



St. John Paul II
Institute of Culture

JP2 Studies
one year diploma program

jp2studies@pust.it

St. John Paul II Institute of Culture, Faculty of Philosophy
Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas – Angelicum

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can apply for the JP2 Studies?

The JP2 Studies is a one year postgraduate program geared towards clergy, religious and laity alike, open to university graduates holding a B.A. or M.A. degree (or an equivalent) in any specialization.

What is the aim of the program?

The JP2 Studies program is designed to introduce the students to the work and thought of St. John Paul II and let them see today's religious, sociopolitical and cultural reality through the lens of his intellectual and spiritual heritage. We believe that John Paul II's views on culture, social and political processes, truth and human dignity are in many ways universal and we want to show you how he may still help us understand and solve the challenges facing the modern Church and world. We wish that the time spent at the Angelicum studying St. John Paul II's thought, reflecting *with* him on the past and today, and sharing ideas and perspectives with students from all over the world will also be a time of your personal and spiritual growth and inspiration.

What documents do I need to enroll?

To enroll in the JP2 Studies program at the Angelicum you will need to present the following documents:

1. Authentic original certification of completed studies, proving: the academic title, the number of years of study completed, the content of the studies, and the credits and grades obtained;
2. Copy of a valid document (passport / ID card)
3. Official letter of authorization (original):
 - a) from the Bishop or the Rector of the student's College of residence if he is a cleric or a seminarian;
 - b) for diocesan seminarians / priests residing in Rome in a non-authorized College, authorization from the Office of Clerics, issued by the Vicariate of Rome. Secular or Religious priests living outside the Diocese of Rome must present the *nihil obstat* of their own Ordinary, which proves their diocesan incardination, or affiliation to a particular religious institute, and the place of their habitual residence;
 - c) for religious: from one's Major Superior;
 - d) for lay students: letter of presentation by Bishop, priest or another ecclesial person on letterhead, signed and sealed (original). It should state the faith, the moral status and approval of the student seeking to study at the Angelicum.
4. Initial registration white form: download [here](#);
5. Two passport size photographs, one for the Dean of the Faculty and one for the use of the General Secretariat;

6. Receipt of payment of the registration fee of € 250 towards the academic fee, paid in one of the following ways: bank draft, credit card, cheque or in cash in the office of administration;
7. For non-EU citizens: a visa allowing you to study in Italy (please check below for more details on how to obtain a visa).

When can I register?

The registration process is open from 3 June 2024.

Please mind that the University is closed in August.

What are the steps of the registration process?

1. First make a registration request through the Angelicum online portal which is accessible from the website: <https://portale.angelicum.it/login> and upload the required documents. If you have any problem with uploading the documents to the portal, contact the Institute's staff at jp2studies@pust.it.
2. Bring all the original documentation to the faculty/institute office at the Angelicum.
3. Fill out one initial registration form (the form has to be signed and stamped by a superior in case of religious students).
4. Fill out two study plan registration forms (one for the secretary general office and one for the faculty).
5. Once the dean/director has approved and signed your registration forms, you will take the original documents, transcripts/authenticated copies to the secretary general's office.
6. Before that, go to the office of administration and make the down payment of € 250 towards the tuition fees or pay the whole tuition fee for the semester, showing the copy signed by the dean/director, or inform the administration about who will be paying for you in order to prepare the bill.
7. Now you can bring all your documentation and the forms to the secretary general's office along with the receipt of payment.

How much is the tuition for the JP2 Studies?

The tuition is € 2 100 for the year (two semesters) and does not include housing or health insurance.

How may I make the payment?

You may make your payment in a way most convenient for you: wire transfer, credit card or cash. For more detailed information please go to: <https://angelicum.it/student-area/payment-options>.

Do I pay extra for a library card?

No. All students of the Angelicum are granted access to the university library free of charge.

Does the university provide health insurance for its students?

No. If you are from outside of Italy you should be insured on your own. Citizens of the European Union countries may receive necessary medical care based on their European Health Insurance Card. If you wish to apply for health insurance in Italy you can choose the state insurance or a private one. For details please contact Ms. Monica Nizzoli at the Students Office, ufficiostudenti@pust.it.

