

SECTION SIX

Postgraduate Coursework Degree Programs & Specific Regulations

Graduate Certificate in Arts – GradCertArts

Graduate Diploma of Arts – GradDipArts

Master of Arts – MA

Master of Divinity – MDiv

Master of Theology – MTh

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN ARTS – GradCertArts

AWARD SUMMARY

Entry Requirements:	A three-year bachelor award or equivalent in any discipline.
Duration:	6 months full-time or 18 months part-time
Mode:	Full-time, part-time.
Structure:	36 credit points (i.e. 4 units).
English Proficiency:	Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally require a minimum IELTS (or equivalent) score of 7.0 in all bands of the test.
Fees	Contact the Member Institution with which you intend to enrol.
Contact	The Registrar of one of the following Member Institutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Australian College of Ministries• Broken Bay Institute• Catholic Institute of Sydney• Nazarene Theological College• New South Wales College of Clinical Pastoral Education• Saint Andrew’s Greek Orthodox Theological College• Salvation Army Booth College• Alphacrucis

Graduate Profile and Rationale

The Graduate Certificate in Arts course is designed for those who hold a tertiary qualification in a non-theological discipline, who wish to pursue a graduate qualification in theology, and who are seeking skills in theological studies to enhance their professional work.

Outcomes

On completion a student should be able to:

- display a foundational understanding of central issues in the sub-disciplines of Biblical Studies and Theology
- be familiar with the basic primary and secondary literature of the specified theological discipline

- display an initial appreciation of the contribution of theological disciplines to understanding life experience and Church issues
- be able to respond in a theological manner to life experiences and Church issues

Enrolment

The GradCertArts is offered through individual Member Institutes. In light of the units offered students are able to choose their program to suit their interests and needs, all the while fulfilling the requirements. Details are available from the Member Institute offering the course.

Assessment

Graduate students are expected to give evidence of a breadth of research and a depth of understanding beyond that of an undergraduate student. In particular, their work should manifest the higher order skills of:

- Analysis - the ability to break down what is presented into its component parts and indicate the relationship between those parts;
- Synthesis - the ability to re-assemble those component parts into a new whole;
- Evaluation - the ability to think critically and originally, making judgments based on relevant principles.

Articulation to Other Awards

Students are eligible to articulate to the Graduate Diploma of Arts or the Master of Arts, on completion of which students are required to surrender their Graduate Certificate.

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS for the GradCertArts

1. *Admission to Candidature*

- 1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature for a degree of Graduate Certificate in Arts shall:
 - a) have qualified for admission to a three-year degree from an accredited Australian tertiary institution; or
 - b) hold, from a university or other tertiary institution, qualifications approved by the Student Administration Committee as equivalent to a three year degree;
- 1.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation the Student Administration Committee may require an applicant to demonstrate fitness for admission as a candidate for this degree by carrying out such work and/or sitting for such examinations as the Student Administration Committee may determine.
- 1.3 In exceptional cases an applicant may be admitted as a candidate for a Graduate Certificate in Arts if the applicant submits evidence of other academic and professional attainments to the Student Administration Committee.
- 1.4 A Candidate for the award shall be designated as full-time or part-time. A student is designated as a full-time if enrolled in three units (27 credit points) or more in a semester or part-time if enrolled in less than three units (27 credit points) per semester.

- 1.5 No candidate for the award may be concurrently enrolled in any other undergraduate or postgraduate course within the Sydney College of Divinity or any other tertiary institution, unless approval has been granted by the Academic Board.
- 1.6 Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally will be required to demonstrate competency in English by an IELTS (or equivalent) result of 7.0 in all bands of the test and may be required to attend such English language courses as prescribed by the Sydney College of Divinity.
- 1.7 Application for enrolment in the Graduate Certificate in Arts program is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the program.

2 Course Structure

- 2.1 The Graduate Certificate in Arts requires the completion of 4 units (36 credit points).
- 2.2 All course units shall be taken from the Schedule of Units of Study at 400 and 500 level.

3 Period of Candidature:

- 3.1 The period of candidature for the degree shall normally be six months full time and 18 months part-time.
- 3.2 In certain circumstances the Student Administration Committee may grant extensions to the period of candidature.

4 Leave of Absence

- 4.1 The Student Administration Committee may grant leave of absence from the Graduate Certificate in Arts. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the degree.
- 4.2 The period of leave shall normally be one semester after which a candidate may apply for a further period of one semester or is required to complete candidature.

5. Assessment

- 5.1 The assessment of subject units shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board in line with the College's established guidelines for assessment packages for units at 400 and 500 level.
- 5.2 Students may be required by the Academic Board to present themselves for oral examination.
- 5.3 Academic and non-academic misconduct will be penalised severely in accordance with the regulations of the Sydney College of Divinity.

6. Credit

- 6.1 A candidate may seek credit up to a maximum of 18 credit points in the Graduate Certificate in Arts. Credit can be granted only from units at graduate level where the outcomes, content, demand hours and assessment are equivalent to that of units in the SCD award.

7 Saving Clause

- 7.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Academic Board of the Sydney College of Divinity may, in any case in which it may deem it appropriate to do so, vary, dispense with or suspend any requirement or prescription by these regulations, and report forthwith to the Council of the Sydney College of Divinity.

