

CREDIT TRANSFER AND RECOGNISED PRIOR LEARNING

PRINCIPLES

- (i) In ACT coursework courses, prior learning is recognised and/or credit is granted from previous non-ACT study in particular units. Block credit and advanced standing are not applied except in the case of the Bachelor of Christian Studies where block credit forms part of the requirements for the awarding of the degree.
- (ii) Transfer of credit between ACT courses will be based on merit grades.
- (iii) No more than 33% of an ACT award can be granted in credit from prior non-ACT study or learning.
- (iv) No credit can be granted from units or an award completed at undergraduate level towards a masters degree or embedded graduate diploma.
- (v) A unit successfully completed or for which credit has been granted in an ACT award cannot be attempted in another award of the ACT. However, if it can be demonstrated that the subject matter of a project or seminar is different from that completed in another award, permission to enrol may be given.
- (vi) No unit already passed or for which credit has been granted in an ACT award can be repeated for a merit grade.
- (vii) Units for which credit is granted from non-ACT awards are designated “AEG”, *ad eundem gradum* (credit transferred from an equivalent award or institution), and have no impact on the GPA of a student.
- (viii) Where credit is granted from a non-ACT source towards one or more assessment pieces within a unit, those units are not eligible for a merit grade.
- (ix) There are no fees associated with RPL or credit transfer applications either imposed by the affiliated colleges of the ACT or the ACT office.
- (x) The extent to which credit may be granted in an ACT award is dependent on the individual course rules.
- (xi) Applications should be submitted before the student enrolls in an ACT course, and will not normally be considered once the student has commenced study. The unit Guided Spiritual Formation (GSF) is not eligible for credit transfer or RPL.
- (xii) Students who apply for credit based on non-ACT study towards an ACT award in which their enrolment was current at the time of the completion of the non-ACT study must have first received permission from their enrolling ACT member college and the Dean of the ACT for the credit application is to be considered based on such study.
- (xiii) Where students are granted advanced standing, their candidature period will be shortened by the percent of the course granted as credit.
- (xiv) Applications for course credit are subject to the senescence rule (see below).

SENESCENCE IN COURSE CREDIT

In the context of course credit, senescence refers to the reduction over time of the relevance of previous study or prior learning to be the basis for credit at enrolment in a new course of similar content.

The undergirding philosophy behind senescence is currency of knowledge. Progression through levels of study assumes prior understanding of issues and concepts, an understanding that can over time become lost or inaccurate.

Credit will only be considered for a unit of an ACT award if the study on which the application is based occurred no more than ten years before the commencement of the ACT award and the applicant has demonstrated the previous study may be regarded as having satisfied the objectives and the assessment requirements of the unit in the ACT award.

The senescence rule takes precedent over all other credit regulations.

The senescence rule does not negate the possibility of students applying for Recognised Prior Learning (RPL). However, the undergirding philosophy of currency of knowledge must still be applied. The student needs to demonstrate they have met the objectives and assessment requirements of the ACT degree units for which credit is being claimed. If it can be shown that the knowledge obtained in their prior study done more than ten years ago has been kept current through further research, publications, practical application, etc, then consideration could be given to granting credit transfer. However, prior study alone will not be sufficient. Refer to the RPL section below for full details on how to apply.

CREDIT TRANSFER

Exemptions for units may be granted in cases where there is no direct correlation between units studied and those for which the student is seeking credit, but where it is felt that the student would not benefit from repeating material similar in nature to that already completed elsewhere. The granting of exemptions does not reduce a student's credit load for an award.

APPROVED CREDIT FOR NON-ACT PROVIDERS

BCSA Regional Certificates

Graduates of both the BCSA Old Testament and New Testament certificates are eligible to receive up to 16cps credit in 200 level units (OT201, OT202, NT201 and NT202). Students are eligible to receive up to 8cps credit in 300 level units.

SMBC Diplomas

Graduates are eligible to receive 32cps credit towards the ACT's undergraduate degrees.