Do I need a visa to study in Italy?

Yes, if you come from a country from outside of the European Union you are obliged to apply for a visa in the local Italian embassy or consulate of the country of your origin.

In case of a study visa (type D), the Angelicum University can release a pre-registration certificate you may present at the embassy/consulate. For details on documentation required, please contact your local Italian embassy/consulate. The Angelicum Students Office can also provide information on a standard visa procedure (ufficiostudenti@pust.it).

Please note that the same documentation will be required in order to apply for the release of the residence permit. Application must be made within eight working days from your arrival in Rome.

No, if you come from a country which is a member of the European Union. Citizens of the EU will not be asked for a visa upon arrival in Rome and the University will also not request any such document.

I come from outside of the European Union. Is there anything I should know about when it comes to formal issues when studying in Rome?

Yes. Apart from an obligation to obtain a visa prior to entering Italy, you are also obliged to apply for a residence permit (*permesso di soggiorno*) within eight working days from your arrival.

Where can I live during my stay in Rome?

There is a number of options for a student looking for housing in Rome. These include: lay student dorms, student houses functioning at religious institutes, rooms in shared flats as well as whole apartments rented from private landlords.

When it comes to housing in religious institutes please go to:

<https://www.diocesidiroma.it/culturaeuniversita/index.php/collegi-residenze-cattoliche>.

For independent apartments and rooms for rent visit: <https://www.idealista.it>.

The Angelicum Students Office is here to answer all your questions regarding housing, insurance and other bureaucratic matters. You can contact Ms. Monica Nizzoli at ufficiostudenti@pust.it.

What is the language of the courses?

All courses from the JP2 Studies are held in English.

Upper intermediate or advanced level of English is required for the studies .

We encourage you to take the opportunity to learn Italian while you are in Rome but it is not required for the JP2 Studies (for more information, please go to the last question on this list).

Do I receive a diploma after completing the JP2 Studies program?

Yes. A student who completes all the courses included in the program receives an official Angelicum diploma. Please mind that JP2 Studies are not studies which end with a degree.

What is the schedule?

The program consists of one weekly course and a number of intensive, 2-week courses in both semesters. You may also choose two additional weekly courses each semester (elective).

Every three-four weeks there is also a lecture in the framework of the "JP2 Lectures series" where we invite distinguished scholars and intellectuals from all over the world to speak about current issues in the light of John Paul II's thought. Each lecture is preceded by an introductory seminar and there are exclusive post-lecture seminars with the guest speakers.

I cannot start the course in October. Can I join in the second semester?

Yes. You may enroll starting from February and finish your studies in the first semester of the next academic year. The important thing, in order to obtain a diploma, is to complete all courses in the program.

You may also enroll only for one semester, with the possibility to receive a certification of the courses taken, but not a diploma. For more details about this option please contact us at jp2studies@pust.it.

Can I take the courses online?

No. All the courses at the Angelicum are held in class. There is no possibility of distance learning.

Does the Angelicum offer an Italian language course?

Yes. You can take a language course for an additional € 190 a semester. For more information on the Angelicum language program please contact Ms. Monica Nizzoli of the Students Office at ufficiostudenti@pust.it.

Can I take courses from outside of the JP2 Studies program?

Yes. Each student of the program may take up to two elective courses from the Angelicum course offerings in Philosophy, Theology or Social Sciences each semester free of charge. When choosing your elective courses mind that they should not collide with the JP2 Studies intensive courses.

Do the courses end with exams?

Yes. Each course has to be concluded with an examination in order to complete the program. The form of the examination differs in each case and depends on the professor. Usually it is an oral or written exam in class or an essay.

I have never studied philosophy. What do I do?

Don't worry. The JP2 Studies program offers students from different intellectual backgrounds preparatory courses to help them understand the philosophical and theological thought of John Paul II as well as complex issues of today's cultural and sociopolitical reality. We will make sure you have an opportunity to be introduced to major concepts, ideas and terms that will help you fully engage in the program. If you have not studied philosophy before, we would encourage you to choose the weekly "Introduction to Philosophy" course along with "Introduction to St. Thomas Aquinas" in the first semester as part of your elective courses.