GRADUATE DIPLOMA of ARTS – GradDipArts

AWARD SUMMARY

Entry Requirements:	<p>A three-year bachelor award or equivalent in any discipline.</p> <p>Students with an SCD Graduate Certificate in Arts may enter the program. To receive the award they are required to complete a further 36 credit points (four units), and hand back the GradCertArts upon graduation.</p>
Duration:	12 months full-time or 3 years part-time
Mode:	Full-time, part-time.
Structure:	<p>72 credit points (i.e. 8 units)</p> <p>The Graduate Diploma has nested within it the Graduate Certificate in Arts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GradCertArts requires 36 credit points• GradDipArts requires an additional 36 credit points giving a total of 72 credit points <p>The course may be taken with or without a specialisation. A specialisation in the GradDipArts comprises 36 credit points in a sub-discipline with at least one unit at 500 level.</p>
Exit Point	Graduate Certificate in Arts (36 cr pts)
English Proficiency:	Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally require a minimum IELTS (or equivalent) score of 7.0 in all bands of the test.
Fees	Contact the Member Institution with which you intend to enrol.
Contact	<p>The Registrar of one of the following Member Institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Australian College of Ministries• Broken Bay Institute• Catholic Institute of Sydney• Nazarene Theological College• New South Wales College of Clinical Pastoral Education• Saint Andrew’s Greek Orthodox Theological College• Salvation Army Booth College• Alphacrucis

Graduate Profile and Rationale

The Graduate Diploma of Arts course is designed for those who hold a tertiary qualification in a non-theological discipline, who wish to pursue a graduate qualification in theology, and who are seeking skills in theological studies to enhance their professional work.

Outcomes

On completion a student should be able to:

- display a basic understanding of central issues in the specified theological discipline
- develop critical skills in dealing with the primary and secondary literature of the specified theological discipline
- display a developed appreciation of the contribution of the specified theological discipline to an understanding of life experience and Church issues
- to respond critically in light of the specified theological discipline to life experiences and Church issues

Enrolment

The GradDipArts is offered through the Member Institutes. In light of the units offered students are able to choose their program to suit their interests and needs, all the while fulfilling the requirements. Details are available from the Member Institute offering the course.

Assessment

Graduate students are expected to give evidence of a breadth of research and a depth of understanding beyond that of an undergraduate student. In particular, their work should manifest the higher order skills of:

- Analysis - the ability to break down what is presented into its component parts and indicate the relationship between those parts;
- Synthesis - the ability to re-assemble those component parts into a new whole;
- Evaluation - the ability to think critically and originally, making judgments based on relevant principles.

Exit points

Students enrolled in the GradDipArts may exit with the Graduate Certificate in Arts provided they have met the requirements of the award.

Articulation to Other Awards

Students are eligible to articulate to the Master of Arts offered by the Sydney College of Divinity, on completion of which students are required to surrender their GradDipArts.

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS for the GradDipArts

1. *Admission to Candidature*

- 1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature for a degree of Graduate Diploma of Arts shall:
- a) have qualified for admission to a three-year degree from an accredited Australian tertiary institution; or
 - b) hold, from a university or other tertiary institution, qualifications approved by the Student Administration Committee as equivalent to an accredited three-year degree;
 - c) hold an SCD Graduate Certificate in Arts: to receive the award a student is required to complete a further 36 credit points (four units), and hand back the GradCertArts upon graduation.
- 1.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation the Student Administration Committee may require an applicant to demonstrate fitness for admission as a candidate for this degree by carrying out such work and/or sitting for such examinations as the Student Administration Committee may determine.
- 1.3 In exceptional cases an applicant may be admitted as a candidate for a Graduate Diploma of Arts if the applicant submits evidence of other academic and professional attainments to the Student Administration Committee.
- 1.4 A candidate for a Graduate Diploma of Arts shall be designated as full-time or part-time. A student is designated as a full-time if enrolled in three units (27 credit points) or more in a semester or part-time if enrolled in less than three units (27 credit points) per semester.
- 1.5 No candidate for the award may be concurrently enrolled in any other undergraduate or postgraduate course within the Sydney College of Divinity or any other tertiary institution, unless approval has been granted by the Academic Board.
- 1.6 Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally will be required to demonstrate competency in English by an IELTS (or equivalent) result of 7.0 in all bands of the test and may be required to attend such English language courses as prescribed by the Sydney College of Divinity.
- 1.7 Application for enrolment in the Graduate Diploma of Arts program is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the program.

2 *Course Structure*

- 2.1 The Graduate Diploma of Arts requires the completion of 8 units.
- 2.2 All course units shall be taken from the Schedule of Units of Study at 400 and 500 level.
- 2.3 The course may be taken with or without a specialisation. A specialisation in the GradDipArts comprises 36 credit points in a sub-discipline with at least one unit at 500 level.
- 2.4 Students who enter the program from a BTh or equivalent cannot do units with content similar to those covered in their undergraduate studies.

3 *Period of Candidature:*

- 3.1 The period of candidature for the degree shall normally be 1 year full-time and 3 years part-time.

- 3.2 In certain circumstances the Student Administration Committee may grant extensions to the period of candidature.

4 *Leave of Absence*

- 4.1 The Student Administration Committee may grant leave of absence from the Graduate Diploma of Arts. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the degree.
- 4.2 The period of leave shall normally be one semester after which a candidate may apply for a further period of one semester or is required to complete candidature.

5. *Assessment*

- 5.1 The assessment of subject units shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board in line with the College's established guidelines for assessment packages for units at 400 and 500 level.
- 5.2 Students may be required by the Academic Board to present themselves for oral examination.
- 5.3 Academic and non-academic misconduct will be penalised severely in accordance with the regulations of the Sydney College of Divinity.

6. *Credit*

- 6.1 A candidate may seek credit up to a maximum of 36 credit points in the Graduate Diploma of Arts. Credit can be granted only from units at graduate level where the outcomes, content, demand hours and assessment are equivalent to that of units in the SCD award.

