



Institut Saint
Thomas d'Aquin
Toulouse





The **INSTITUT SAINT-THOMAS D'AQUIN (ISTA)** is a centre for higher studies created by the Dominican Province of Toulouse in 1995, incorporated into the Faculty of Theology of the *Institut Catholique de Toulouse* since 1999 and approved by the Holy See.

Within the French higher education system, both civil and ecclesiastical, the ISTA is a place of reflection and scientific formation in Sacred Doctrine in the school of Saint Thomas Aquinas, in the unity of the faith of the Catholic Church. To this end, the work of St Thomas is studied in depth, with a view to highlighting its originality as well as its inclusion in the great tradition of Christian wisdom. The context of medieval thought and the sources, but also the extensions in the Thomistic tradition as well as current theological discussions are taken into account.

The ISTA aims to help its students deepen their theological knowledge and their penetration of the divine mysteries, particularly in view of ensuring the right teaching of Revelation and the transmission of the faith.

ISTA organizes a theological conference every two years, in conjunction with the *Revue Thomiste*.

Through its activities, the ISTA seeks to transmit and bring to life, in the Church and for the world, the wisdom that animates the work and life of the Angelic Doctor.



INSTITUTE STAFF

DIRECTEUR

fr. Emmanuel PERRIER, o.p., *Doctor of Theology*

PROFESSEURS ORDINAIRES

fr. François DAGUET, o.p., *Doctor of Theology*

fr. Henry DONNEAUD, o.p., *Doctor of Theology*

fr. Thierry-Dominique HUMBRECHT, o.p., *Doctor of theology and philosophy (HDR)*

fr. Philippe-Marie MARGELIDON, o.p., *Doctor of Theology*

fr. Gilbert NARCISSE, o.p., *Doctor of Theology*

fr. Emmanuel PERRIER, o.p., *Doctor of Theology*

PROFESSEURS INVITÉS

fr. Serge-Thomas BONINO, o.p., *Doctor of theology and philosophy (Rome)*

fr. Benoît-Dominique de LA SOUGEOLE, o.p., *Doctor of Theology (Toulouse/Rome)*

fr. Luc-Thomas SOMME, o.p., *Doctor of Theology (Fribourg)*

fr. Thomas MICHELET, o.p., *Doctor of Theology (Rome)*

fr. Thierry-Marie HAMONIC, o.p., *licentiate in theology (Montpellier)*

fr. Sébastien PERDRIX, o.p., *licentiate in theology (Bordeaux)*

DEFENDED WORKS

During the period 2008-2022, 62 canonical licentiate theses and 14 canonical doctoral theses were successfully defended (in French) before the ISTA juries.

The last theses that honoured ISTA:

Fr. L. Grundman, *Plenitude of Christ. The Mystic Ecclesiology of Louis Bouyer* (2022) / Don E. Rousselin, *New Adam and Suffering Servant. The Substitution of Christ for the Sinner in saint Thomas Aquinas* (2021) / P. É. Dumoulin, *Milestones for a Theology of Mercy. The Theology of Divine Mercy According to Saint Thomas Aquinas* (2021) / P. G. Froissart, *Man, "Image of God" According to Thomas Aquinas* (2021) / P. F. Schmitz, *The Opposition of Sin to God Thomistic Contribution to the Contemporary Debate* (2020) / P. D. Biziou, *The Relation of the Church and the Political Community from Saint Robert Bellarmine to Contemporary Times. Essay on the Theology of Politics* (2019) / P. R. Varin, *The Church, Universal Sacrament of Salvation. The Church, way and goal of God's plan* (2018) / P. R. Augé, *Does God Want the Suffering of Men? Suffering in the Divine Plan According to Saint Thomas Aquinas* (2018)...

THE COURSES

CANONICAL LICENTIATE IN THEOLOGY

The ISTA offers students with a canonical baccalaureate or a recognised equivalent, clerics, laymen or religious, a two-year course (Master's level) which leads to the awarding of the degree of Canonical Licentiate "option Thomistic tradition and medieval thought" delivered by the Faculty of Theology of the Catholic Institute of Toulouse by the authority of the Holy See. The courses are taught in weekly sessions of twenty hours, five sessions per year. Written work as well as various academic activities accompany the schooling, and validate the teachings received. Each student must also write a research paper of about 100 pages and successfully defend it.

