

ADVANCED DIPLOMA OF THEOLOGY (AdvDipTh)

&

ADVANCED DIPLOMA OF MINISTRY (AdvDipMin)

Rationale and Aims of the Course:

(a) *Aim and Perceived Need*

- the aim of the Advanced Diploma is to introduce students in a systematic manner to the body of coherent knowledge that is the classical discipline of theology as a means of preparing men and women for well-informed participation in the life of the church and, if students so choose, for ministry in one or more areas of pastoral practice,
- the course does aim to provide a foundation of knowledge and skills appropriate to Christian ministry, but not of the breadth and depth required for leaders and teachers in congregations for which vocation the BTh, BMin and the Master of Divinity have been devised.

(b) *Occupational Functions of Graduates*

Graduates might expect to fulfil the following roles—

- a well-informed member of a church ministry team with shared responsibility for the Christian education program,
- depending on the units taken in the course, a member of a church pastoral ministry team under the leadership of a qualified practitioner with a degree in theology or ministry.

(c) *Skills, Knowledge, and Attitudes Acquired by Graduates*

Graduates can be expected to demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and attitudes—

- ability to interpret the biblical deposit, especially those books which have played a crucial role in the development of the Christian tradition, with a knowledge of their original context and their major themes and ideas,
- knowledge of the major theological tenets of the Christian faith which underpin any coherent theological worldview and philosophy of ministry, and
- having successfully completed units in the Department of Ministry and Practice, graduates should possess skills appropriate for ministry in at least one area of ministry practice, and to demonstrate that they are able to bring the intellectual and pastoral dimensions of the Faith to bear upon issues affecting their special study area, in a way which is integrated with personal experience,
- ability to communicate and minister in his or her special study area in a manner which appropriately brings together knowledge and social context.

(d) *Learning and Teaching Strategies*

- mastering the underlying principles and concepts of the biblical deposit and church history, as presented

in the core units in Old Testament, New Testament and Church History,

- once that foundation has been laid, engaging students in biblical exegesis, the major theological doctrines, and the further study of church history,
- requiring students wishing to prepare for particular pastoral care and other practical ministry opportunities to demonstrate the skills needed to operate in those spheres,
- requiring students intending to prepare for an aspect of pastoral ministry and who intend to take out the Advanced Diploma of Ministry to take the unit Supervised Experienced Based Learning (SEBL) (PC249), which is intended to facilitate reflection on the intellectual challenges of the content of the course and ministry context for which the student is preparing,
- teaching strategies employed throughout the course include not only traditional lectures but also seminar presentations, input from specialist adjunct lecturers, and the use of audio, video and IT resources where available.

Admission Requirements and Assumed Knowledge:

(a) *Educational Qualifications for Admission*

Candidates are normally admitted upon satisfactory completion of Year 12 in an Australian school system or equivalent. Consideration will also be given to other factors such as practical experience, maturity and motivation, and the likelihood of satisfactory completion of the academic requirements of the course.

(b) *Special Additional Qualifications*

Except for those candidates who have a tertiary qualification taught in English, international candidates whose first language is not English will be required to sit an IELTS test. Advanced Diploma candidates are required to achieve at least a score of 6.0 in each of the four bands of the test. Approved institutions may also require a test of other individual candidates. No bridging courses are currently specified.

(c) *Mature Age Entry*

Provisional mature age entry is available for candidates over the age of 20.

Credit Transfer:

(a) *Principles*

- ACT policies with respect to articulation conform to the National Policy Guidelines set forth in AQF documents.
- The ACT regards the qualifications awarded by the affiliated colleges of the Committee of Deans of Theological Consortia as equivalent to its own, assuming that prerequisites for entry to an ACT award are met.
- The ACT regards accredited degrees in theology and ministry awarded by registered providers in Australia as equivalent to its own degrees assuming

that prerequisites for entry to an ACT award are met.

(b) Admission with Advanced Standing: from completed awards

- (i) A maximum of 64 cps may be credited to the Advanced Diploma of Theology or the Advanced Diploma of Ministry from completed three-year degrees of the College. The further 32 cps (8 units) needed to complete the Advanced Diploma of Theology or Advanced Diploma of Ministry may not include any units equivalent to units taken in the program from which credit has been granted. Application for credit is made on the prescribed form available from affiliated colleges.
- (ii) For a completed pass certificate in the one-year Certificate in Theology (formerly the Associate in Theology), an historic unaccredited award of the ACT, 8 cps (i.e. 2 units) may be given in elective units.
- (iii) Students who have completed an ACT one year Certificate IV in theology or ministry may be granted up to 32 credit points towards an ACT undergraduate diploma.
- (iv) Admission with Advanced Standing from Non-ACT awards:
 - Students who have completed a non-ACT one year Certificate IV in theology or ministry may be granted up to 8 cps towards an ACT undergraduate diploma. Units Counting for Credit from a Cert IV to the diplomas are as follows:
EM211 Mission in the Urban Context
PC201 Ministry Formation
PC235 Principles of Leadership & Management
PC240 Communication Principles
DM201 Foundations of Christian Education
 - Students who have completed a non-ACT two-year VET diploma in ministry or theology may be granted up to 16 cps towards an ACT undergraduate degree.