7 *Saving Clause*

- 7.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Academic Board of the Sydney College of Divinity may, in any case in which it may deem it appropriate to do so, vary, dispense with or suspend any requirement or prescription by these regulations, and report forthwith to the Council of the Sydney College of Divinity.

MASTER OF ARTS - MA

AWARD SUMMARY

Entry Requirements:	A three-year bachelor award or equivalent in any discipline.
Duration:	18 months full-time, or 4 ½ years part-time.
Mode:	Full-time, part-time.
Structure:	<p>108 credit points (i.e. 12 units).</p> <p>The MA has nested within it the Graduate Certificate in Arts and the Graduate Diploma of Arts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GradCertArts requires 36 credit points• GradDipArts requires an additional 36 credit points <p>MA requires an additional 36 credit points giving a total of 108 credit points</p> <p>The course may be taken with or without a specialisation. A specialisation in the MA comprises 54 credit points in a Discipline with at least two units at 500 level.</p>
Exit Point	Graduate Certificate in Arts (36 cr pts); Graduate Diploma of Arts (72 cr pts)
English Proficiency:	Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally require a minimum IELTS (or equivalent) score of 7.0 in all bands of the test.
Fees	Contact the Member Institution with which you intend to enrol.
Contact	<p>The Registrar of one of the following Member Institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Australian College of Ministries• Broken Bay Institute• Catholic Institute of Sydney• Nazarene Theological College• New South Wales College of Clinical Pastoral Education• Saint Andrew's Greek Orthodox Theological College• Salvation Army Booth College• Alphacrucis

Graduate Profile and Rationale

The Master of Arts course is designed for those who hold a tertiary qualification in a non-theological discipline, who wish to pursue a graduate qualification in theology, and who are

seeking skills in theological studies to enhance their professional work.

Outcomes

On completion a student should be able to:

- display a solid understanding over a number of issues in the specified theological discipline
- be able to evaluate critically the contributions of primary and secondary literature in the specified theological discipline
- display a deep appreciation of the contribution of the specified theological discipline to understanding life experience and Church issues
- be able to respond critically in light of the specified theological discipline to life experiences and Church issues

Enrolment

The Master of Arts course is offered through the individual Member Institutes. In light of the units offered students are able to choose their program to suit their interests and needs. Different Member Institutes have developed programs of study within the MA that enable a student to specialise in a particular area, such as biblical studies, urban ministry or liturgy. These programs may have specific entry conditions and required units. Details are available from the Member Institute offering the specialisation.

Assessment

Masters students are expected to give evidence of a breadth of research and a depth of understanding beyond that of an undergraduate student. In particular, their work should manifest the higher order skills of:

- Analysis - the ability to break down what is presented into its component parts and indicate the relationship between those parts;
- Synthesis - the ability to re-assemble those component parts into a new whole;
- Evaluation - the ability to think critically and originally, making judgments based on relevant principles.

Exit points

Students enrolled in the MA may exit with the Graduate Certificate in Arts (36 cr pts) or the Graduate Diploma of Arts (72 cr pts), provided they have met the requirements of those awards.

Articulation to Other Awards

Students are eligible to articulate to the MA(Hons) provided they have achieved the MA with a grade point average of 2.8 or better and including the Research Essay at distinction level. The MA is itself an exit point within the Master of Divinity program.

An MA (SCD) with a particular specialisation can be considered an entry point into the MTh on the following conditions:

- a. The specialization in the MTh must be the same as the specialization undertaken in the MA;
- b. In order to undertake coursework units listed on the schedule of course units for the Master of Theology, the student must have met the pre-requisites for those coursework units.

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS for the MA

1. *Admission to Candidature*

- 1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature for a degree of Master of Arts must:
 - a) have qualified for admission to a three-year degree from an accredited Australian tertiary institution; or
 - b) hold, from a university or other tertiary institution, qualifications approved by the Student Administration Committee as equivalent to an accredited three-year degree;
 - c) hold an SCD Graduate Certificate in Arts: to receive the award the student is required to complete a further 72 credit points (eight units), and hand back the GradCertArts upon graduation
 - d) hold an SCD Graduate Diploma of Arts: to receive the award the student is required to complete a further 36 credit points (four units), and hand back the GradDipArts upon graduation.
 - e) hold a Vocational Graduate Diploma (VET accredited).
 - f) hold a Vocational Graduate Certificate (VET accredited) and be granted provisional admission.
- 1.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation the Student Administration Committee may require an applicant to demonstrate fitness for admission as a candidate for a degree of Master by carrying out such work and/or sitting for such examinations as the Student Administration Committee may determine.
- 1.3 In exceptional cases an applicant may be admitted as a candidate for a degree of Master if the applicant submits evidence of other academic and professional attainments to the Student Administration Committee.
- 1.4 A Candidate for the award shall be designated as full-time or part-time. A student is designated as a full-time if enrolled in three units (27 credit points) or more in a semester or part-time if enrolled in less than three units (27 credit points) per semester.
- 1.5 No candidate for the award may be concurrently enrolled in any other undergraduate or postgraduate course within the Sydney College of Divinity or any other tertiary institution, unless approval has been granted by the Academic Board.
- 1.6 Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally will be required to demonstrate competency in English by an IELTS (or equivalent) result of 7.0 in all bands of the test and may be required to attend such English language courses as prescribed by the Sydney College of Divinity.
- 1.7 Application for enrolment in the Master of Arts program is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the program.

