

GRADUATE DIPLOMA OF DIVINITY (AQF LEVEL 8 GRADUATE DIPLOMA)

Course Rationale
The aim of the degree is to guide graduate students in a systematic manner to the acquisition of the body of coherent knowledge that is the classical discipline of theology as a means not only of preparing men and women for the responsibility of communicating Christian knowledge but also for advanced degrees in theology and ministry.
Admission Requirements
<p>Academic Qualifications</p> <p>The ACT will consider an applicant for admission to the Graduate Diploma of Divinity if the applicant:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> has graduated with or qualified for [at least] a bachelor degree or equivalent qualification from an Australian university or other approved higher education provider; or has successfully completed study deemed equivalent to (i). <p>In addition, consideration will also be given to other factors such as maturity and motivation, and the likelihood of satisfactory completion of the academic requirements of the course.</p> <p>Language Qualifications for Non-English Speaking Background Applicants (NESB)</p> <p>Candidates who (a) have an assessable qualification that was undertaken solely in English in one of a set of prescribed countries OR (b) who have been resident in Australia with English being the language spoken at home and at work for ten (10) or more years are NOT required to provide proof of English Language proficiency for consideration for admission to an ACT course. All other domestic and international candidates MUST provide proof of English Language proficiency for consideration for admission to an ACT course. Such proof will normally be by provision of the results of an IELTS test (Academic Version).</p> <p>For admission to the Graduate Diploma of Divinity course, the minimum IELTS result required is 7.0 overall with a minimum of 7.0 in reading and writing, and 6.5 in listening and speaking</p> <p>Mature Age Entry</p> <p>There is no mature age entry provision on the understanding that applicants are already graduates.</p>
Course Structure
<p>32 credit points over 1 year F/T or P/T equivalent (up to 4 years) at 500-600 Level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 cps in core foundational level units in OT and/or NT (from OT501, OT502, NT501, NT502) 4 cps in Christian Thought (CH, PE, TH) 20 cps of units from 500-600 level from any unit field
Learning Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ability to interpret and critically evaluate the biblical deposit, especially those books which have played a crucial role in the development of the Christian tradition, with a comprehensive knowledge of their original context and their major themes and ideas, comprehensive and critical understanding of and ability to exegete biblical texts in their original language(s), comprehensive and critical understanding of the major theological tenets of the Christian faith which underpin any coherent theological world view and philosophy of ministry, skills in at least one area of pastoral ministry, comprehensive and critical understanding of the historical conditions under which theological worldviews have developed and are being shaped today, openness to the tradition of published scholarship and the diversity of viewpoints which characterise that scholarship in the various fields of the discipline of theology as essential to understanding and respecting the discipline and as an integral part of the preparation for communicating the Christian tradition and contributing to the on-going enterprise of the community of scholars in the articulation and actualisation of the Christian faith.
Occupational Functions of Graduates
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> teacher or ordained minister in a congregation with responsibility for preaching, teaching, and preparing people for church membership, pastor with responsibility for providing leadership in various ministry and pastoral care contexts, leader able to take part in wider debates in the church, the denomination, or society with respect to interpreting and mediating the Christian tradition in the modern world, leader preparing for higher degrees in theology and ministry, teacher of diploma level units in the graduate's specialisation in a theological or Bible college.

Skills, Knowledge, and Attitudes Acquired by Graduates	
(i)	ability to interpret and critically evaluate the biblical deposit, especially those books which have played a crucial role in the development of the Christian tradition, with a comprehensive knowledge of their original context and their major themes and ideas,
(ii)	comprehensive and critical understanding of and ability to exegete biblical texts in their original language(s),
(iii)	comprehensive and critical understanding of the major theological tenets of the Christian faith which underpin any coherent theological world view and philosophy of ministry,
(iv)	skills in at least one area of pastoral ministry,
(v)	comprehensive and critical understanding of the historical conditions under which theological worldviews have developed and are being shaped today,
(vi)	openness to the tradition of published scholarship and the diversity of viewpoints which characterise that scholarship in the various fields of the discipline of theology as essential to understanding and respecting the discipline and as an integral part of the preparation for communicating the Christian tradition and contributing to the on-going enterprise of the community of scholars in the articulation and actualisation of the Christian faith.
Rules	
(i)	Students must not enrol in more than 20 cps in any one semester.
(ii)	Only specified pre-requisites apply to units in the Graduate Diploma of Divinity. The pre/co-requisites listed for Master of Divinity units do not apply to students enrolled in the Graduate Diploma of Divinity.