

GRADUATE DIPLOMA OF DIVINITY

PURPOSE

The Graduate Diploma of Divinity is a program of study for graduates of a non-theological degree. It provides postgraduate level study in biblical, theological, historical, missiological and ministry related disciplines and is designed in such a way as to allow for the completion of certain essential core subjects while allowing flexibility in the selection of other subjects of relevance to students' interests and needs.

The Graduate Diploma in Divinity enables those who are professionally trained to access graduate level theological resources and so provide a basis for non-professional (lay) ministry.

It articulates to the Master of Divinity award, in which case candidates will need to structure their Graduate Diploma with that objective in mind, so as to be certain of fulfilling the complete requirements of the M.Div program.

The Graduate Diploma of Divinity 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 graduate 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.

ADMISSION QUALIFICATIONS

Standard entry

Admission to the GradDip is normally on the basis of the applicant -

- holding a Bachelor's degree in a non-theological discipline from an Australian University (or the equivalent) and
- demonstrating potential to undertake cognitive-formative-functional study of this nature at graduate 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.

ALTERNATE ENTRY

There is no mature age entry provision on the understanding that applicants are already graduates.

ADVANCED STANDING

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

DURATION

The minimum time for candidature is one-year. The maximum time for candidature is four years. Students may study full-time or part-time.

The entire Graduate Diploma can be taken in Distance mode.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Overall Credit Requirements

Credit points refers to the overall student effort including contact hours and time on assessment tasks. The Graduate Diploma as a whole requires the satisfactory completion of subjects totalling 32 credit points. The student should expect 3 hours of class time and a further 6 – 8 hours on assessment requirements each week for every 4 cp subject.

Mode of Study and Assessment

- The Graduate Diploma in Divinity 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.

Core Requirements

The following table indicates the requirements. There are no pre-requisites governing the choice of subjects unless the student intends to advance to the MDiv in which case pre-requisites do apply.

Bible: Old or New Testament (Two subjects required)		
	Elective	4
	Elective	4
Theology or Church History (Choose one)		
	Elective	4
Electives: Choose five subjects from any field - Advanced Bible should only be taken with/after Principles of Hermeneutics		
	Elective 1	4
	Elective 2	4
	Elective 3	4
	Elective 4	4
	Elective 5	4
TOTAL CREDIT POINTS		32

BIBLE: OLD TESTAMENT

OT 501 Formative OT Traditions
OT502 From Israel to Judea

BIBLE: NEW TESTAMENT

NT501 Content & Setting of the Gospel Tradition
NT502 Early New Testament Church

THEOLOGY

TH601 The Knowledge of God
TH602 The Doctrine of God & The Work of Christ
TH603 The Doctrines of Grace & Eschatology
TH604 Church, Sacraments & Ministry

CHURCH HISTORY

CH501 The Church to 1550
CH502 The Church from 1500 to Modern Times

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)
NT620	Synoptic Gospels (Eng)
NT630	Synoptic Gospels (Greek)
OT626	Psalter (Heb)
OT624	Wisdom Literature (Eng)
OT634	Wisdom Literature (Heb)
OT689	Seminar
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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OT501 Formative Old Testament Traditions • NT501 Content & Setting of the Gospel Tradition • 2 Electives
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theology or Church History Elective • 2 Electives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theology or Church History Elective • 3 Electives
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Electives 	