(c) Admission with Advanced Standing: from incomplete awards

Applications for Advanced Standing from incomplete non-ACT awards will not be considered if the units were completed more than ten years previously.

- (i) With the approval of the Dean, discrete units of the undergraduate degrees may be taught and counted as credit towards the three-year Diplomas and two-year Diplomas. Since these units will normally be internally examined, approval will be granted where it is considered that adequate expertise in full assessment can be assured.
- (ii) Individual ACT degree units may be credited to the diplomas as long as a grade of 40% or more has been achieved.
- (iii) Students yet to complete an ACT or non-ACT one year Certificate IV in theology or ministry may be granted up to 8 credit points towards an ACT undergraduate diploma from designated units. See the list of designated units above.

- (iv) Students yet to complete a non-ACT two year VET diploma in ministry or theology may be granted up to 16 credit points towards an ACT undergraduate diploma. See the list of designated units above.

Notwithstanding the above, students must still satisfy all entrance requirements for the diploma to which they are seeking credit.

Applications should be made on the prescribed enrolment form available from affiliated colleges.

(d) Articulation for Graduates to Higher ACT Awards

- (i) Unless students have successfully completed Greek (LA002, LA004) and Hebrew (LA001, LA003) for which degree credit will be automatically granted, a maximum of 64 credit points (or two-thirds of the BMin/BTh) is available for advanced diploma graduates towards the BMin/BTh. Graduates must have achieved a GPA of 2.0 (Credit) in their award for the above credit to apply. The exact units for which credit is received will be determined on a case by case basis.
- (ii) Graduates of the Advanced Diploma with a GPA of 1.75–2.0 may be granted credit for OT301 and OT302, NT301 and NT302, and CH301 and CH302.

Course Structure and Curriculum:

(a) Duration of Course and Modes of Delivery

- The Advanced Diploma is a three-year course. This is the minimum period of candidature. There is no maximum time for candidature. Candidates may study full-time or part-time.
- All students in the Advanced Diploma must be enrolled at an approved institution of the College.
- Units can be delivered in attendance or flexible mode.

(b) Course Structure and Progression

Advanced Diploma students must complete 96 cps (24 units).

The core units, to be completed by all advanced diploma students, comprise:

- Old Testament Introduction—8 cps, OT201, OT202
- New Testament Introduction—8 cps, NT201, NT202
- Church History—4 cps, one of CH201, CH202, CH205–CH209
- Theology—4 cps, either TH210 or TH211

Advanced Diploma of Theology

- The core (as mentioned above) plus:
- Minimum of 24 cps in Old and New Testament exegesis, with a minimum of 4cps from each field
- Minimum of 8 cps in Theology
- Minimum of 4 cps in Church History
- Minimum 24 cps Type A Electives (incl. Project)
- Maximum of 12 cps Type B Electives (if offered)

Advanced Diploma of Ministry

- The core (as mentioned above) plus:
- Minimum of 12 cps in Old and New Testament exegesis, with a minimum of 4cps from each field
- Minimum of 4 cps in Theology
- Minimum of 4 cps in Church History
- Minimum of 20 cps in Ministry and Practice, with a minimum of 4 cps from at least each of two fields
- 4 cps of SEBL (PC249)
- Minimum 20 cps Type A Electives (incl Project)
- Maximum of 8 cps Type B Electives (if offered)

Regulations:

- Every graduating student must have satisfactorily completed one (but not more than one) special interest Project (**290). The Project will be assessed at first year university undergraduate level.
- The unit Supervised Experienced Based Learning (PC249) is an integrative compulsory unit for graduating Advanced Diploma of Ministry students taken over at least two years of a candidate's Advanced Diploma program.
- Students must not enrol in more than 20 cps in any one semester,
- The Project may not be begun until the year in which the student expects to graduate,
- Students may take one only of Ministry Formation (PC201), Personal Life of Those in Ministry (PC210) and Personal Life of the Missionary (EM216),
- Students may not take Foundations of Pastoral Care (PC202) or Pastoral Skills and Methods (PC203) if Pastoral Care (PC207) has been taken.