Moore College BD

Graduates are eligible to receive credit for 16cps credit to the ACTh's MA(Th) or MA(Min), or 8cps credit to the ACT's GradDipTh or GradDipMin. Any credit sought from individual Moore College BTh or BD units (incomplete course) will be granted to the ACTh undergraduate degrees only.

RTC BD

The Reformed Theological College BD has been deemed equivalent to the ACT BTh Honours for the purpose of admission to the Master of Theology.

Moore College Diploma in Bible & Mission

Graduates are eligible to receive 32cps credit towards the ACT's BTh or BMin, or 20cps towards the AssocDegTh and BChrStuds.

Overseas Degrees

North America

- An MDiv degree from an institution accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) is regarded as equivalent to the ACTh's BTh or BMin.
- Non-ATS MDiv graduates may receive one year's credit (32cps) in the ACTh's three-year undergraduate degree program.
- ICI (Texas) University degree graduates receive no credit at degree level.

Asia

- BD/MDiv degrees of colleges accredited by the Asian Theological Association (ATA) and Association for Theological Education in South East Asia (ATESEA) are regarded as equivalent to ACTh undergraduate degrees. Graduates with a GPA of 3.3 or higher may gain entry to the research masters (MTh).
- BTh graduates from colleges recognised by the above associations are required to complete 24 cps at 300–400 level before entry to the ACTh's MA Theology or Ministry. A Distinction average achieved after the first 12 cps will mean the waiving of the remaining requirement.

RECOGNISED PRIOR LEARNING

Applications for credit based on recognition of prior learning will be considered in accordance with the guidelines published in “National Principles and Operational Guidelines for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)” (AQF, 2004).

Definition

RPL is an alternative pathway to an AQF qualification that is different to credit transfer. RPL is related to learning achieved outside the formal education and training system.

How RPL is assessed

The key distinguishing characteristic is that it is the student who is assessed for RPL, as opposed to the previous course or unit(s) of study in the case of credit transfer.

In order to recognise prior learning it is necessary to compare the informal or non-formal learning the individual has achieved against the learning outcomes or performance criteria of the course or qualification to which the student is seeking entry; and to determine if the prior learning fulfils some or any of them.

The processes used to assess RPL applications may take several forms, for example:

- Participation in exactly the same or modified versions of the assessment the student would be required to complete as part of the full course;
- Assessment based on a portfolio of evidence;
- Direct observation of demonstration of skill or competence;
- Reflective papers, journals or portfolios that relate past learning to the learning or competency outcomes of the current course or qualification;
- Provision of examples of the student’s work drawn from the workplace, social, community or other setting in which the student applied their learning, skill or competence;
- Testimonials of learning, skill or competence;
- Combinations of any of the above.

The assessment of prior learning for recognition in an award should consider prior learning regardless of how, when and where it was acquired, provided that the learning is current and relevant to the learning or competency outcomes in a subject, unit, module, course or qualification.

APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTING OF CREDIT OR RPL

Any student wishing to apply for assessment for the granting of credit or RPL should prepare a Prior Learning Portfolio (PLP), which details his/her previous work experience, education and training details, and other interests and skills. Supporting documentation, such as references, course details about previous credentialed learning, reports, should be included with the application. Applicants may wish to identify ACT units against which the credit may be granted.

In the case where credit is sought based on RPL, the application should outline the link between the student’s learning experiences and the learning outcomes of the unit(s) in which the student is seeking credit.

Students may be required to undertake some form of test or assessment to demonstrate that they have achieved the learning outcomes stated.

Overseas applicants for admission to an ACT course, who wish to be considered for credit transfer/RPL, should lodge their PLP when they lodge their application for admission to a member college.

