

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

FACULTY HANDBOOK

PART IV

CANONICAL STATUTES OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL SCHOOLS OF THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

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[Previous Versions of Part IV](#)

CANONICAL STATUTES OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL SCHOOLS OF THE CATHOLIC
UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

Contents

I.	Preamble and General Statutes	3
II.	Nature and Purpose of the Schools	4
III.	Government of the Schools	4
IV.	Government of the Individual Schools	6
V.	Members and Associates of Schools	7
VI.	Students of the Ecclesiastical Schools	9
VII.	Programs of Study and Requirements for Degrees	10
VIII.	Library and Other Resources	11
IX.	Officials and Assistants	11
X.	Finances	12
	 Statutes of the Ecclesiastical School of Canon Law	 13
I.	History and Purpose	13
II.	Government and Members	13
III.	Students	13
IV.	Program of Study	14
V.	Academic Degrees	14
	 Statutes of the Ecclesiastical School of Philosophy	 16
I.	History and Purpose	16
II.	Government and Members	16
III.	Students	17
IV.	Programs of Study and Academic Degrees	17
	 Statutes of the Ecclesiastical School of Theology and Religious Studies	 19
I.	History and Purpose	19
II.	Government and Members	20
III.	Entrance Requirements	20
IV.	Students	22
V.	Programs of Study	22
VI.	Relationship with Other Schools and Institutes	24

CANONICAL STATUTES OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL SCHOOLS OF THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

I. Preamble and General Statutes

1. Among the schools of The Catholic University of America, the following have the canonical status of ecclesiastical faculties: the School of Canon Law, the School of Philosophy, and the School of Theology and Religious Studies. These schools, however, are not exclusively ecclesiastical; they also have other academic programs which do not have canonical effects and to which these Statutes do not apply. In these latter cases, the provisions of the *Faculty Handbook* and of the apostolic constitution *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* and its Application obtain.
2. The schools, canonically approved by the Apostolic See, foster and teach sacred doctrine and the disciplines related to it, and have the right to confer academic degrees by the authority of the Apostolic See (*Sapientia Christiana* 2).
3. The schools are governed by the general policies and regulations of the University, with specific allowance for the matters governed by these Statutes or by norms of the Apostolic See pertinent to ecclesiastical programs of study.
4. The programs that have canonical effects are also recognized civilly, and the respective degrees are also conferred in virtue of the incorporation of the University by authority of the Congress of the United States of America (1887, 1928) and the University's election to accept the District of Columbia Non-profit Corporation Act (1964 and 2017).
5. The schools share in the University's recognition by the American academic community, in virtue of its accreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and other professional associations deemed appropriate for this purpose.
6. With regard to programs that have exclusively civil effects, the schools have regulations proper to them, adopted in accord with University policies and regulations as noted in 1 above.
7. The schools observe the decisions of the Second Vatican Council affecting higher education, in particular the pastoral constitution *Gaudium et spes* 53-62 and the declaration *Gravissimum educationis*, as well as the 1983 Code of Canon Law, canons 815-821, and the apostolic constitution *Sapientia Christiana* (April 15, 1979), together with the related *Ordinationes* (April 29, 1979). In relation to the ministerial education of candidates for the presbyterate, they also observe the conciliar decree *Optatam totius* and post conciliar documents of implementation, in particular the 1983 Code of Canon Law, canons 232-264 passim, the *Ratio Fundamentalis Institutiones Sacerdotalis* of the Congregation for Clergy and the Program of Priestly Formation of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.
8. Norms affecting ecclesiastical schools that are found in the ecclesiastical legislation of the Second Vatican Council or the Apostolic See are not repeated in these Statutes.
9. The present Statutes are adopted by the Fellows of the University and the Congregation for Catholic Education, after consultation with the Academic Senate of the University in consultation with the schools, and may be amended in the same manner (Bylaws of the University 1.2).

10. The Statutes constitute a special chapter of the *Faculty Handbook* and, when approved by the Fellows, have the same force of law as do the Bylaws of the University (Bylaws of the University 1.2).

II. Nature and Purpose of the Schools

11. The schools share the aims of The Catholic University of America, as expressed in the Articles and Bylaws of the University.
12. The schools also share the goals of the University adopted by the Academic Senate and the Board of Trustees.
13. In addition, the schools have the following common aims:
 - a. To carry on research and instruction in canonical, philosophical, theological and related studies.
 - b. To participate with all the schools of the University in the discovery, preservation, and imparting of truth in such a way that studies in the arts, sciences, and professions may interact with religious and philosophical studies, to their reciprocal benefit and development.
 - c. To offer programs of professional and ministerial studies.
 - d. To assist, through their own programs of research and instruction, other institutions of canon law, philosophy, theology, and religious studies, both in the vicinity of the University, in the United States, and in other countries.

