are placed in small groups for each program to prepare for starting the year, discussing course lists, all the good things and the potential difficulties.
The event also helps first year students to get to know each other before Freshman Camp so that they can spend their first day there in a usual and intimate environment. To this end, program tutors prepare team building games.

Freshman Camp
As Freshman Camp experiences can greatly affect students’ years at the University, the Student Union works hard to organise a prestigious event that is worthy of Pázmány’s spirit and values. This three or four day camp offers a variety of team competitions for testing their skills at team building games. The event also features the Faculty’s self-study groups to present students a number of extracurricular professional and scientific activities. A special feature of the event is a set of presentations by our lecturers, followed by informal talk where freshmen are welcome to share their ideas about the presentations. Participants are offered civilised evening parties with music and dance, and shows by renowned performers and bands. All of this helps to make Freshman Camp a lifetime experience for first year students. Later on any student can volunteer to help organise Freshman Camp enjoying its fun activities again and contributing to this multyyear tradition.

Freshman Ball
Freshman Ball is the Faculty’s most elegant and prestigious event and one of the oldest, a time when jeans and T-shirts are replaced with suits and evening gowns. The Student Union works hard to select a special topic (such as fancy dress balls and Harry Potter in recent years), which is also reflected in the decoration. A number of valuable gifts offered by sponsors are drawn in a game of tombola with the organisers offering the returns for charitable purposes. The ball opening waltz is a multiyear tradition available to every first year student to given the event some extra glamour. Yet another key element is the selection of the belle of the ball to make the evening a real ball with lots of excitement. As well as the compères, the invited performers and popular entertainers do their best to make the ball fun.

Pázmány Cultural Talk Show
This is a highly successful series of events which has brought to Pázmány a number of public figures, including athletes, actors, musicians and scientists, for a number of years now to give students some insight into their everyday lives and university memories during an informal chat and to entertain them in a relaxed atmosphere.
The conversation is normally followed by a table football competition and sometimes by an emerging Pázmány band.

Pázmány Park/ PZMNY Park
The now traditional PZMNY Park is the most cheerful event of the spring term where everyone can take some rest after the teaching period. Before the exam period starts, we occupy the Piliscsaba campus to cook together in a cauldron, listen to music and play games. There is a raffle where valuable prizes are drawn and the invited performers and emerging Pázmány bands turn the whole thing into a festival, an event where people dance together with Freshman Camp friends not seen for a long time to the songs of their favourite performers while getting to know the peculiar and magical atmosphere of life in Piliscsaba.

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

Literature contest
The annual literature contest adopts a different name every year as a homage to the intellectual heritage of a significant writer or poet who played a key role in Hungarian literary life. Any student of the Faculty is welcome to submit their works in the categories of poem, short story or dramatic scene. The spring edition of PZMNY Park features an award ceremony together with a reading where the winners receive valuable prizes thanks to our sponsors.

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.

Self-study groups
The Faculty is home to a number of self-study groups engaged in scientific and public activities. Our students can join any group to study different branches of humanities, religion or drama as they wish or are interested. The Student Union popularises professional and scientific work by the Faculty’s students and helps them to organise scientific conferences and prepare collections of papers and other publications as a priority.

BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF LIFE AT PÁZMÁNY!

University is more than just attending lectures and seminars or learning. You have plenty of opportunities to join the university’s and students’ life as an additional source of experiences at the Pázmány Faculty of Humanities.
The University Chaplaincy is open to everyone. We wholeheartedly recommend it especially to those who want to find out about the values of Christian life, whether individually or in a community, during their years at Pázmány.

Our chaplain, father Alessandro Caprioli FSCB, is happy to meet students in Sophianum on teaching days every week, as well as anyone who needs spiritual leadership or thorough preparation for their confession, baptism, first communion or confirmation. Whoever participates in RE classes, common prayers, Advent or Lent retreats, cultural events and summer camps can expect to amass spiritual riches and experience a community’s power to provide people with guidance.

The Chaplaincy offers activities for the benefit of hospital patients, families in need, and children to anyone who wishes to engage in charity.

University chaplain:
Alessandro Caprioli FSCB

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 5th 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: 2 Bertalan Lajos u., Budapest 1111 – PPCU Building Z, 211
Email: international.office@btk.ppke.hu
Web: https://btk.ppke.hu/en/international-office