Prior Learning Portfolios

In the case of credentialed learning, the PLP should contain:

- Certified copies of statement(s) of satisfactory completion of a course or units in a course offered by a professional body or enterprise, private educational institution, or by any other provider recognised by a university;
- Documentation stating the objectives, learning outcomes and content of the units in the course;
- For each unit successfully completed, details of any formal assessment of learning undertaken and, if relevant, grades obtained;
- Details of the contact hours of the units in a course

In the case of uncredentialed learning, applications should include:

- Details of prior learning experience(s) to support the claim for credit in units of the proposed ACT courses;
- A detailed curriculum vitae;
- Letters of support from appropriate persons/organisations who can verify these details.

Recording of decisions to grant credit:

Students who are granted credit will be informed in writing of the approval, and a copy of the letter is given to their enrolled college for placement in their file. The amount of credit given is also recorded on the student's electronic record in the system database.

With regard to overseas students, if credit granted shortens the student's course, this must be reflected in the offer letter (as this is the contract with the student) and will be indicated either on the eCoE issued for that student to commence the course, or reported on PRISMS. Such students are reminded that they must still maintain a full time study load and that RPL can affect their visa status.

SPECIFIC AWARD DETAILS

Diploma of Theology or Diploma of Ministry (Pathway 1):

- (i) No more than 16cps will be granted for non-ACT study towards the Diploma of Theology or Diploma of Ministry (Pathway 1).
- (ii) If a student fails a 300-400 level unit, but achieves a total of 40% or more, individual undergraduate diploma level (200) units may be granted with *conceded pass* grades (1.0 GPA) to the undergraduate diploma programs.
- (iii) For a completed ACT Certificate in Theology (formerly Associate in Theology), 8 cps of credit may be given. For students who have achieved 65% in OT and/or NT, they may apply for the credit to be applied in the Diploma as OT250 and/or NT250 accordingly.
- (iv) Students with a complete or incomplete one-year VET course (Certificate IV) in theology or ministry may be granted up to 8 cps towards the Diploma of Theology or Diploma of Ministry.
- (v) Students with a complete or incomplete two-year VET course (Diploma or Advanced Diploma) in ministry or theology may be granted up to 16 cps towards the Diploma of Theology or Diploma of Ministry.

- (vi) Students with a complete ACT Diploma of Ministry will be granted 32cps towards a Diploma of Theology (or vice versa). The remaining 16 credit points required to complete the second diploma may be taken at 200 or 300-400 level, and may not include units already taken in the first diploma. The unit requirements of the second diploma must be completed to graduate with the award.

Diploma of Theology or Diploma of Ministry (Pathway 2):

- (i) No more than 8cps will be granted for non-ACT study towards the Diploma of Theology or Diploma of Ministry (Pathway 2).
- (ii) If a student fails a 500-600 level unit, but achieves a total of 40% or more, individual 300-400 level units may be granted with *conceded pass* grades (1.0 GPA).
- (iii) For a completed ACT Certificate in Theology (formerly Associate in Theology), 8 cps of undesignated credit may be given.
- (iv) Students with a complete or incomplete VET course (Certificate IV, Diploma or Advanced Diploma) in theology or ministry may be granted up to 8 cps towards the Diploma of Theology or Diploma of Ministry (Pathway 2).
- (v) Students who are enrolled in an ACT diploma course (Pathway 1) may wish to obtain academic credit towards the diploma course (Pathway 2) and receive credit for 300-400 level units in one or more of the following ways:
- There are some units that have the same syllabi at 200 level and 300-400 level. Most of these are located in the Department of Ministry and Practice and are skills based. One or more of these units at 200 level may be counted for academic credit at 300-400 level. The full list of units can be found at the appendix to the Credit Transfer / RPL Policy on the ACT website, www.actheology.edu.au.
 - Additionally, students who obtain at least a credit grade in any of the six core foundational units (OT201, OT202, NT201, NT202, CH201, CH202) are eligible to for academic credit to the corresponding unit at 300 level.
 - Unless counted in the above provisions, students enrolled in a diploma or advanced diploma (Pathway 1) may obtain academic credit in 300-400 level units, at the rate of two 300-400 level units for every three 200 level units which are completed with a credit result or better. The exact units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis.
- (vi) For students wishing to exit from the ACT's AssocDegTh, BChrStuds, BTh or BMin, after the completion of 32 cps the Diploma of Theology or Diploma of Ministry (Pathway 2) may be granted so long as the student has completed all requirements for the diploma.