III. Government of the Schools

14. The responsibility for governance and oversight of the operations of the University resides in the first instance in the University's Board of Trustees. The Fellows serve as the members of the University and hold certain retained powers designed to preserve in perpetuity the essential character of the University as a Catholic institution of higher learning.
15. The Board of Trustees exercises the same rights and responsibilities in relation to the ecclesiastical schools as in relation to the other academic units of the University.
16. The direction and management of the affairs of the corporation and the control and disposal of its property is vested in the Board of Trustees (Bylaws 3.1), and in some instances the Fellows (Bylaws 1.2). The corporation may not be dissolved nor may any other action be taken with respect to the dissolution or termination of the operation of the University except by approval of the Fellows. (Bylaws 1.2).
17. The Academic Senate, together with the President of the University, exercises, in relation to the schools, the rights and responsibilities attributed to it by the Faculty Handbook and the Constitution of the Academic Senate. It shares with the President of the University the immediate

responsibility for the academic governing of the University by establishing, maintaining, supervising, and in general being responsible for the academic policies of the University (Constitution I). The actions of the Academic Senate require the approval of the President for validity (Bylaws 5.5).

18. The schools are represented in the membership of the Academic Senate by the deans of the Schools of Canon Law, Philosophy and Theology and Religious Studies and by members elected by these same schools in accord with the Constitution of the Academic Senate (II), including any non-voting representative to the Board of Trustees elected by the Academic Senate (Bylaws 3.13).
19. The Archbishop of Washington is *ex officio* the chancellor of the University and a member of the Fellows and, as such, of the Board of Trustees. He serves as liaison between the University and the Apostolic See and as liaison between the University and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (Bylaws 1.5). The Chancellor presides at all meetings of the Fellows and establishes any committees of the Fellows that may be necessary (Bylaws 2.1).
20. The chancellor is also the ecclesiastical Ordinary on whom the schools depend. Among his responsibilities are the following¹:
 - a. To promote the progress of the schools, in themselves and in relation to the other schools of the University, to advance learning and scholarship, and to see that Catholic doctrine is integrally taught and that the Statutes and other ecclesiastical norms are implemented.
 - b. To foster close relationships among all the members of the University community.
 - c. To foster the cooperation of the schools with the Archdiocese of Washington, with the other local churches of the United States, and with the Universal Church.
 - d. To report to the Congregation for Catholic Education the names of those appointed by the President of the University as the deans of the Schools of Canon Law, Philosophy, and Theology and Religious Studies, after the President's consultation with the faculties of each respective school, (Bylaws 1.5).
 - e. Together with the President of the University, to sign diplomas by which academic degrees with canonical effects are conferred upon candidates recommended by the Academic Senate.
 - f. Together with the President to preside at the annual commencement exercises and to confer the academic degrees that have canonical effects.
 - g. To protect the doctrine and discipline of the Church, a responsibility he exercises in collaboration with the administration of the University and with the schools as a matter

¹For *missio canonica*, *venia docendi*, and *nihil obstat*, see Section V, n. 41 and n. 42.a. For the profession of faith, see the *Code of Canon Law*, canon 833, n. 7.

of collective responsibility and in accord with recognized academic procedures.

- h. To inform the Congregation for Catholic Education of important matters affecting the schools and to send to the Congregation all required reports after the President of the University has approved them.
 - i. To transmit to the Congregation the *Announcements* of the University in which the detailed regulations and descriptions of courses for all canonical degree programs appear, as well as each new edition of all University manuals, handbooks, and other regulations which may affect the canonical degree programs.
- 21. The Fellows appoint the President of the University upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees.
 - 22. The President is the chief executive officer of the University and of the schools. He exercises, in relation to them, the rights and responsibilities attributed to him in the Bylaws of the University. (Bylaws 5.5).
 - 23. Other University officials exercise the rights and responsibilities delegated to them by the President of the University or, on his/her behalf, by the Provost.
 - 24. In matters common to the schools and for the making of common rules and regulations under the authority of the Academic Senate, the members of the schools may be convened by the President, or, on his behalf, by the Provost or the vice provost and dean of graduate studies.
 - 25. The Council of Ecclesiastical Schools consists of the deans of the Schools of Canon Law, Philosophy, and Theology and Religious Studies, an ordinary or associate professor elected by each of the schools, and the provost (or the delegate of the provost), who serves as chair of the Council.
 - 26. The Council has the responsibility for coordinating the academic programs that have canonical effects and may act in matters common to the schools when delegated by the latter.

IV. Government of the Individual Schools

- 27. Each of the schools is governed by the members who hold appointments, regular or *ad interim*, at the ranks of ordinary professor, associate professor, assistant professor, or instructor, under the authority of the dean.
- 28. In certain matters, especially in appointments and promotions and in consultation prior to the appointment of the dean, separate votes may be required of tenured senior members of a school or of those higher in rank than a candidate for appointment or promotion. Otherwise, those who hold appointments in school rank (i.e., the rank of instructor or higher rank) are members entitled to vote on matters before a School.