2 *Course Structure*

- 2.1 The candidate undertaking the Master of Arts is undertaking the culmination of three nested awards in which;

- a) the Graduate Certificate in Arts requires the completion of 4 units (36 credit points);
 - b) the Graduate Diploma of Arts requires the completion of 8 units (72 credit points);
 - c) the Master of Arts requires the completion of 12 units (108 credit points);
 - d) a maximum of 36 credit points in research units, with no more than 18 credit points in Independent Guided Study units, 18 credit points in Research Project units and 18 credit points as a Research Essay (students who transfer from the MA to either the MDiv or the MTh cannot exceed this limit in total across both programs);
 - e) 18 credit points may be taken in the Research Essay of 10,000-12,000 words in length and written in the area of specialisation under supervision of a staff member of the Member Institute. Each student enrolled in the Research Essay must complete a 600 level Research Methodology Unit (9 cr pts) that is completed before or concurrently with the Research Essay.
 - f) if admission or provisional admission has been granted on the basis of a Vocational Graduate Diploma or Graduate Certificate, the unit AL420 *Critical Thinking and Writing* is required (core) in the student's program.
- 2.2 All course units shall normally be taken from the Schedule of Units of Study at 400 and 500 level. Course units at 600 level may be undertaken provided that at least four foundational course units in the sub-discipline have been completed, and 54 credit points in the award been completed.
- 2.3 The course may be taken with or without a specialisation. A specialisation in the MA comprises 54 credit points in a sub-discipline with at least two units at 500 level or above.
- 2.4 Students who enter the program from a BTh or equivalent cannot do units with content similar to those covered in their undergraduate studies.
- 2.5 Candidates wishing to proceed to the Master of Arts (Honours) must include the Research Essay as part of the program, and are required to achieve a Distinction grade.

3 *Period of Candidature*

- 3.1 The period of candidature for the degree shall normally be one and a half years full time and four and a half years part-time.
- 3.2 In certain circumstances the Student Administration Committee may grant extensions to the period of candidature.

4 *Leave of Absence*

- 4.1 The Student Administration Committee may grant leave of absence from the award. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the degree.
- 4.2 The period of leave shall normally be one semester after which a candidate may apply for a further period of one semester or is required to complete candidature.

5. *Assessment*

- 5.1 The assessment of subject units shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board in line with the College's established guidelines for assessment packages for units at 400 and 500 level, and at 600 level.

- 5.2 Students may be required by the Academic Board to present themselves for oral examination.
- 5.3 Academic and non-academic misconduct will be penalised severely in accordance with the regulations of the Sydney College of Divinity.

6. *Credits*

- 6.1 A candidate may seek credit up to a maximum of 54 credit points in the Master of Arts. Credit can be granted only from units at graduate level where the outcomes, content, demand hours and assessment are equivalent to that of units in the SCD award.

7 *Saving Clause*

- 7.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Academic Board of the Sydney College of Divinity may, in any case in which it may deem it appropriate to do so, vary, dispense with or suspend any requirement or prescription by these regulations, and report forthwith to the Council of the Sydney College of Divinity.

MASTER OF DIVINITY - MDiv

AWARD SUMMARY

Entry Requirements:	A three-year bachelor award or equivalent in any discipline.
Duration:	3 years full-time, 9 years part-time
Mode:	Full-time, part-time.
Structure:	216 credit points.
English Proficiency:	Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally require a minimum IELTS (or equivalent) score of 7.0 in all bands of the test.
Fees	Contact the Member Institution with which you intend to enrol.
Contact	The Registrar of one of the following Member Institutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broken Bay Institute• Nazarene Theological College• Alphacrucis

Graduate Profile and Rationale

The Master of Divinity is designed as a graduate entry program in theology which provides a comprehensive education in theology comparable in breadth and depth to the Bachelor of Theology, but more rigorous in its academic requirements. The award provides a systematic and comprehensive study of theology and related disciplines through a structure of majors and sub-majors. The sub-disciplines and corresponding majors and sub-majors are:

Sub-disciplines

Biblical Studies

Christian Spirituality
Church History
Counselling
Liturgical Studies
Missiology
Pastoral Theology & Practice
Philosophy
Theology
Theological Ethics

Majors/Submajors

Biblical Studies*
New Testament*
Old Testament*
Christian Spirituality
Church History
Counselling
Liturgical Studies
Missiology
Pastoral Theology & Practice
Philosophy
Theology*
Theological Ethics

*not to include language (Hebrew, Greek, Latin) units

OUTCOMES

Master of Divinity graduates should be able to:

- demonstrate a critical appreciation and knowledge of the core disciplines of scripture and Theology and a selection of related disciplines and their respective methodologies
- critically evaluate primary and secondary material in the various disciplines
- acquire deeper knowledge of some of the key debates in their major area of study
- display independent research skills within one major area of study.
- appreciate the social/historical/ literary context/background of their major subject area
- communicate their understanding of the faith to a variety of audiences and engage in dialogue with the contemporary world
- engage in ministry or associated activities
- appreciate the benefits of a theological education and its potential for making a useful contribution to society
- value various theological traditions
- build tolerance in a multi-cultural society through respecting the views of others

The following statements are written for majors in their respective sub-disciplines

BIBLICAL STUDIES

Knowledge

- relate Biblical texts to the historical, geographical, social and cultural contexts of their times
- demonstrate a sound knowledge of the overall structure and contents of the literature of the Bible
- describe and analyse the principal literary features and rhetorical function of the Bible
- identify and analyse key theological themes in the Bible