Assessment:**Units in the Departments of Bible and Languages (non-exegesis) and Christian Thought**

Unless otherwise specified in the syllabus, units in the Departments of Bible and Languages and Christian Thought are assessed by a written examination and by work set and marked by a student's approved college. The exam is worth at least 50% of the total grade. The essay (or other forms of assessment) is worth no more than 50%.

Unless otherwise specified, the written examination shall be a minimum of 80 minutes duration. Students will be required to answer at least 3 questions from a minimum of 8 alternatives set. Each numbered topic area of the syllabus will be examined, but (as appropriate at diploma level) candidates will not be expected to answer detailed questions on subsections within these.

Exegesis Units (Department of Bible and Languages)

An exam is not compulsory for these units. At least 50% of the assessment must involve exegetical exercises and/or a major exegetical essay. There must be one major piece of assessment worth at least 40%.

Colleges are free to require students to sit an exam worth 50% that focuses on the theology of the book or books covered in the unit and exegetical essays worth a total of 50%.

Greek Exegesis units (NT210-213):

Assessment for these units will consist of:

- 1 Translation of Greek into English (40%);
- 2 Exegesis of the Greek text (60%);

Biblical Languages Units

In each unit the written examination is a minimum of 80 minutes.

The major assessment in each unit is moderated by the LA unit field moderator.

Units in the Department of Ministry and Practice

These units are assessed by the candidate's approved college in an appropriate way. At least two pieces of assessment must be used for each unit.

Designated field work units are assessed on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis only and are not included in the calculation of a student's GPA.

Project

The Project is assessed by way of a 4,000 word essay.

Word equivalence

Each unit requires the completion of 4,000 words or equivalent.

An exam hour is reckoned as the equivalent of 1,500 words.

Credit towards the Certificate in Theology

The Certificate in Theology (formerly known as the Associate in Theology [ThA]) may be awarded on successful completion of six diploma units marked at diploma level. At least one unit should come from each of the fields of OT, NT and Theology. Students intending to take out this award would enrol unit by unit as non-award students.

There must be an exam worth 50% in units from the departments of Bible and Languages (LA, NT, OT) and Christian Thought (TH, CH, PE) units.



DIPLOMA UNIT LIST:**Notes:**

- Students enrolled in the diplomas can take italicised units for undergraduate degree credit.
- Units marked by an asterisk (*) can count for credit in one other field of study (but not both) of the same award.

Bible & Languages**Languages (LA)**

<i>LA001 Introduction to Biblical Hebrew</i>	60
<i>LA002 Introduction to New Testament Greek</i>	60
<i>LA003A Biblical Hebrew A</i>	60
<i>LA003B Biblical Hebrew B</i>	61
<i>LA004A New Testament Greek A</i>	61
<i>LA004B New Testament Greek B</i>	62
LA290 Project	143

Old Testament (OT)

OT201 Old Testament Foundations	62
OT202 Old Testament Prophets and Writings	63
* OT203 Principles of Hermeneutics	63
OT205 Genesis, Deuteronomy, Samuel	64
OT206 Pre-exilic Prophets	65
OT207 Exilic Prophets & Wisdom Literature	65
OT208 Psalms & Post-Exilic Literature	66
OT209 Hebrew Exegesis	66
OT227 Isaiah	67
OT290 Project	143

New Testament (NT)

NT201 Content & Setting of the Gospel Tradition	69
NT202 The Early New Testament Church	69
NT205 Luke and John	70
NT206 Romans and 1 Corinthians	70
NT207 Selected Letters of the Pauline Corpus and the Book of Revelation	70
NT208 Hebrews and Selected New Testament Letters	71
NT209 Other Selected Letters of the Pauline Corpus	72
NT210 Luke and John (Grk)	72
NT211 Romans and 1 Corinthians (Grk)	73
NT212 Selected Letters of the Pauline Corpus and the Book of Revelation (Grk)	73
NT213 Hebrews and the Catholic Epistles (Grk)	74
NT221 Paul and Corinthian Christianity	75
NT229 Romans	75
NT290 Project	143

Christian Thought**Theology (TH)**

TH210 The Doctrine of God and the Person and Work of Christ	76
TH211 The Holy Spirit, Grace and Hope	76
TH212 Christology	77
TH213 Ecclesiology and the Means of Grace	78
TH290 Project	143

Church History (CH)

CH201 The Church to 1550	79
CH202 The Church from 1550 to Modern Times	80
CH205 Early Church History (30–451)	82
CH206 The Reformation	82
CH209 Australian Church History	83
CH221 The Continental Reformation	84
CH290 Project	143

Philosophy and Ethics (PE)

PE211 Ethics & Contemporary Problems	85
PE220 Christian Apologetics	86
PE290 Project	143