29. Professors emeriti, adjunct members, and others with associate appointments, may participate in the meetings of the school without the right to vote.
30. The members of each school, in accord with regulations established by the Academic Senate, determine the number of student representatives who participate in the meetings of the school and the extent of their participation.
31. The members of each school elect a secretary for a term of one year.
32. The minutes of the meetings of each school should indicate when, in the consideration of matters related to the canonical degree programs, it acts as an Ecclesiastical School, so that these programs, which have both canonical and civil effects, may be kept distinct from programs which have civil effects only.
33. Deans are appointed by the President of the University after consultation with the respective school in accord with procedures established by the Academic Senate. Deans serve for a term of four years and are eligible for reappointment.
34. Schools may have associate deans and directors of academic areas (i.e. directors of "obligatory disciplines" and "specialized sectors" [*Ordinationes*, 51, 56, 60, 64, App.II]) who share with the dean the responsibility for administering the academic responsibilities of the school.
35. The dean of the school appoints directors of academic areas after consultation with appropriate faculty members in the academic area and the provost. Directors of academic areas serve for a term of three years and are eligible for one successive reappointment.
36. Under the authority of the President of the University, the administration of the schools resides respectively in the deans of the Schools of Canon Law, Philosophy, and Theology and Religious Studies.
37. The respective dean has the following responsibilities:
 - a. To supervise the research and instruction carried on in the school;
 - b. To preside at meetings of the school except when the President of the University or his delegate presides;
 - c. To report to the President and the Academic Senate matters proposed by the school;
 - d. To execute the decisions of the President and the Academic Senate and of the school;
 - e. To submit an annual report to the President of the University.

V. Members and Associates of Schools

38. Appointments of members and associates of the schools are made in accord with the

Faculty Handbook (Part II, Sections A and B).

39. Any full-time service as a member of a school previous to the conferral of continuous tenure is probationary and is governed by the regulations of the *Faculty Handbook* (Part II, Section B-3).
40. Upon the completion of procedures for the initial appointment of a member of an ecclesiastical school, the President of the University forwards to the chancellor the application and dossier, including all relevant information and expressions of opinion regarding the appropriateness of the candidate's appointment, for the conferral of the canonical mission, in the case of those who teach disciplines pertaining to faith or morals, or for permission to teach, in the case of those who are not Catholics or who teach other disciplines. (cf. *Sapientia Christiana* 26.1; *Ordinationes* 18.)
41. The chancellor grants the canonical mission to teach in the name of the Church or the permission to teach. The chancellor will not deny the canonical mission or permission to teach without prior consultation with those members of the Board of Trustees who are also members of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (Bylaws 1.5), the President of the University, and the cognizant Committee(s) on Appointments and Promotions. The obligation of confidentiality is to be respected by all parties.
42. An appointment or reappointment with continuous tenure can be made only by authorization of the Board of Trustees in each case (Bylaws 4.7), after favorable review of the candidate in accord with the procedures and criteria established by the Academic Senate. (*Faculty Handbook*, Part II, Sections C and D).
 - a. Prior to the action of the Board of Trustees appointing or reappointing a member of a school with continuous tenure (Bylaws 4.7), the episcopal members of the Board review the application and, by corporate decision, make a declaration to the chancellor that there is no impediment to appointment. (cf. *Sapientia Christiana* 27.2; *Ordinationes* 19.2).²
 - b. A negative decision by the episcopal members of the Board will not be reported to the full Board until the President and the cognizant Committees on Appointment and Promotion have been consulted and the school member has been informed of the reasons. The obligation of confidentiality is to be respected by all parties.
 - c. If, after the process is completed, a negative decision is reached, the episcopal members of the Board will report their reasons to the full Board through the chancellor. The obligation of confidentiality is to be respected by all parties.
 - d. Otherwise appointments and reappointments with continuous tenure follow the procedures of the *Faculty Handbook*.

² The members of the schools and of the administration are aware of the existence of an agreement between the chancellor and the Apostolic See regarding consultation of the Apostolic See prior to the making of this declaration by the episcopal members of the Board.

- e. The termination of appointments because of the expiration of term, resignation, medical reasons, abolition of position, cessation of ecclesiastical obligations, or dismissal is governed by the regulation of the *Faculty Handbook*. (Part II, Section G).
 - f. After the grant of the canonical mission or permission to teach, the chancellor may withdraw the mission or permission only for the most serious reasons and after providing information regarding specific charges and proofs.
 - g. If requested by the member of the school, the procedures of due process (*Faculty Handbook*, Part II, Section G) shall be employed.³
 - h. In more serious or pressing cases, the chancellor, with the concurrence of a majority of the episcopal members of the Board, may suspend the member of the school from teaching in an ecclesiastical school during the period of investigation.
 - i. The member of the school will first be given a warning in writing with an opportunity to respond in writing in due time.
 - j. The chancellor will not proceed to the suspension without first explaining his reasons, with the obligation of confidentiality, to the President of the University, to the respective dean, and to the member of the school and seeking their opinion about the gravity of the situation.
 - k. A member of a school so suspended will continue to receive full salary and benefits as long as the procedure for dismissal is not completed.
43. In an emergency case, the chancellor may suspend a member of an ecclesiastical school if immediate harm to himself or others is threatened by his continuance (see *Faculty Handbook*, Part II, Section G). The requirements for school rank and the procedures for appointment and promotion are those given in the *Faculty Handbook* (Part II, Section D).
44. These norms and practices concerning appointments to the schools are intended to assure fidelity to the revealing Word of God as it is transmitted by tradition and interpreted and safeguarded by the Magisterium of the Church and to safeguard academic freedom.

VI. Students of the Ecclesiastical Schools

- 45. Students may be regular students, who are candidates for academic degrees; special students, who are not candidates for academic degrees; or auditors, who receive no academic credit.
- 46. Ministerial candidates follow programs of spiritual formation in their houses of residence,

³ The procedures are for dismissal for cause initiated by the President, which are applicable mutatis mutandis to withdrawal of the canonical mission when initiated by the chancellor.

either Theological College, the University seminary, or their respective seminaries or religious houses. These institutions and programs are separately governed, but the schools collaborate with the responsible authorities.