Advanced Diploma of Theology or Advanced Diploma of Ministry (Pathway 1):

- (i) No more than 20cps will be granted for non-ACT study towards the Advanced Diploma of Theology or Advanced Diploma of Ministry (Pathway 1).
- (ii) If a student fails a 300-400 level unit, but achieves a total of 40% or more, individual undergraduate diploma level (200) units may be granted with *conceded pass* grades (1.0 GPA) to the undergraduate diploma programs.
- (iii) For a completed ACT Certificate in Theology (formerly Associate in Theology), 8 cps of credit may be given. For students who have achieved 65% in OT and/or NT, they may apply for the credit to be applied in the Diploma as OT250 and/or NT250 accordingly.
- (iv) Students with a complete or incomplete one-year VET course (Certificate IV) in theology or ministry may be granted up to 8 cps towards the Diploma of Theology or Diploma of Ministry.
- (v) Students with a complete or incomplete two-year VET course (Diploma or Advanced Diploma) in ministry or theology may be granted up to 16 cps towards the Diploma of Theology or Diploma of Ministry.

- (vi) Students with a complete or incomplete three-year VET course (Advanced Diploma) in ministry or theology may be granted up to 20cps towards the Diploma of Theology or Diploma of Ministry.
- (vii) Students with a complete ACT Advanced Diploma of Ministry will be granted 32cps towards an Advanced Diploma of Theology (or vice versa). The remaining 32 credit points required to complete the second advanced diploma must include at least 8cps of or 300-400 level, and may not include units already taken in the first diploma. The unit requirements of the second diploma must be completed to graduate with the award.

Advanced Diploma of Theology or Advanced Diploma of Ministry (Pathway 2):

- (i) No more than 16cps will be granted for non-ACT study towards the Advanced Diploma of Theology or Advanced Diploma of Ministry (Pathway 2).
- (ii) If a student fails a 500-600 level unit, but achieves a total of 40% or more, individual 300-400 level units may be granted with *conceded pass* grades (1.0 GPA).
- (iii) For a completed ACT Certificate in Theology (formerly Associate in Theology), 8 cps of undesignated credit may be given.
- (iv) Students with a complete or incomplete one-year VET course (Certificate IV) in theology or ministry may be granted up to 8 cps towards the Advanced Diploma of Theology or Advanced Diploma of Ministry (Pathway 2).
- (v) Students with a complete or incomplete two-year VET course (Diploma or Advanced Diploma) in ministry or theology may be granted up to 16 cps towards the Advanced Diploma of Theology or Advanced Diploma of Ministry (Pathway 2).
- (vi) Students who are enrolled in an ACT diploma course (Pathway 1) may wish to obtain academic credit towards the advanced diploma course (Pathway 2) and receive credit for 300-400 level units in one or more of the following ways:
 - There are some units that have the same syllabi at 200 level and 300-400 level. Most of these are located in the Department of Ministry and Practice and are skills based. One or more of these units at 200 level may be counted for academic credit at 300-400 level. The full list of units can be found at the appendix to the Credit Transfer / RPL Policy on the ACT website, www.actheology.edu.au.
 - Additionally, students who obtain at least a credit grade in any of the six core foundational units (OT201, OT202, NT201, NT202, CH201, CH202) are eligible to for academic credit to the corresponding unit at 300 level.
 - Unless counted in the above provisions, students enrolled in a diploma or advanced diploma (Pathway 1) may obtain academic credit in 300-400 level units, at the rate of two 300-400 level units for every three 200 level units which are completed with a credit result or better. The exact units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis.
- (vii) For students wishing to exit from the ACT's AssocDegTh, BChrStuds, BTh or BMin, after the completion of 32 cps the Diploma of Theology or Diploma of Ministry (Pathway 2) may be granted so long as the student has completed all requirements for the diploma.