Skills

- use a wide range of lexical and grammatical aids in a biblical language
- exegete critically, with some reference to the original languages, passages from both Old and New Testaments
- access and critically utilise significant secondary literature
- argue a case for the relevance of the Bible to the contemporary world

Values

- appreciate the Bible as the word of God
- value the literary and theological nature of the Bible
- realise the abiding value of the Bible for Christian living

OLD TESTAMENT

Knowledge

- relate Old Testament texts to the historical, geographical, social and cultural contexts of their times

- demonstrate a sound knowledge of the overall structure and contents of the literature of the Old Testament
- describe and analyse the principal literary features and rhetorical function of the Old Testament
- identify and analyse key theological themes in the Old Testament
- demonstrate a solid understanding of the history of Old Testament interpretation

Skills

- apply a working knowledge of biblical Hebrew to the Old Testament
- exegete critically passages from the Hebrew text of the Old Testament
- access and critically utilise significant secondary literature
- argue a case for the relevance of the Old Testament to the contemporary world

Values

- value the Bible as the word of God
- value the literary and theological nature of the Old Testament
- appreciate the benefit of exegesis from the original language
- realise the abiding value of the Old Testament for Christian living and other monotheistic faiths

NEW TESTAMENT

Knowledge

- relate New Testament texts to the historical, geographical, social and cultural contexts of their times
- demonstrate a sound knowledge of the overall structure and contents of the literature of the New Testament
- describe and analyse the principal literary features and rhetorical function of the New Testament
- identify and analyse key theological themes in the New Testament
- demonstrate a solid understanding of the history of New Testament interpretation

Skills

- apply a working knowledge of biblical Greek to the New Testament
- exegete critically passages from the Greek text of the New Testament
- access and critically utilise significant secondary literature
- argue a case for the relevance of the New Testament to the contemporary world

Values

- value the Bible as the word of God
- value the literary and theological nature of the New Testament
- appreciate the benefit of exegesis from the original text
- realise the abiding value of the New Testament for Christian living

THEOLOGICAL ETHICS

Knowledge

- demonstrate a critical understanding of the key developments of the Christian ethical tradition

- demonstrate a detailed knowledge of the ways the tradition informs an approach to contemporary issues
- identify in detail the sources that contribute to Christian ethical reflection
- clearly and critically describe the ethical elements present in practical situations

Skills

- critically employ sources of ethical understanding
- make a reasoned and informed response to complex ethical issues
- analyse and critique in detail ethical discourse

Values

- appreciate the complexities and importance of moral issues in a pluralist society
- appreciate the need to engage responsibly in the ethical concerns they encounter
- appreciate the contribution and significance of ethics to personal and communal formation

CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

Knowledge

- demonstrate a critical understanding of the framework for Christian spiritual growth and its theological dimensions
- critically consider the scriptural and historical sources of Christian spirituality
- demonstrate familiarity with both primary and secondary sources related to the classics in Christian spiritual literature
- present critical responses to contemporary insights into spirituality

Skills

- exhibit a highly developed ability to articulate the place of spirituality in Christian discipleship
- engage critically with the context of Christian spiritual classics and the contribution of the classics to the history of Christian spirituality
- critically consider the contribution of the human sciences to an understanding of Christian spirituality

Values

- value the place of spirituality as the basis for living
- respect the inter-relationship between spirituality and theology
- appreciate the various schools and traditions of spirituality within the Christian tradition

CHURCH HISTORY

Knowledge

- discuss critically the significance of events and periods of change
- explain how church history must be understood within the context of the history of the wider community
- recognise the complexity of any given historical situation and the validity of different interpretations
- demonstrate depth, span and perspective in a chosen subject area

Skills

- bring critical faculties to bear on the gathering, analysis and synthesis of historical information
- present a coherent historical argument in a range of effective communicative styles
- engage in scholarly discussion and communication
- develop independent research in interaction with a range of historical literature
- articulate the historical dimension of contemporary issues in plural context

Values

- appreciate the influence of history on contemporary society
- appreciate that historical knowledge provides a necessary context for theological studies
- appreciate the contribution of engaging in the historical process for the formation of the individual's ministry and/or lifelong learning

COUNSELLING

Knowledge

- critically analyse and evaluate a wide range of counselling theories
- have acquired a clear understanding of theories of development concerning major developmental issues and personal adjustments within the human life-span
- demonstrate a clear understanding of a theology of the human person guiding pastoral care and counselling

Skills

- demonstrate advanced helping skills in counselling relationships
- assess the impact of the social, cultural and faith contexts upon counselling
- demonstrate a level of personal awareness and an ability to separate the counsellor's personal issues from those who are being counselled

Values

- have acquired a realistic appreciation of counselling processes and limitations
- value the reasons for theological reflection, especially upon limit situations (e.g. suffering, guilt, forgiveness, meaning)
- reflect upon the use of one's self in the counselling relationship

LITURGICAL STUDIES

Knowledge

- describe the history of liturgical practice from its earliest Judaeo-Christian foundations and at its major turning points
- give an account of the historical and theological reasons for the major developments in Christian worship
- give an overview of the main issues at stake for liturgical theology as it is presently conceived
- show how liturgy relates itself to its surrounding culture

Skills

- access and utilize the range of rituals and resources available in the church's liturgical life
- analyse and draw upon the communicative processes operating in a given liturgy
- draw upon the theological resources of the Church, and on wider studies in the humanities, in order to enrich the content of liturgies
- understand the design principles underlying effective worship and preaching