47. Admission to study is open to properly qualified men and women. Students are admitted to graduate programs upon the fulfillment of the minimum requirements of the bachelor's degree, other indications of preparation to pursue advanced study and research, official transcripts of undergraduate record and any other appropriate postsecondary studies, and two or more letters of recommendation from officials or school members of institutions previously attended. Students are admitted to undergraduate programs upon satisfying the requirements common to the other academic units of the University.
48. The individual schools may prescribe additional requirements for admission.
49. The dean formally admits students.
50. Admission to study does not imply admission to candidacy for a degree nor does the successful completion of a degree program imply admission to study or to candidacy for the next higher degree. In all cases this is to be determined by the respective school.
51. In the admission of students, the programs of studies, courses, and degrees of other ecclesiastical schools are recognized and accepted, provided they are in conformity with the general regulations and standards established by the Academic Senate of the University.
52. In addition to the presence of students at meetings of the Board of Trustees and representation of students in the Academic Senate, the participation of students in the meetings of the schools and in committees of the schools is determined by the members of the school who have a deliberative vote, in accord with Section IV, 30, of these Statutes.

VII. Programs of Study and Requirements for Degrees

53. The ecclesiastical degree programs of the schools are subject to the approval of the Academic Senate and the confirmation of the Board of Trustees and the Congregation for Catholic Education.
54. In addition to the residence, course, language, dissertation, and examination requirements of the University, the respective schools may make specific requirements.
55. It is the responsibility of the individual professor to determine, by examination or otherwise, whether a student has satisfactorily completed the requirements of a given course and to assign the proper grade.
56. It is the responsibility of the respective school or of the appropriate committee acting on its behalf to determine whether a student has satisfied the requirements of comprehensive examinations, oral examinations for degrees, and dissertations and examinations, and to propose the names of candidates for degrees to the Academic Senate.

57. The respective schools with the approval of the Academic Senate determine the form of comprehensive examinations, oral examinations for degrees, and doctoral examinations.
58. The oral examination for the doctorate takes place after the dissertation committee, composed of the major professor and readers, has approved the submitted dissertation. The membership of the committee and the conduct of the examination, which are approved by the vice provost and dean of graduate studies, follow the norms and practices of the University or those approved for the canonical degrees by the graduate board and the Academic Senate.
59. The dissertation or thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the licentiate degree is deposited in the Library of the University.
60. Proposed doctoral dissertation topics and committees, after approval by the respective school, are approved on behalf of the Academic Senate by the vice provost and dean of graduate studies, who acts after appropriate consultation.
61. The doctoral dissertation, which is to be deposited in the Library of the University, may be published by printing or designated electronic means; in either case the abstract is printed. A printed or duplicate copy of the entire dissertation is forwarded to the Congregation for Catholic Education.

VIII. Library and Other Resources

62. Members of the schools and students have access to the libraries of the University, including the divisional library in support of canon law, philosophy, and theology and religious studies and other special collections. The conservation and growth of the collections in support of these disciplines are provided for by allocation of funds within the budget of the University libraries.
63. In addition, members of schools and students have access to the holdings of the Library of Congress, the libraries of the Consortium of Washington Universities and the Washington Theological Consortium, the libraries of neighboring religious houses of studies, and other special collections including the Folger Shakespeare Library, the National Library of Medicine, the Woodstock Library of Georgetown University, and Dumbarton Oaks Research Library.
64. The University computers and other facilities and laboratories are available for use by the schools.

IX. Officials and Assistants

65. The appointment, duties, and compensation and benefits of supporting staff of the schools are determined by University policy.
66. The principal members of the supporting staff of each school are administrative assistants or assistants to the dean.

X. Finances

67. The endowment and other assets of the University are held by the Board of Trustees and administered according to University policy, including funds for school compensation and student support within the schools.
68. The budget for instruction and research in the schools, which is approved by the Board of Trustees, is administered by the deans of the Schools of Canon Law, Philosophy, and Theology and Religious Studies.
69. The Board of Trustees determines school compensation and benefits as well as tuition and fees for students.

STATUTES OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL SCHOOL OF CANON LAW