Associate Degree of Theology or Bachelor of Christian Studies:

- (i) No more than 20cps will be granted for non-ACT study towards the Associate Degree of Theology or Bachelor of Christian Studies.
- (ii) If a student fails a 500-600 level unit, but achieves a total of 40% or more, individual undergraduate degree level (300-400) units may be granted with *conceded pass* grades (1.0 GPA) to the undergraduate degree programs.
- (iii) For a completed ACT Certificate in Theology (formerly Associate in Theology), 8 cps of undesignated credit may be given.

- (iv) Students with a complete or incomplete one-year VET course (Certificate IV) in theology or ministry may be granted up to 8 cps towards the AssocDegTh or BChrStuds.
- (v) Students with a complete or incomplete two-year VET course (Diploma or Advanced Diploma) in ministry or theology may be granted up to 16 cps towards the AssocDegTh or BChrStuds.
- (vi) Students with a complete or incomplete three-year VET course (Diploma or Advanced Diploma) in ministry or theology may be granted up to 20 cps towards the AssocDegTh or BChrStuds.
- (vii) Graduates of an ACT Diploma or Advanced Diploma may apply for the following credit:
 - Graduates of an ACT Diploma (64 credit points – old regulations):
 - with a GPA of 2.0 or above: unless students have successfully completed Greek (LA002, 004, 010) or Hebrew (LA001, 003, 011) for which degree credit will be automatically granted, a maximum of 24cps advanced standing is available. Credit for OT301, OT302, NT301, NT302, and up to two foundational level CH units (based on units taken in the diploma) will automatically be given. Any other units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis, according to the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
 - with a GPA of 1.75-1.99: unless students have successfully completed Greek (LA002, 004, 010) or Hebrew (LA001, 003, 011) for which degree credit will be automatically granted, a maximum of 20cps advanced standing is available. Credit for OT301, OT302, NT301, NT302, and up to two foundational level CH units (based on units taken in the diploma) will automatically be given. Any other units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis, according to the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
 - with a GPA of less than 1.75: unless students have successfully completed Greek (LA002, 004, 010) or Hebrew (LA001, 003, 011) for which degree credit will be automatically granted, a maximum of 12cps advanced standing is available. The exact units to be determined by the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
 - Graduates of an ACT Diploma (Pathway 1 or Pathway 2 – 2012 regulations):
 - a maximum of 24cps advanced standing is available. Credit for OT301, OT302, NT301, NT302, and up to two foundational level CH units (based on units taken in the diploma) will automatically be given. Any other units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis, according to the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
 - Graduates of an ACT Advanced Diploma (96 credit points – old regulations):
 - with a GPA of 2.0 or above: unless students have successfully completed Greek (LA002, 004, 010) or Hebrew (LA001, 003, 011) for which degree credit will be automatically granted, a maximum of 32cps advanced standing is available. Credit for OT301, OT302, NT301, NT302, and up to two foundational level CH units (based on units taken in the diploma) will automatically be given. Any other units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis, according to the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
 - with a GPA of 1.75-1.99: unless students have successfully completed Greek (LA002, 004, 010) or Hebrew (LA001, 003, 011) for which degree credit will be automatically granted, a maximum of 24cps advanced standing is available. Credit for OT301, OT302, NT301, NT302, and up to two foundational level CH units (based on units taken in the diploma) will automatically be given. Any other units for which credit is received will be

