



4.00 credits

30.0 h

Q1


**This biannual learning unit is not being organized in 2026-2027 !**

Teacher(s)	Join-Lambert Arnaud ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	These objectives will be achieved after - a clarification about the connections between theology and psychology ; - an analysis of a specific pastoral question from the psychological standpoint.
Learning outcomes	<b>At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :</b> 1 - understand the complexity of current pastoral ministry owing to psychological questions ; 2 - analyse theologically some pastoral situations with complex psychological components ; 3 - use some tools in psychology to analyse a pastoral case.
Content	<p><b>1. Human developmental psychology for pastoral use; 2. Abuse and misuse of power in the Catholic Church</b></p> <p>The course discusses the possible contributions of psychology to the life of the Church, both in its theological reflection and in the discernment and implementation of its pastoral practices. The “psychology of human development” thus provides valuable keys to understanding contemporary human beings and contributes to the “pastoral care of the proposal” that is emerging in Western Europe. The course will cover extensively the essential authors, including Piaget, Kohlberg, Fowler, but also Erikson, who belongs to another school of thought. Examples will show the relevance of paying attention to this dimension in accompaniment practices (pastoral counseling, “healing”) and the psychological dimension of sacramental pastoral care. A meeting with actors and actresses involved in pastoral listening and accompaniment (Mambré) in the diocese of Malines-Brussels is planned in this context.</p> <p>A large part of the course will then be devoted to the issue of abuse (sexual, spiritual, power) in the Church. With the participation of clinical psychologist Véronique de Thuy Croizé, research associate at the Institute for Religions, Spiritualities, Cultures and Societies. Current research in this field is marked by documentaries (particularly in Flanders) and numerous books and investigation reports. We will also work on the basis of Sarah Suco’s fictional film <i>Les éblouis</i> (2019) and the independent report on the Abbey of Saint-Maurice in Switzerland (2025).</p>
Bibliography	Bibliographie de base sur moodle; autres bibliographies spécialisées distribuées en cours au fur et à mesure
Other infos	No prerequisite. A preliminary course on the major options of the psychology, particularly about religion, could be very helpful for the course. All information about method and evaluation could be found on the website of the course on icampus.
Faculty or entity in charge	TEBI

<b>Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)</b>				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Certificat universitaire en théologie (approfondissement)	TECB9CE	4		
Master [120] in Theology	THEO2M	4		
Master [120] of Education, Section 4 : Religion	RELI2M4	4		