Values

- appreciate the particular contribution made by the student's own worshipping tradition
- appreciate the various contributions to Christian worship brought by the major liturgical traditions
- appreciate the potential for Christian unity through the common origins and endeavours inherent in Christian worship
- appreciate the common human values on which worship simultaneously draws and brings to expression
- appreciate the particular contribution made to any given liturgy by its music

MISSIOLOGY

Knowledge

- delineate and reflect on the contribution of each era of Christian mission
- critically evaluate the biblical and theological basis of Christian mission
- articulate the history of the development and succession of mission models and practices
- identify the major issues of other religions
- demonstrate an understanding of the interrelationship of society and religion within particular cultural contexts

Skills

- critically analyse the social, cultural, and religious contexts of mission
- develop a particular competence in cross-cultural and inter-faith communication
- Values
- appreciate the particular role of religions and worldviews in creating meaning and value for societies and peoples
- appreciate the original contribution of marginalised people to the ongoing ministry of the church
- appreciate the specific realisations of the local church in mission

PASTORAL THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE

Knowledge

- explain the role played by context in the formation of theology
- describe and critique different theoretical understandings of pastoral theology
- examine critically the interplay of theory and practice in doing theology
- discuss the nature and scope of different kinds of ministries

Skills

- critically analyse differing theories and practices of pastoral theology
- practice active dialogue and appropriate ministry between human experiences, Christian tradition and the social sciences and be able to critique this dialogue
- practice deep and reflective pastoral ministry as it emerges from this dialogue
- bring theological reflection to bear on contemporary issues, questions and concerns of society and culture
- offer a ministry of leadership within church and wider society which empowers others to use their gifts for ministry

Values

- value the gifts for ministry inherent in their own personhood
- value and appreciate the gifts of others for ministry
- recognise and appreciate the different voices in the culture

PHILOSOPHY

Knowledge

- describe in detail the major philosophical issues in Western philosophy, relating to the human life and action, the universe and God, and understand their historical development and significance
- explain contemporary philosophical ideas in the context of modern society and culture
- articulate the relationship between Christian theology and Western philosophical inquiry

Skills

- access and evaluate the significant literature in this discipline
- analyse and critique philosophical assumptions and arguments in various contexts and make informed critical judgements about them
- argue cogently on the basis of their own philosophical positions

Values

- have a desire to pursue philosophical inquiry and to engage in rational dialogue with others while respecting their positions
- value the importance of critical thought prior to the acceptance or rejection of new ideas
- desire a life lived reflectively and critically in relation to the tradition and to contemporary life
- enjoy spirited exchanges of ideas and attempts to bring resolution to differences

THEOLOGY

Knowledge

- demonstrate critical awareness of the sources and methods of theology
- demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of major Christian doctrines and their development across the Christian tradition
- demonstrate a critical awareness of contemporary theological writing
- demonstrate an awareness of the inter-relationship between theology and contemporary issues

Skills

- analyse and critique theological discourse
- sustain a theological argument
- engage theologically with contemporary issues
- conduct theological research

Values

- appreciate the ecumenical dimension of theology
- appreciate the integration of theology and praxis
- appreciate the interaction between theology and culture
- appreciate the pastoral and public relevance of theology

Enrolment

The Master of Divinity is offered through the individual Member Institutes.

Assessment

Graduate students are expected to give evidence of a breadth of research and a depth of understanding beyond that of an undergraduate student. In particular, their work should manifest the higher order skills of:

- Analysis - the ability to break down what is presented into its component parts and indicate the relationship between those parts;
- Synthesis - the ability to re-assemble those component parts into a new whole;
- Evaluation - the ability to think critically and originally, making judgments based on relevant principles.

Exit points

Students enrolled in the MDiv may exit with the Graduate Certificate in Arts (36 cr pts) or the Graduate Diploma of Arts (72 cr pts) or the Master of Arts (108 cr pts), provided they have met the requirements of those awards.

Articulation to Other Awards

Students may articulate to the Master of Theology (Honours), the Master of Arts (Honours) and the Doctor of Ministry programs provided they meet the entry requirements.

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS for the MDiv

1. *Admission to Candidature*

- 1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature for a degree of Master of Divinity shall:
- a) have qualified for admission to a three-year degree from an accredited Australian tertiary institution; or
 - b) hold, from a university or other tertiary institution, qualifications approved by the Student Administration Committee as equivalent to the requirements set out in the paragraph above; or

- c) hold an SCD Graduate Certificate in Arts: to receive the award the student is required to complete a further 180 credit points (20 units), and hand back the GradCertArts upon graduation; or
 - d) hold an SCD Graduate Diploma of Arts: to receive the award the student is required to complete a further 144 credit points (16 units), and hand back the GradDipArts upon graduation; or
 - e) hold an SCD Master of Arts: to receive the award the student is required to complete a further 108 credit points (12 units), and hand back the MA upon graduation.
- 1.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation the Student Administration Committee may require an applicant to demonstrate fitness for admission as a candidate for a degree of Master of Divinity by carrying out such work and/or sitting for such examinations as the Student Administration Committee may determine.
 - 1.3 In exceptional cases an applicant may be admitted as a candidate for a degree of Master of Divinity if the applicant submits evidence of other academic and professional attainments to the Student Administration Committee.
 - 1.4 A candidate for the award shall be designated as full-time or part-time. A student is normally designated as a full-time if enrolled in three units (27 credit points) or more in a semester or part-time if enrolled in less than three units (27 credit points) per semester.
 - 1.5 No candidate for the award may be concurrently enrolled in any other undergraduate or postgraduate course within the Sydney College of Divinity or any other tertiary institution, unless approval has been granted by the Academic Board.
 - 1.6 Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally will be required to demonstrate competency in English by an IELTS (or equivalent) result of 7.0 in all bands of the test and may be required to attend such English language courses as prescribed by the Sydney College of Divinity.
 - 1.7 Application for enrolment in the Master of Divinity program is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the program.