- determined on a case by case basis, according to the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
- With a GPA of less than 1.75: unless students have successfully completed Greek (LA002, 004, 010) or Hebrew (LA001, 003, 011) for which degree credit will be automatically granted, a maximum of 16cps advanced standing is available. The exact units to be determined by the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
 - Graduates of an ACT Advanced Diploma (Pathway 1 or Pathway 2 – 2012 regulations):
 - a maximum of 32cps advanced standing is available. Credit for OT301, OT302, NT301, NT302, and up to two foundational level CH units (based on units taken in the diploma) will automatically be given. Any other units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis, according to the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
- (viii) Students who are enrolled in an ACT diploma award may wish to obtain academic credit towards the AssocDegTh or BChrStuds in one or more of the following ways:
- There are some units that have the same syllabi in the diplomas and the undergraduate degrees. Most of these are located in the Department of Ministry and Practice and are skills based. Up to a maximum of 25% of the diploma award may be taken in these units. One or more of these units in a diploma or an advanced diploma may be counted for academic credit in the relevant degree. The full list can be found at the appendix to the Credit Transfer / RPL Policy on the ACT website, www.actheology.edu.au.
 - Additionally, students who obtain at least a credit grade in any of the six core foundational units in Old Testament, New Testament, and Church History (all at 200 level) will be eligible to gain academic credit to the corresponding undergraduate degree unit at 300 level.
 - Unless counted in the above provisions, students with an incomplete diploma award may obtain academic credit in a degree at the rate of two degree units for every three diploma units which are completed with a credit result or better. The exact units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis.
- (ix) For students wishing to exit from the ACT's BTh or BMin awards after the completion of 62 cps, the Associate Degree may be granted so long as the student has completed all requirements for the AssocDegTh.

Bachelor of Ministry or Bachelor of Theology

- (i) No more than 32cps will be granted for non-ACT study towards the Bachelor of Ministry or Bachelor of Theology.
- (ii) If a student fails a 500-600 level unit, but achieves a total of 40% or more, individual undergraduate degree level (300-400) units may be granted with *conceded pass* grades (1.0 GPA) to the undergraduate degree programs.
- (iii) For a completed ACT Certificate in Theology (formerly Associate in Theology), 8 cps of undesignated credit may be given.
- (iv) Students with a complete or incomplete one-year VET course (Certificate IV) in theology or ministry may be granted up to 8 cps towards the BMin or BTh.
- (v) Students with a complete or incomplete two-year VET course (Diploma or Advanced Diploma) in ministry or theology may be granted up to 16 cps towards the BMin or BTh.
- (vi) Students with a complete or incomplete three-year VET course (Diploma or Advanced Diploma) in ministry or theology may be granted up to 24 cps towards the BMin or BTh.

- (vii) Graduates of an ACT Diploma or Advanced Diploma may apply for the following credit:
- Graduates of an ACT Diploma (64 credit points – old regulations):
 - with a GPA of 2.0 or above: unless students have successfully completed Greek (LA002, 004, 010) or Hebrew (LA001, 003, 011) for which degree credit will be automatically granted, a maximum of 44cps advanced standing is available. Credit for OT301, OT302, NT301, NT302, and up to two foundational level CH units (based on units taken in the diploma) will automatically be given. Any other units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis, according to the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
 - with a GPA of 1.75-1.99: unless students have successfully completed Greek (LA002, 004, 010) or Hebrew (LA001, 003, 011) for which degree credit will be automatically granted, a maximum of 32cps advanced standing is available. Credit for OT301, OT302, NT301, NT302, and up to two foundational level CH units (based on units taken in the diploma) will automatically be given. Any other units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis, according to the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
 - with a GPA of less than 1.75: unless students have successfully completed Greek (LA002, 004, 010) or Hebrew (LA001, 003, 011) for which degree credit will be automatically granted, a maximum of 24cps advanced standing is available. The exact units to be determined by the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
 - Graduates of an ACT Diploma (Pathway 1 or Pathway 2 – 2012 regulations):
 - a maximum of 24cps advanced standing is available. Credit for OT301, OT302, NT301, NT302, and up to two foundational level CH units (based on units taken in the diploma) will automatically be given. Any other units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis, according to the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
 - Graduates of an ACT Advanced Diploma (96 credit points – old regulations):
 - with a GPA of 2.0 or above: unless students have successfully completed Greek (LA002, 004, 010) or Hebrew (LA001, 003, 011) for which degree credit will be automatically granted, a maximum of 64cps advanced standing is available. Credit for OT301, OT302, NT301, NT302, and up to two foundational level CH units (based on units taken in the diploma) will automatically be given. Any other units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis, according to the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
 - with a GPA of 1.75-1.99: unless students have successfully completed Greek (LA002, 004, 010) or Hebrew (LA001, 003, 011) for which degree credit will be automatically granted, a maximum of 48cps advanced standing is available. Credit for OT301, OT302, NT301, NT302, and up to two foundational level CH units (based on units taken in the diploma) will automatically be given. Any other units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis, according to the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
 - With a GPA of less than 1.75: unless students have successfully completed Greek (LA002, 004, 010) or Hebrew (LA001, 003, 011) for which degree credit will be automatically granted, a maximum of 32cps advanced standing is available. The exact units to be determined by the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.