I. History and Purpose

70. Courses in canon law were offered in the School of Sacred Sciences from its beginning in 1889. The graduate program had sufficiently developed by 1916 so that a series of doctoral dissertations, *Canon Law Studies*, was initiated. Over 550 doctorates have been granted, and the living alumni number over 1,000. In 1923, the School of Canon Law became a distinct University school erected as a pontifical School by authority of the Holy See. In 1941, the School established a quarterly journal, *The Jurist*, which now appears semi-annually. During and after the Second Vatican Council, the program of canonical studies was reoriented in the light of conciliar developments, and the School undertook new studies in Church administration. In 1973, it became again the Department of Canon Law in the School of Religious Studies, with a continuation of its programs and pontifical status. In accord with the Council's Declaration on Christian Education and the apostolic constitution *Sapientia Christiana*, the Statutes were revised in 1980 and again in 1984 and 1990, each time with the approvals of the Apostolic See. Following consultation with the school and Academic Senate in the summer and fall of 2001, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the School of Canon Law's reconstitution as a distinct University school on December 11, 2001. On August 5, 2002, the Prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education gave approval to those changes proposed to these ecclesiastical statutes, thus effecting the re-establishment of the School of Canon Law of The Catholic University of America. Additional changes were mandated by the decree *Novo Codice*, issued by the Congregation for Catholic Education on September 2, 2002.
71. The purpose of instruction in this school is to familiarize the student with the entire body of ecclesiastical law, its development and interpretation. The courses are planned to prepare the student for the professional practice of canon law --- in diocesan and religious curias and in ecclesiastical tribunals --- for the teaching of canon law, and for scientific canonical research. In accord with this purpose the canonical degrees, Licentiate in Canon Law (J.C.L.) and Doctorate in Canon Law (J.C.D.), are awarded.
72. The primary orientation of courses offered in the school is the new Code of Canon Law promulgated by Pope John Paul II in 1983. Proper understanding and implementation of the provisions of the Code require not only acquired skill in the technicalities of legal interpretation but also a broad grasp of the historical, theological, and sociological factors, which have contributed to its evolution. Courses in the school seek also to develop the ability to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the law in order to contribute to its ongoing refinement.

II. Government and Members

73. In the government of the School of Canon Law and in the norms affecting school members, these Statutes and other University regulations are followed.

III. Students

74. Student representatives may participate in school meetings and serve on school

committees with a consultative vote, as appropriate.

IV. Program of Study

75. The First Cycle of the curriculum of studies lasts four semesters or two years and includes those disciplines indicated as obligatory in the Decree (2 September, 2002) issued by the Congregation for Catholic Education for the implementation of Art. 56 of the Regulations of the Apostolic Constitution, *Sapientia Christiana*.
76. Students who have completed the appropriate philosophical-theological curriculum in a Seminary or in a Faculty of Theology are normally presumed to have fulfilled the First Cycle so that they may be admitted to the Second Cycle. In individual cases, the dean will determine whatever deficiencies must be met.
77. Students possessing a degree in civil law, theology or religious studies may be dispensed from certain course requirements at the discretion of the school.
78. The Second Cycle lasts for six semesters or three years, which fulfill the residency requirement for the licentiate.
79. The Second Cycle includes the study of all parts of the Code of Canon Law, other elements of the *ius vigens*, and the connected disciplines as indicated in the Decree (2 September, 2002) issued by the Congregation for Catholic Education for the implementation of Art. 56 of the Regulations of the Apostolic Constitution, *Sapientia Christiana*. Determination of required courses and the number of elective courses to be completed is made by the school. Each student must demonstrate knowledge of Latin.
80. The Third Cycle lasts for two semesters or one year, which fulfills the residence requirements for the Doctorate.
81. For admittance to this cycle the student must demonstrate a knowledge of canonical Latin and two modern languages appropriate for canonical research.
82. During this cycle the student is to be registered for dissertation guidance and to complete two courses or seminars each semester. The student is expected to attend all classes in a course unless excused for cause. A grade is to be given in each course based on an examination and/or written research.

V. Academic Degrees

83. The licentiate degree (J.C.L.) is not awarded until the completion of the Second Cycle.
84. To obtain the licentiate, in addition to successful completion of the program of studies, the candidate must present a written thesis which gives evidence of the capacity to do research in the field of canon law. It must prove the candidate's familiarity and ease with basic methods and techniques of research, technical mastery of a limited subject matter, and ability to exercise sound

canonical judgment and formulate accurate conclusions.

85. The candidate must also complete a comprehensive examination for one hour in the presence of three professors on the entire *ius vigens* considered in the light of its doctrinal and historical context.
86. The doctorate (J.C.D.) is not awarded before the completion of the Third Cycle.
87. The candidate must submit a written dissertation to the School. The dissertation should constitute a significant contribution to the field of canon law. It should also demonstrate the candidate's familiarity with the contributions of previous investigators, the ability to do independent research, and skill in communicating in a clear and effective manner.
88. The candidate must defend the dissertation and pass a public examination on at least ten theses either closely connected with questions treated in the dissertation or studied in a special way.

STATUTES OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY

I. History and Purpose

89. The School of Philosophy, Letters, and Physical Sciences was erected in 1895. In the year 1906, this school was divided into three separate schools: the School of Philosophy, the School of Letters, and the School of Sciences. In 1930, the courses of instruction in the Schools of Philosophy, Letters, and Sciences were merged into two groups, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and the College of Arts and Sciences. In 1936, the School of Philosophy was reestablished as a distinct unit, and its courses of study received pontifical approval on March 7, 1937.
90. The School of Philosophy in its various programs is committed to the development of philosophy, especially in the Western tradition. It stresses the value of classical and medieval learning in the understanding of modern and contemporary approaches. It values European as well as American modes of philosophizing. It pays particular attention to those authors who have sought to relate secular learning to Christian belief. By insisting upon contact with the best minds of the past, it seeks to enable the student to avoid a relativism or skepticism on the one hand and a dogmatism on the other.
91. In its various course offerings, the School of Philosophy attempts to cover the principal areas of systematic philosophy as well as to represent the major periods in the history of philosophy. It seeks particular strength in certain periods of philosophy, notably classical, medieval, and select schools of contemporary thought, and in systematic areas such as metaphysics, ethics, and the philosophy of knowledge.
92. At the undergraduate level, the school maintains a program of concentration, leading to the Baccalaureate in Philosophy (Ph.B.). This program serves students who desire to concentrate in philosophy as a means of preparation for theology, for graduate work in philosophy, or for professional work in various disciplines. Certain of its courses are tailored to meet the specific needs of seminarians preparing to enter theological studies. All other undergraduates complete their required courses in Philosophy through courses taught in the School of Philosophy.
93. At the graduate level, the school provides courses of study, which lead to the licentiate in Philosophy and the Ph.D. in philosophy. In admitting candidates for the Ph.D., the school aims to be highly selective, realizing that only by training the most gifted will it have an influence in educational and cultural circles. Beyond the training of candidates for the teaching and other professions, it strives to be an influence in the profession through consistent publication, through the editing of professional periodicals, and through activity in professional societies.