Ministry & Practice**Evangelism and Missiology (EM)**

EM201 Mission Perspectives	87
EM202 History of Christian Missions	88
EM203 Biblical Theology of Mission	89
EM207 Biblical and Contemporary Theology of Mission	90
EM208 Cross Cultural Communication	91
EM209 Cultural Anthropology	92
EM210 Aid & Development	92
<i>EM211 Mission in the Urban Context</i>	93
EM213 Area Study	94
EM216 The Personal Life of the Missionary	94
EM218 Ministry in A Culturally Diverse Context	95
EM219 Cults and Sects	96
EM220 Study of Religion	97
EM221 Living Faiths	97
EM223 Foundations for Evangelism	98
<i>EM226 Church Planting</i>	99
EM227 Church Dynamics and Growth	99
EM235 Linguistics	100
<i>EM240 Cross-cultural Field Education</i>	101
<i>EM241 Evangelism Field Education</i>	101
EM290 Project	143

Pastoral & Church Focussed Ministry (PC)

<i>PC201 Ministry Formation</i>	102
PC202 Foundations of Pastoral Care	103
PC203 Pastoral Skills & Methods	103
PC204 The Character of the Preacher	104
PC205 Foundations of Christian Counselling	105
PC206 Evangelistic Preaching	106
PC207 Pastoral Care	106
PC208 Preaching Biblical Genres A	107
PC209 Preaching Biblical Genres B	108
PC210 Personal Life of Those in Ministry	109
PC212 Preaching to Contemporary Culture	109
PC213 Sermon Composition	110
PC214 Music and Singing in the Bible and Christian History	111
PC215 Christian Worship	111
PC216 Denominational Distinctives	112
PC219 Ethics for Ministry	113
PC221 Theology for Everyday Life	114
PC222 Lay Ministry in Everyday Life	115
PC223 Lay Ministry in the Church	115
PC225 Lay Theologians	116
PC226 Ethics for Everyday Life	117

PC227	Patterns of Spiritual Formation	117
PC233	Foundations for Creative Ministries	118
PC234	Leadership in Christian Ministry	119
PC235	<i>Principles of Leadership & Management</i>	120
PC236	<i>Clinical Pastoral Education</i>	121
PC238	Music for Christian Ministry	121
PC239	Inter-Personal Relationships	122
PC240	<i>Communication Principles</i>	123
PC243	<i>Pastoral Care Field Education</i>	124
PC244	<i>Practical Ministry Field Education</i>	124
PC246	<i>Lay Ministry Field Education</i>	125
PC247	Introductory Preaching	125
PC248	Advanced Preaching	126
PC249a	<i>Supervised Experienced Based Learning A</i>	127
PC249b	<i>Supervised Experienced Based Learning B</i>	127
PC249c	<i>Supervised Experienced Based Learning C</i>	127
PC249d	<i>Supervised Experienced Based Learning D</i>	127
PC290	Project	143

Developmental Ministry (DM)

DM201	<i>Foundations for Christian Education</i>	128
DM202	Christian Education Among Children	129
DM203	Adult Christian Education	130
DM204	Christian Education in Practice	130
DM210	Foundations of Youth Ministry	131
DM211	Youth in the Churches	132
DM212	Youth: Context, Development & Learning	133
DM213	Ministry with Non-Church Youth	134
DM214	Chaplaincy in Educational Settings	134
DM215	Foundations in Young Adult Ministry	135
DM216	Issues in Christian Outdoor Education	137
DM217	Skills in Christian Outdoor Education	137
DM220	Introduction to Church-based Children's Ministry	138
DM222	Children's Ministry Skills	139
DM230	Australian Families & Church	140
DM231	Family Ministry	141
DM240	<i>Christian Education Field Education</i>	142
DM241	<i>Youth Ministry Field Education</i>	142
DM242	<i>Children's Ministry Field Education</i>	142
DM290	Project	143

**Type B Electives****Anglican Youthworks**

YWD22	Spirituality on Screen: Using Film and Television in the Discipleship of Children and Young People	
YWP23	An Introduction to Youth and Children's Ministry in the Diocese of Sydney	

Mary Andrews College

MAP21	Understanding Grief	
MAP22	Women's Studies	

Queensland Theological College

CRN21	The Cross and the Clash of First-Century Culture	
CRT21	Presbyterian Polity	

CRT22	Introduction to Theology and Westminster Confession of Faith	
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School of Christian Studies

SOP21	Disaster and Suffering: A Christian Response	
SOP22	Thinking God at Work	
SOP23	Empowered to Care	
SOT21	An Introduction to Theological Studies	

Sydney Missionary and Bible College

SMP21	Introduction to Expository Preaching	
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