2 Course Structure

- 2.1 Every student program for the award shall consist of no fewer than 216 credit points.
- 2.2 Every program shall include either two majors and one sub-major or one major and two sub-majors. A major requires 54 credit points from units assigned to the major including no more than 18 credit points at foundational level or with the approval of the Academic Board, up to 54 credit points at advanced level. A sub-major requires 36 credit points from the units assigned to the major, including no more than 18 at foundational level or, with the approval of the Academic Board, up to 36 credit points at advanced level.
- 2.3 Every program for the award shall include:
 - a. not more than 90 credit points taken at 400 level;
 - b. not more than 72 credit points from Philosophy and Humanities;
 - c. at least a sub-major from Biblical Studies;
 - d. students completing a major in Biblical Studies must also complete at least 2 units in Biblical languages which are in addition to the 6 units required for a major;
 - e. at least a sub-major from Theology;

- f. at least one unit in Church History;
 - g. at least 36 credit points from the following sub-disciplines: Theological Ethics, Christian Spirituality, Liturgical Studies, Missiology, Pastoral Theology and Practice;
 - h. not more than 108 credit points in Pastoral Theology and Practice
 - i. 6 units, which may include a Research Essay, at 600 and 700 level, which may be undertaken on completion of 12 units (108 credit points) of the total program including 36 credit points in the sub-discipline.
 - j. a maximum of 36 credit points in research units, with no more than 18 credit points in Independent Guided Study units, 18 credit points in Research Project units and 18 credit points as a Research Essay (students who transfer from the MA to either the MDiv or the MTh cannot exceed this limit in total across both programs);
 - k. 18 credit points may be taken in the Research Essay of 10,000-12,000 words in length and written in the area of specialisation under supervision of a staff member of the Member Institute. Each student enrolled in the Research Essay must complete a 600 level Research Methodology Unit (9 cr pts) that is completed before or concurrently with the Research Essay.
- 2.4 Candidates may apply to the Academic Board of their Member Institutions to include in the major or sub-major sequence units from other areas of study.
- 2.5 All course units shall be taken from the Schedule of Units of Study for units at 400, 500, 600 and 700 level.
- 3 *Period of Candidature***
- 3.1 The period of candidature for the degree shall normally be 3 years full-time and 9 years part-time.
- 3.2 In certain circumstances the Student Administration Committee may grant extensions to the period of candidature.
- 4 *Leave of Absence***
- 4.1 The Student Administration Committee may grant leave of absence from the MDiv. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the degree.
- 4.2 The period of leave shall normally be one semester after which a candidate may apply for a further period of one semester or is required to continue candidature.
- 5. *Assessment***
- 5.1 The assessment of subject units shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board in line with the College's established guidelines for assessment packages at 400 and 500 as well as at 600 and 700 level.
- 5.2 Students may be required by the Academic Board to present themselves for oral examination.
- 5.3 Academic and non-academic misconduct will be penalised severely in accordance with the regulations of the Sydney College of Divinity.
- 6. *Credits***
- 6.1 A candidate may seek credit up to a maximum of 108 credit points in the Master of Divinity. Credit can be granted only from units at graduate level where the outcomes, content, demand hours and assessment are equivalent to that of units in the SCD award.

7 *Saving Clause*

- 7.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Academic Board of the Sydney College of Divinity may, in any case in which it may deem it appropriate to do so, vary, dispense with or suspend any requirement or prescription by these regulations, and report forthwith to the Council of the Sydney College of Divinity.

MASTER OF THEOLOGY – MTh

AWARD SUMMARY

Entry Requirements:	A Bachelor of Theology or equivalent
Duration:	1 ½ years full-time or 4 ½ years part-time
Mode:	Full-time, part-time.
Structure:	108 credit points (i.e. 12 units) A specialisation consists of 54 credit points; the program may be completed with or without a specialisation.
English Proficiency:	Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally require a minimum IELTS (or equivalent) score of 7.0 in all bands of the test.
Fees	Contact the Member Institution with which you intend to enrol.
Contact	The Registrar of one of the following Member Institutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broken Bay Institute• Catholic Institute of Sydney• Nazarene Theological College• Saint Andrew's Greek Orthodox Theological College• Alphacrucis

Postgraduate Profile and Rationale

The Master of Theology is a graduate program designed for those who hold a Bachelor of Theology and wish to pursue theological studies in greater depth and at greater rigour, with up to 54 credit points able to be taken in the one sub-discipline. The sub-disciplines are

- Biblical Studies
- Old Testament
- New Testament
- Christian Spirituality
- Church History
- Liturgical Studies
- Missiology
- Pastoral Theology, including Liturgy
- Philosophy
- Theology
- Theological Ethics

OUTCOMES

Candidates should be able to:

Knowledge

- deepen their understanding of theological problems/issues which have emerged in their ministerial/professional experience
- develop theological underpinnings for pastoral strategies/renewal
- incorporate learning from emerging and developing areas of theology such as bio-ethics, ecumenical dialogues, interdisciplinary approaches
- acquire deeper knowledge of some of the key debates in their subject area

Skills

- refine their capacity to think through issues/problems from a variety of perspectives
- develop a capacity to negotiate pluralism. Graduates will acquire skills of interaction with contexts, cultures and individuals from whom they differ
- access the major bibliographical references in their subject area

Values

- through interaction with peers and faculty members from a variety of traditions, value the variety of expressions of different Christian traditions and develop a mature understanding of genuine difference
- demonstrate an open, critical stance towards theological disciplines and traditions
- appreciate the value of a commitment to life-long learning
- appreciate the social/historical/ literary context/background of their subject area

Enrolment

The Master of Theology is offered through individual Member Institutes. In light of the units offered students are able to choose their program to suit their interests and needs, all the while fulfilling the requirements. Details are available from the Member Institute offering the course.

