

Abstract. The aristotelian conception of happiness in which the goal of human life consists on the realization of the rational soul, withdraws man from *negotia* and keeps him within a political horizon: on an urban dimesion of sociability. This model served the *magistri artium* to theorically justify their function. However, on the XIVth century this conception faced a fierce critic amongst the first humanists. In this article I intend to give account of this phenomenon by comparing and analizing the conception of happiness of two authors: on the first place, the *magister* Jacobus Pistoriensis and his *Quaestio de felicitate*, on the second place, the concepction of happiness as withdrawal from the cities and the life of solitude of Francesco Petrarch in the context of his critics to the university culture.

Keywords: Petrarch - Jacobus Pistoriensis - Intellectual Happiness - Solitude - Humanism.