- Graduates of an ACT Advanced Diploma (Pathway 1 or Pathway 2 – 2012 regulations):
 - a maximum of 32cps advanced standing is available. Credit for OT301, OT302, NT301, NT302, and up to two foundational level CH units (based on units taken in the diploma) will automatically be given. Any other units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis, according to the rules of credit transfer from incomplete ACT diploma awards.
- (viii) Students who are enrolled in an ACT diploma award may wish to obtain academic credit towards the BMin or BTh in one or more of the following ways:
 - There are some units that have the same syllabi in the diplomas and the undergraduate degrees. Most of these are located in the Department of Ministry and Practice and are skills based. Up to a maximum of 25% of the diploma award may be taken in these units. One or more of these units in a diploma or an advanced diploma may be counted for academic credit in the relevant degree. The full list can be found at the appendix to the Credit Transfer / RPL Policy on the ACT website, www.actheology.edu.au.
 - Additionally, students who obtain at least a credit grade in any of the six core foundational units in Old Testament, New Testament, and Church History (all at 200 level) will be eligible to gain academic credit to the corresponding undergraduate degree unit at 300 level.
 - Unless counted in the above provisions, students with an incomplete diploma award may obtain academic credit in a degree at the rate of two degree units for every three diploma units which are completed with a credit result or better. The exact units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis.
- (ix) Students with a complete ACT Bachelor of Ministry will be granted 64cps towards a Bachelor of Theology (or vice versa). The remaining 32 credit points required to complete the second degree may not include units already taken in the first degree. The unit requirements of the second degree must be completed to graduate with the award.

Bachelor of Theology (Honours) or Bachelor of Ministry (Honours)

- (i) Normally advanced standing will not be given candidates in the Bachelors Honours programs. Nevertheless applications for RPL will be considered for the coursework phase.
- (ii) Students who already possess research qualifications at an equivalent level would be granted credit for Research Methods (RM095).

Graduate Certificate of Divinity or Graduate Certificate of Christian Studies

- (i) No more than 4cps will be granted for non-ACT study towards the GradCertDiv or GradCertChrStuds.
- (ii) No credit could be claimed for units completed at undergraduate level.

Graduate Diploma of Divinity or Graduate Diploma of Christian Studies

- (i) No more than 8cps will be granted for non-ACT study towards the GradDipDiv or GradDipChrStuds.
- (ii) No credit could be claimed for units completed at undergraduate level.

Master of Divinity

- (i) No more than 32cps will be granted for non-ACT study towards the Master of Divinity.
- (ii) ACT GradCertDiv, GradCertChrStuds, GradDipDiv and GradDipChrStuds graduates could receive advanced standing into the MDiv. Students transferring to the MDiv seeking credit would need to surrender their graduate certificate or graduate diploma.
- (iii) No credit could be claimed for units completed at undergraduate level.

