

GRADUATE DIPLOMA OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES

PURPOSE

The Graduate Diploma of Christian Studies is a program of study for professionals with a non-theological degree. It provides graduate level study in biblical, theological, historical, missiological and ministry related disciplines and enables those who are professionally trained to access graduate theological resources so they can integrate Christian studies with their chosen vocation.

The Graduate Diploma of Christian Studies is an award of the Australian College of Theology.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Graduate Diploma are -

- Fundamental knowledge of the Christian faith: Through a rigorous program of study graduates will have developed, at a postgraduate level, a fundamental knowledge of the Christian faith including a sound, basic knowledge of a range of Bible and theological doctrines and the ability to analyse, integrate, apply and further develop this knowledge in life and ministry.
- Personal development in biblical holiness: Graduates will have an understanding, grounded in theory and practice, of Christian spirituality including the way an experience of God and biblical holiness can enhance personal life and commitment to the life and mission of the church.
- Practical ministry skills: Graduates will have a developing understanding of their own particular ministry skills and gifts and the ability to integrate their existing professional skills with service for the church and its mission to the world.

ADMISSION QUALIFICATIONS

Standard entry

Admission to the Graduate Diploma is normally on the basis of the applicant -

- Holding a three-year non-theological Bachelor's degree and
- Demonstrating potential to undertake cognitive-formative-functional study of this nature at postgraduate level and
- Demonstrating English language skills appropriate to this level of study. Candidates will either have satisfactorily completed at least one year of study in English at an approved tertiary institution or have achieved a minimum overall band score of 6.5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), with no band score lower than 6.5 in Reading and Writing.

ADVANCED STANDING

Advanced standing/credit transfer may be given for previous graduate level theological study taken at approved institutions.

Students with a completed a Graduate Diploma in Divinity will get 12 credit points of advanced standing into the Graduate Diploma of Christian Studies and are exempt from the compulsory units with the exception of the Integrative Project.

DURATION

The minimum time of candidature is one year. The maximum time allowed is 4 years.

MODE OF STUDY AND ASSESSMENT

- The Graduate Diploma in Christian Studies can be completed entirely through on-campus lectures or by Distance.
- Subjects offered at 400 level require the completion of 5,000 - 6,000 words or equivalent. Subjects offered at 600 level require the completion of 6,000 - 7,000 words or equivalent. An exam is reckoned as the equivalent of 1,500 words per hour.
- Assessment methods include essay, exams, book review, reflection paper, weekly exercises and practical projects.
- All Foundation subjects are required to have an exam.

Load Requirements

Full time students will normally take 12 to 16 credit points per semester from the scheduled subjects. Students must not enrol in more than 20 cps in any semester or 32 cps in any academic year.

Overall Credit Requirements

The Graduate Diploma as a whole requires the satisfactory completion of subjects totalling 32 credit points.

Core Requirements

FIELD and SUBJECT:		CREDIT POINTS required
Bible: Old or New Testament or Church History (16 cps required)		
	Elective	4
	Elective	4
	Elective	4
	Elective	4
Theology (8 cps required)		
	Elective	4
	Elective	4
Elective: Must be from the 600 level		
	Elective	4
Integrative Project		
IN690	Essay of 5000 words	4
TOTAL CREDIT POINTS		32

ELECTIVES

Electives may be chosen from any of the following fields:

BIBLE AND LANGUAGES

Code	Subject
OT610	Pentateuch (Eng)
OT620	Pentateuch (Heb)
OT611	The Former Prophets (Eng)
OT621	The Former Prophets (Heb)
OT612	Eighth Century Prophets (Eng)
OT622	Eighth Century Prophets (Heb)
OT613	Exilic Prophecy (Eng)
OT623	Exilic Prophecy (Heb)
OT616	Psalter (Eng)
OT626	Psalter (Heb)
OT624	Wisdom Literature (Eng)
OT634	Wisdom Literature (Heb)
OT689	Seminar
NT620	Synoptic Gospels (Eng)
NT630	Synoptic Gospels (Greek)
NT622	Hebrews (Eng)
NT632	Hebrews (Grk)
NT624	Fourth Gospel (Eng)
NT634	Fourth Gospel (Grk)
NT625	Pauline Theology and Romans (Eng)
NT635	Pauline Theology and Romans (Grk)
NT626	General Epistles (Eng)
NT636	General Epistles (Grk)
NT628	Other Writings: Acts & Galatians
NT638	Other Writings: Acts & Galatians
NT689	Seminar
LA003	Biblical Hebrew (8 cps)
LA004	New Testament Greek (8cps)
LA610	*Intermediate Greek
OT503	Principles of Hermeneutics (compulsory)
OT690	Project
NT690	Project

MINISTRY & PRACTICE - YOUTH MINISTRY

Code	Subject
DM614	Chaplaincy in Educational Settings

MINISTRY & PRACTICE - PASTORAL & CHURCH FOCUSED MINISTRY

Code	Subject
PC602	*Foundations of Pastoral Care
PC515	Christian Worship
PC635	*Principles of Leadership & Management
PC690	*Project

MINISTRY & PRACTICE - EVANGELISM AND MISSION

Electives may be chosen from any of the following:

Code	Subject
EM501	Mission Perspectives (Distance Only)
EM524	Evangelism Principles
EM603	Biblical Theology of Mission
EM604	Contemporary Theology of Mission
EM610	Aid & Development
EM615	Christian Ministry in Islamic Contexts
EM621	*Living Faiths
EM689	*Seminar
EM690	*Project

CHRISTIAN THOUGHT

Electives may be chosen from any of the following:

Code	Subject
PE501	Introduction to Christian Ethics
PE617	Church in Australian Society
PE620	Christian Apologetics
PE690	*Project

SUGGESTED STUDY PROGRAM

Semester	3 Subjects per semester	4 Subjects per semester
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OT501 Formative Old Testament Traditions NT501 Content & Setting of the Gospel Tradition Elective (600 level) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OT501 Formative Old Testament Traditions NT501 Content & Setting of the Gospel Tradition Elective (600 level) Theology Elective
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OT502 From Israel to Judea NT502 Early New Testament Church Theology Elective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OT502 From Israel to Judea NT502 Early New Testament Church Theology Elective Integrative Project
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theology Elective Integrative Project 	