II. Government and Members

94. In the government of the School of Philosophy and in the norms affecting school members, these Statutes and other University regulations are followed.

95. Members of the School of Philosophy who teach three courses per year within the academic program of the School of Arts and Sciences are also considered, for certain purposes, members of that school.

III. Students

96. Freshman, sophomore, or junior students may be admitted as undergraduate degree candidates. They must satisfy the usual undergraduate distribution requirements for the Ph.B. or B.A. degree. Candidates for admission to the School who have completed freshman and/or sophomore years at another accredited college or university must earn at least 60 credit hours at The Catholic University of America to receive a degree. The right is reserved to demand entrance examinations in an individual case.
97. Admission to the licentiate degree program is open to students who have completed a bachelor's degree or its equivalent and who have indicated an aptitude for advanced study and research. Successful completion of the four-year program required for the priesthood, ministry, or rabbinate may be considered equivalent to the bachelor's degree.
98. Admission to the Ph.D. program is contingent upon the completion of the M.A. or Ph. L. degree in accord with the School's requirements for these degrees.
99. The admission of students is made by the dean of the school upon recommendation by the admissions committee of the school.

IV. Programs of Study and Academic Degrees

100. The degree programs in the School of Philosophy lead to the baccalaureate (Ph.B.), licentiate (Ph. L.), and doctorate (Ph.D.). The baccalaureate may be conferred as a Bachelor of Arts degree (B.A.) and the licentiate as a Master of Arts degree (M.A.).
101. The Baccalaureate Program: The baccalaureate is awarded for 120 credit hours earned (normally 40 courses). The program consists of: (1) 13 specified courses in philosophy and one philosophy elective, for a total of 14 courses in philosophy, (2) distribution requirements approved by the curriculum committee of the school, and (3) elective courses.
102. The Licentiate Program: A minimum of eight undergraduate courses in select philosophical disciplines, including one course in symbolic logic, is required before regular standing as a licentiate degree candidate is achieved. In addition, candidates must complete a minimum of eight three-hour graduate courses. Candidates must present a thesis to be approved by the school and must pass the following examinations:
- a. All regular examinations in each course;
 - b. Completion of the appropriate examination program to demonstrate ability to read French or German or Latin or Greek;

- c. An oral examination, of one hour, before four members of the school;
 - d. Candidates for the licentiate degree must take their oral examination before the end of the second semester after the semester in which they complete their required course work;
 - e. Requirements for the Ph. L. are normally completed after four semesters of work, but must be completed within a three-year period.
103. The Doctorate Program: Candidates must spend at least six semesters in residence including those spent in acquiring the M.A. or Ph. L. degree, following special courses approved by the dean and the school. A minimum of twenty courses or sixty credit-hours of coursework is required for the Ph.D. This includes work completed for the M.A. or Ph. L. degree, but not credits awarded for the completion of the M.A. or Ph. L. thesis. A maximum of two semesters of graduate work in philosophy may be transferred from another institution. Candidates must present a dissertation, which gives evidence of power of research, of ability to do independent scientific work, of mastery on the candidate's part of the chosen field, and of sufficient merit to warrant publication before the degree is granted.
104. One year or one semester and a summer session before the degree is granted, the candidate must have passed examinations in French and German. Both languages are prerequisite for this degree. Candidates must pass:
- a. Regular examinations in all courses;
 - b. Written examination on two sections of the graduate reading program;
 - c. After the dissertation has been approved, a public oral examination on the dissertation, conducted by five members of the University faculty.