Assessment

Postgraduate students are expected to give evidence of a breadth of research and a depth of understanding beyond that of an undergraduate student. In particular, their work should manifest the higher order skills of:

- Analysis - the ability to break down what is presented into its component parts and indicate the relationship between those parts;
- Synthesis - the ability to re-assemble those component parts into a new whole;
- Evaluation - the ability to think critically and originally, making judgments based on relevant principles.

An MA (SCD) with a particular specialisation can be considered an entry point into the MTh on the following conditions:

- The specialisation in the MTh must be the same as the specialization undertaken in the MA;
- In order to undertake coursework units listed on the schedule of course units for the Master of Theology, the student must have met the pre-requisites for those coursework units.

Articulation to Other Awards

Students may articulate to the Master of Theology (Honours), the Master of Arts (Honours) and the Doctor of Ministry programs provided they meet the entry requirements.

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS for the MTh

1 Admission to Candidature

- 1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature for a degree of Master of Theology shall:
 - a) have qualified for admission to a degree of Bachelor of Theology of the Sydney College of Divinity; or
 - b) have qualified for admission to the Master of Arts of the Sydney College of Divinity and take up the same specialisation in the MTh which was undertaken in the MA program and meet the pre-requisites for any coursework units in the MTh, or
 - c) shall hold, from a university or other tertiary institution, qualifications approved by the Student Administration Committee as equivalent to an accredited Bachelor of Theology degree.
- 1.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation the Student Administration Committee may require an applicant to demonstrate fitness for admission as a candidate for a degree of Master of Theology by carrying out such work and/or sitting for such examinations as the Student Administration Committee may determine.
- 1.3 In exceptional cases an applicant may be admitted as a candidate for a degree of Master of Theology if the applicant submits evidence of other academic and professional attainments to the Student Administration Committee.
- 1.4 A candidate for the award shall be designated as full-time or part-time. A student is normally designated as a full-time if enrolled in three units (27 credit points) or more in a semester or part-time if enrolled in less than three units (27 credit points) per semester.
- 1.5 No candidate for the award may be concurrently enrolled in any other undergraduate or postgraduate course within the Sydney College of Divinity or any other tertiary institution, unless approval has been granted by the Academic Board.
- 1.6 Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally will be required to demonstrate competency in English by an IELTS (or equivalent) result of 7.0 in all bands of the test and may be required to attend such English language courses as prescribed by the Sydney College of Divinity.
- 1.7 Application for enrolment in the Master of Theology program is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the program.

2 Course Structure

- 2.1 The MTh requires the completion of 108 credit points (12 units).

2.2 The course may be taken with or without a specialisation. A specialisation in the MTh comprises 54 credit points within a sub-discipline.

2.3 Every program for the award shall include:

- a) not more than 18 credit points in Independent Guided Studies without approval of the Academic Board;
- b) not more than 72 credit points in one sub-discipline, including a Research Essay;
- c) of the 12 course units, no more than four course units may be taken at 500 level, the remaining course units must be at 600-700 level;
- d) up to four language course units at 400 level may, however, be undertaken among the four course units not undertaken at 600-700 level;
- e) a maximum of 36 credit points in research units, with no more than 18 credit points in Independent Guided Study units, 18 credit points in Research Project units and 18 credit points as a Research Essay (students who transfer from the MA to either the MDiv or the MTh cannot exceed this limit in total across both programs);
- f) 18 credit points may be taken in the Research Essay of 10,000-12,000 words in length and written in the area of specialisation under supervision of a staff member of the Member Institute. Each student enrolled in the Research Essay must complete a 600 level Research Methodology Unit (9 cr pts) that is completed before or concurrently with the Research Essay.

2.4 Candidates wishing to proceed to the Master of Theology (Honours) must include the Research Essay as part of the program, and are required to achieve a Distinction grade.

3 *Period of Candidature*

3.1 The period of candidature for the degree shall normally be 1 ½ years full-time and 4 ½ years part-time.

3.2 In certain circumstances the Student Administration Committee may grant extensions to the period of candidature.

4 *Leave of Absence*

4.1 The Student Administration Committee may grant leave of absence from the MTh. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the degree.

4.2 The period of leave shall normally be one semester after which a candidate may apply for a further period of one semester or is required to continue candidature.

5. *Assessment*

5.1 The assessment of subject units shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board in line with the College's established guidelines for assessment packages at 600 and 700 level, and at the 400 and 500 level where applicable.

5.2 Students may be required by the Academic Board to present themselves for oral examination.

5.3 Academic and non-academic misconduct will be penalised severely in accordance with the regulations of the Sydney College of Divinity.

6. *Credits*

6.1 Credit may be given for previous studies up to 54 credit points. Credit can be granted only from units at graduate level where the outcomes, content, demand hours and assessment are equivalent to that of units in the SCD award.

7 *Saving Clause*

- 7.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Academic Board of the Sydney College of Divinity may, in any case in which it may deem it appropriate to do so, vary, dispense with or suspend any requirement or prescription by these regulations, and report forthwith to the Council of the Sydney College of Divinity.