DOCTORATE IN THEOLOGY

The ISTA offers students with a Canonical Licentiate in theology, after examination of their file, a course of study leading to a Canonical Doctorate. This cycle mainly consists in writing a thesis of approximately 300 pages, on a subject decided with the thesis director. During their studies, doctoral students may participate in ISTA sessions and other academic activities.

CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED THOMISTIC STUDIES

The ISTA offers students with a university level of Master's degree or equivalent, in any subject, a training in the knowledge of Saint Thomas Aquinas sanctioned by a Certificate of Advanced Thomistic Studies. This certificate attests to a sufficient knowledge of the doctrine of St Thomas Aquinas to be able to read and understand him in the context of Catholic Tradition and current issues. The student must have completed at least ten courses or seminars, and written a paper of at least fifty pages on a part of a work or on a point of the doctrine of St Thomas Aquinas.

The Certificate of Advanced Thomistic Studies is a university-level diploma specific to the ISTA, having received the *nihil obstat* of the Holy See and the approval of the Rector of the Catholic Institute of Toulouse. It is not a degree or a title delivered by the authority of the Holy See.

THE SCHOOL

ENROLMENT PROCEDURES

Any student wishing to register must contact the Director of the Institute. Once the application has been accepted, registration is made with the ISTA secretariate. The agreement of the Ordinary is required for ecclesiastical students. A good level in understanding and writing in French is required.

TUITION FEES (2023-2024)

- Licence and Certificate of Advanced Thomistic Studies: The annual registration fee is €380 and the cost of each twenty-hour session is €300.
- Doctorate: The annual registration fee is 680 € and the cost of each twenty-hour session is 250 €.

Students in difficult financial situations may benefit from special conditions, established by the Institute's management.

LIBRARY

The ISTA benefits from access to the provincial library of the Dominicans of Toulouse.

STUDIES IN TOULOUSE

Toulouse offers students the unique proximity of the relics of Saint Thomas Aquinas (at the Jacobins Priory) and the places where Saint Dominic founded the Order of Preachers (Maison Seilhan, Fanjeaux, Prouilhe).

ACCOMMODATION

Students who agree to participate in the conventual life (offices, Mass) can be accommodated for the duration of the sessions in the guesthouse of the Priory of Saint Thomas Aquinas, where the teachings are given.

DOMINICAN STUDENTS

Dominican friars from other provinces may request to reside at the Priory of Saint Thomas Aquinas in Toulouse for part or all of their course.

Scholarships are offered, by the Province of Toulouse or by the Order, to pay for their studies or board.

SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL, *Decree Optatam totius, 16*

“In order to shed light, as far as possible, on the mysteries of salvation, students of theology should learn to penetrate them more deeply, and to perceive their coherence, by speculative work, with St Thomas as their teacher.”

PAUL VI, *Address to the Gregorian University, 12 March 1964*

“Indeed, in the Angelic Doctor there is so much powerful intelligence, so much sincere love of truth, so much wisdom in the deepening, presentation and synthesis of the highest truths, that his doctrine is the most effective instrument not only for placing the faith on a sure foundation, but also for perceiving in an effective and sure way the fruits of a healthy progress.”

JOHN-PAUL II, *Encyclical Fides et ratio, 43-44*

“St Thomas has always been rightly proposed by the Church as a master of thought and the model of a correct way of doing theology. [...] His theology makes it possible to understand the particularity of wisdom in its close connection with faith and with divine knowledge. It knows by connaturality, presupposes faith, and arrives at its right judgment from the truth of faith itself.”

BENEDICT XVI, *General Audience of 16 June 2010*

“To show this independence between philosophy and theology and, at the same time, their reciprocal relationship was the historic mission of the great master. [In his theological work, St Thomas presupposes and gives concrete expression to this relationship. Faith consolidates, integrates and illuminates the patrimony of truth that human reason acquires.”

FRANCIS, *Address to the International Thomistic Congress, 22 September 2022*

“To pursue humbly, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the *intellectus fidei* is not optional for the believer, but is part of the very dynamism of his faith. [...] This is why the passionate search for God is both prayer and contemplation, so that St Thomas is the model of theology that is born and develops in a climate of adoration.”

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