STATUTES OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

I. History and Purpose

105. Pursuant to the action of the Holy See in chartering The Catholic University of America, a School of Sacred Sciences was organized for graduate study in various branches of theology. The school began offering courses in November, 1889. In 1927, the Board of Trustees authorized the establishment of a course for the education of clerics in preparation for ordination to the priesthood. From 1931 to 1936, this Seminary School had its own separate organization. In 1937, the School of Sacred Sciences and Seminary School were reorganized under the new Statutes of the University. The theology section of the Seminary School was incorporated into the School of Sacred Theology and the philosophy section into the School of Philosophy. In 1964, with the approval of the Sacred Congregation of Seminaries and Universities, registration in the School of Sacred Theology was opened to qualified laymen and laywomen who wished to earn the theological degrees offered. Since the Second Vatican Council new programs in theological and ministerial studies have been developed. In 1973 the former School of Sacred Theology was incorporated as an Ecclesiastical Department into the newly formed School of Religious Studies. In 2002, after consultation with the faculty of the school and the approval of the Academic Senate, (October 17, 2002) the Board of Trustees approved the non-departmentalized structure of the School of Theology and Religious Studies on December 10, 2002.
106. The School of Theology and Religious Studies has seven academic areas of concentration (i.e. seven "obligatory disciplines" and "specialized sectors" [*Ordinationes*, 51, App. II]) in which graduate degrees are offered: Biblical Literature and Languages, Church History, Liturgical Studies and Sacramental Theology, Moral Theology/Ethics, Pastoral Studies which includes Religious Education/Catechetics and Spirituality; Religion and Culture; and Dogmatic, Historical, and Systematic Theology. Ecclesiastical degrees are offered in the following areas: Biblical Studies, Historical Theology, Liturgical Studies, Moral Theology, and Dogmatic and Systematic Theology. All academic areas, however, offer degrees with exclusively civil effects.
107. In keeping with the aims of The Catholic University of America, the School of Theology and Religious Studies seeks to serve the Christian community and the American public by providing academic and ministerial programs rooted in the Catholic Christian tradition and experience. It is committed to Catholic teaching, found in Scripture and Tradition and served by the living Magisterium in its faithful and authentic interpretation. In order to fulfill this responsibility, the School of Theology and Religious Studies has a threefold purpose: (1) the pursuit of graduate theological study and research in the Roman Catholic tradition; (2) the academic preparation for ordination of deacons and priests as well as lay ministers in the Roman Catholic Church; and (3) the education of undergraduates in Theology and Religious Studies at The Catholic University of America. All undergraduate majors and other undergraduates complete their required courses in Theology and Religious Studies through courses taught in the School of Theology and Religious Studies.

108. In general, all students are expected to achieve a broad familiarity with Roman Catholic theology in its historical development and its current thematization. In practice, students lay greater or less stress on one goal in preference to another in light of their previous experience and in view of their future plans.
109. In accord with its purposes, the school offers several graduate degree programs (M.A., M.R.E., M.Div., D.Min., Ph.D., S.T.B., S.T.L., and S.T.D.) as well as a wide variety of courses so that students will have the opportunity to develop theologically in view of their personal goals. Of these programs, the S.T.B., S.T.L., and S.T.D. are ecclesiastical in nature and are governed by these Statutes.
110. The School of Theology and Religious Studies, in conjunction with the other schools of the University and the schools of the Washington Theological Consortium, provides students with extensive resources and opportunities for their study of theology in an ecumenical context.
111. The ecclesiastical degree programs of the School are subject to the approval of the Apostolic See; the degrees with exclusively civil effects in Theology and Religious Studies are subject to accreditation by the Association of Theological Schools.

II. Government and Members

112. The dean of the School of Theology and Religious Studies presides both when the school deals, as an ecclesiastical school, with matters concerning ecclesiastical degrees and when it deals with matters concerning degrees with exclusively civil effects.
113. The School of Theology and Religious Studies is governed by the members who hold school appointments, under the authority of the dean. The latter administers the school with the consultation of an Executive Council.
114. The Executive Council meets with the dean who acts as chair. The Executive Council is composed of the dean; three associate deans (one each for graduate studies, for undergraduate studies, and for seminary and ministerial studies); at least four directors of academic areas and at least two faculty members elected at large.
115. The directors of academic areas who are members of the Executive Council rotate successively for terms of office of two years. The faculty members elected at large hold terms of office for two years.

III. Entrance Requirements

116. Entrance requirements for the program leading to the Graduate Bachelor of Theology (S.T.B.) are as follows:
 - a. A bachelor's degree (or its equivalent) from an accredited college or university;

- b. Superior achievement and the ability to pursue graduate work as indicated on the transcript of previous studies and in letters of recommendation;
 - c. Graduate Record Examination (or its equivalent) results which indicate aptitude for graduate studies in theology;
 - d. Two or more letters of recommendation from persons who are in a position to judge the applicant's ability for graduate studies in this field;
 - e. An undergraduate foundation in philosophy, which includes a demonstrated background in the following areas: History of Philosophy, Logic, Metaphysics, Ethics, Philosophy of God, and Philosophy of Man.
117. A reading knowledge of Latin needs to be demonstrated by the successful completion of the academic requirements of the School of Theology and Religious Studies.
118. Entrance requirements for the program leading to the Licentiate in Theology are as follows:
- a. Possession of the S.T.B. degree from an ecclesiastical university or school or its academic equivalent as determined by the ecclesiastical degree committee of the school after consideration of the applicant's transcripts of credits.
 - b. Provisional Admission: Those students in the School of Theology and Religious Studies who are entering their seventh semester of theological study in the S.T.B. program and have obtained permission to delay their S.T.B. comprehensive until the scheduled dates during that semester may apply for provisional admission to this program provided their cumulative point average reaches a level of 2.75 or higher.
119. Entrance requirements for the program leading to the Doctor of Theology are as follows:
- a. Possession of the S.T.L. degree from the School of Theology and Religious Studies; or
 - b. Possession of the S.T.L. degree from another ecclesiastical school or university (in which case additional seminars may be required for the doctoral program to provide the School the opportunity to be of greater assistance to the candidate who has been educated elsewhere); or
 - c. Possession of a graduate degree in theology that demonstrates equivalency to the S.T.L. requirements;
 - d. A grade-point average of 3.30 or better for the S.T.L. degree or its equivalent.