Master of Arts (Christian Studies)

- (i) No more than 20cps will be granted for non-ACT study towards the MA(ChrStuds).
- (ii) Students who have already developed a basis in theological reflection, biblical interpretation, and exegetical knowledge and skills, may receive advanced standing.
- (iii) Students who hold either the ACT's BTh, BMin or MDiv degrees—or an approved equivalent theological degree awarded by a recognised and reputable provider—and a Graduate Diploma in a non-theological field may be granted admission to the degree, and may be granted advanced standing of up to 50% of the degree.

Graduate Certificate of Theology or Graduate Certificate of Ministry

- (i) No credit is available into the GradCertTh or GradCertMin.

Graduate Diploma of Theology or Graduate Diploma of Ministry

- (i) No more than 8cps will be granted for non-ACT study towards the GradDipTh or GradDipMin.
- (ii) Students with a completed ACT Honours degree may be granted up to 8 cps in the GradDipTh or GradDipMin.
- (iii) Students with a completed ACT MDiv degree will be given advanced standing for up to one 700 level unit in the MA from successfully completed 700 level units in their MDiv program.

Master of Arts (Theology)/Master of Arts (Ministry)

- (i) No more than 16cps will be granted for non-ACT study towards the MA(Th) or MA(Min).
- (ii) Students with a completed ACT Honours degree may be granted up to 24 cps in the Master of Arts (Ministry)/ Master of Arts (Theology). No credit will be given for the coursework masters project (**790).
- (iii) Students with a completed ACT MDiv degree will be given advanced standing for up to two 700 level units in the MA from successfully completed 700 level units in their MDiv program.

DEFINITIONS

“Credentialed Learning” – relevant skills, knowledge or competencies that have been acquired from a provider other than the ACT (or other accredited Higher Education Provider). For example, education or training provided through employer-based programs, professional bodies, TAFE colleges.

“Credit Transfer” – the recognition for credit of prior study

“Exemption” – where a student is not required to take a certain unit(s) on the basis of work already completed but is required to undertake an alternative unit of equivalent credit points.

“Merit grade” – a grade awarded based on student performance in the assessment of a unit

“RPL” – Recognised Prior Learning

“PLP” – Prior Learning Portfolio

“Specified Credit” – credit granted in the form of specific unit(s) from which a student is exempted.

“TAFE” – Technical and Further Education

“Uncredentialed Learning” – Learning acquired through work and life experience

“Unspecified Credit” – see credit which is given in one course on the basis of prior formal studies in another course without the direct correlation of learning outcomes.

Simon Davies

Academic Administrator

November 14, 2011

Appendix B
Units Counting for Credit—Diploma/Undergraduate Degree

These units are available for direct credit into the degrees of the ACT when completed at diploma level.

(Advanced) Diploma	Undergraduate Degree
LA001 Introduction to Biblical Hebrew	LA001
LA001 Introduction to NT Greek	LA002
LA003A Biblical Hebrew A	LA003A
LA003A Biblical Hebrew B	LA003B
LA004 NT Greek A	LA004A
LA004 NT Greek B	LA004B
LA010 Intermediate Greek	LA010
LA011 Intermediate Hebrew	LA011
OT245 Bible in Context	OT445
EM211 Mission in the Urban Context	EM411
EM225 Applied Evangelism	EM425
EM226 Church Planting	EM426
EM240 Cross-Cultural Field Education	EM440
PC201 Ministry Formation	PC301
PC235 Principles of Leadership & Management	PC435
PC236 Clinical Pastoral Education	PC436
PC240 Communication Principles	PC440
PC241 Principles of Homiletics	PC441
PC242 Congregational Field Education	PC442
PC243 Pastoral Care Field Education	PC443
PC244 Practical Ministry Field Education	PC444
PC245 Christian Counselling Field Education	PC445
PC249 Guided Spiritual Formation	PC449
DM201 Foundations of Christian Education	DM301
DM240 Christian Education Field Education	DM440
DM241 Youth Ministry Field Education	DM441
DM242 Children's Ministry Field Education	DM442

Mark Harding
 Dean
 22 December 2000
 10 June 2001
 27 October 2010