IV. Students

120. The rights and duties of students in the school are those specified for graduate students by the norms and procedures of the University for all its Schools.
121. The official organization of the students in the school is the Theology and Religious Studies Students Association. Membership in the Association is automatic with a student's enrollment in the school. Its activities are directed by an annually elected board, composed of a President and students who represent various academic areas within the degree programs.
122. The prime function of the Theological and Religious Studies Students Association is representation of students at the meetings of the school, on the committees of the school, on the graduate student association board, and on the student board of the Washington Theological Consortium.
123. The Theological and Religious Studies Students Association also provides for course evaluation, social events, public lectures in matters of current interest, and the circulation of information pertinent to students of theology and religious studies.

V. Programs of Study

124. The School of Theology and Religious Studies, along with its programs for degrees with exclusively civil effects, offers programs for the degrees of Bachelor in Theology (S.T.B.), Licentiate in Theology (S.T.L.), and Doctor of Theology (S.T.D.).
125. The program of studies leading to the graduate S.T.B. degree consists of a six-semester curriculum. It provides the student with the opportunity to attain a general theological orientation. It is an academic, not a ministerial, program.
 - a. A detailed program of courses is required, with specific requirements in dogmatic theology, moral theology, Sacred Scripture, and liturgical, historical, and canonical studies.
 - b. Courses in each of these areas may be taken beyond the program requirements in accord with the regulations of the school.
 - c. The degree is awarded to those students who have achieved the requisite cumulative average from all required courses and who successfully complete a comprehensive examination in all disciplines toward the end of the curriculum.
126. The program of studies leading to the S.T.L. degree consists of a four-semester curriculum. It provides specialization in one discipline and further exercise in the appropriate method of scientific investigation.

- a. The School of Theology and Religious Studies offers licentiate-level specialization in dogmatic and systematic theology, moral theology, Biblical Studies, historical theology, and liturgical studies and sacramental theology.
 - b. The course requirements are determined by the student's chosen area of specialization.
 - c. The student is also required to register for three terms of research guidance under one of the major professors and to complete a dissertation, which demonstrates the ability to pursue scientific investigation in the chosen field.
 - d. Toward the end of the curriculum, the student must pass a comprehensive examination in the chosen area of specialization. To qualify for the comprehensive examination, the student must maintain the requisite cumulative average in required courses.
 - e. The candidate for the degree must have demonstrated reading proficiency in Latin, Greek, a modern language appropriate to theological research, and Hebrew if the area of specialization is sacred scripture.
127. The program of studies leading to the S.T.D. degree consists of a four-semester curriculum. Its aim is to allow the student to develop advanced expertise in scholarly research.
- a. The School of Theology and Religious Studies offers doctoral-level specializations in biblical theology, historical theology, liturgical studies and sacramental theology, moral theology, and dogmatic and systematic theology.
 - b. The program consists of doctoral seminars and ongoing direction from a school advisor chosen or assigned at the time of admission.
 - c. In addition to course requirements, the candidate must complete and defend a dissertation that by accepted standards in the field contributes to the advancement of theological research. The dissertation must be written under the guidance of a major professor.
 - d. Prior to the defense of the dissertation, the student is required to complete a comprehensive examination based on the origin, history, and contemporary status of the major area suggested by the topic of the dissertation.
 - e. In addition to the language requirements for the S.T.L. degree, the candidate for the S.T.D. must demonstrate a reading proficiency in two modern research languages.
128. The School of Theology and Religious Studies has an academic area entitled Pastoral Studies whose concern is with pastoral skills as well as other questions of practical ministry. Students for the ecclesiastical degrees may take courses in this academic area, in addition to the courses required for the respective degree programs, and may participate in the practical seminars directed by its staff.

129. One level of the program is geared to preparation for ordained and lay ecclesial ministry, the other to discernment and refinement of ministerial skills.
 - a. Exposure to pastoral experience is achieved by the student's involvement in multiple supervised field experiences and related didactic seminars.
 - b. Courses for formation in ministry include personal growth, human sexuality, family life, death and dying, dimensions of religious education, preaching, and spirituality.
130. Courses for development in ministry include pastoral counseling; basic and advanced supervised ministries; advanced preaching, liturgy and celebration; and spiritual development.

VI. Relationships with Other Schools and Institutes

131. The Catholic University of America is a founding member of the Washington Theological Consortium.
132. The School of Theology and Religious Studies, in conjunction with the other member institutions, pursues the goals of ecumenical and academic cooperation, which are those of the Consortium.
133. Toward these goals, the Consortium fosters school meetings and committees, team-taught courses, exchange of teachers, sharing of library resources, and cross-registration of students.
134. The School of Theology and Religious Studies collaborates with the Washington, D.C. Session of the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family to develop curriculum for the students in both Schools, to exchange faculty, to promote workshops and conferences, and to permit students to register in both academic units.
135. The School of Theology and Religious Studies has established a joint agreement with the Faculty of Theology of the University of Nijmegen to develop a post-graduate certificate in Pastoral Studies and an M.A. program in Pastoral Studies.
136. The School of Theology and Religious Studies maintains collaboration with theological schools of all Christian denominations throughout the United States through its accreditation by the Association of Theological Schools and through the University's accreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.