

## CREDIT FOR PREVIOUS STUDY

### General Provisions

Credit may be allowed for comparable work at an approved level at any recognised tertiary institution outside the College. This work must not have been used previously to claim credit into another award.

The following credit may be granted for studies undertaken at degree level. Note: A complete degree is normally understood to be the equivalent of a three-year awarded undergraduate Australian degree:

- (a) up to one-third of a College award may be granted for a completed degree provided that it contains some theological studies.
- (b) up to 36 credit points may be granted at advanced level credit in Humanities for a completed degree that does not contain theological studies. A proportion of the 36 credit points Humanities credit may be given for a completed postgraduate award.
- (c) up to two-thirds of a College undergraduate award may be granted for:
  - (i) an incomplete award and or degree;
  - (ii) a completed degree together with an incomplete award or degree. In such case, no more than one-third of the College award may be taken from the completed degree;
  - (iii) one or more completed awards and / or degrees.

### Credit into SCD Undergraduate Awards

The SCD offers four undergraduate awards, the Diploma of Theology, Diploma of Christian Studies, Associate Degree of Christian Thought and Practice and the Bachelor of Theology. The maximum credit that can be granted into these awards for previous study is set out below. The amount depends on whether the previous study was in the area of Theology, Ministry, Divinity or other unrelated disciplines.

- *Credit for previous complete awards*

The table below lists the credit granted for completed undergraduate awards in ministry, theology and divinity for both Higher Education and Vet accredited awards.

**Credit for Previous Study  
for completed awards in Ministry, Theology and Divinity**

<b>Award</b>	<b>Credit into SCD BTh (216cps)</b>	<b>Credit into SCD AssocDegChThPr (144cps)</b>	<b>Credit into SCD DipChSt (72cps)</b>	<b>Credit into SCD DipTh (144cps)</b>
<b>Diploma 2y VET</b>	72	36	9	90
<b>Diploma 2y Higher Education</b>	90	45	18	
<b>Advanced Diploma 3y VET</b>	108	54	27	
<b>Advanced Diploma 3y Higher Education</b>	144	72	36	

The total credit indicated above is normally transferred to a student's program as foundational and/or advanced block credit in particular subject areas.

The distribution of this credit to the subject areas is established by determining the ratio of credit hours/credit points completed in a subject area over the total credit hours/credit points of the award, as found on the transcript of the previous award.

The subject areas offered by the SCD include

- Humanities (A)
- Biblical Studies (B)
- Counselling (C)
- Theological Ethics (E)
- Church History (H)
- Liturgical Studies (L)
- Missiology (M)
- Pastoral Theology and Practice (P)
- Christian Spirituality (S)
- Theology (T)
- Philosophy (W)

Block credit can be granted in these 11 subject areas.

The table below provides the credit distribution details for VET accredited awards that have formal articulation arrangements with SCD into the BTh.

<b>COLLEGE Award</b>	<b>Articulation Arrangement</b> Block credit in Subject Areas	<b>Total Credit Points</b>
<b>Australian College of Ministries</b> Dip. Christian Ministry Adv. Dip. Christian Ministry	B 9, P: 54, T: 9 A: 9, B: 18, P: 63, T: 18	72 108
<b>Aust. Inst. Counselling</b> Adv. Dip. Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian)	P: 81, T: 9	90
<b>Booth College</b> Dip. Pastoral Counselling Adv. Dip. Pastoral Counselling Adv. Dip. S.Army Ministry	A: 18, C: 18, P: 36 A: 18, C: 36, S: 9, P: 45 B: 27, L: 18, M: 9, P: 36, T: 18	72 108 108
<b>CCC Ministry Training College</b> Dip. Christian Ministry Adv. Dip Christian Ministry	S: 9, P: 63 A: 18, B: 9, P: 81	72 108
<b>Hillsong Leadership College</b> Dip. Ministry Adv. Dip. Ministry	A: 9, B: 9, P: 54 A: 36, B: 9, P: 63	72 108
<b>Paradise College of Ministries</b> Dip. Christian Ministry Adv. Dip. Christian Ministry	B: 18, P: 54 A: 9, B: 18, P: 81	72 108
<b>Southern Cross College</b> Adv. Dip Ministry	A: 18, B: 9, P: 72, T: 9	108

**Subject Areas:** A = Humanities, B= Biblical Studies, C= Counselling, L= Liturgical Studies, M = Missiology, P = Pastoral Theology and Practice, S = Christian Spirituality, T = Theology

The determination of equivalency between the VET Diploma and Advanced Diploma courses and Higher Education courses is the responsibility of the SCD Student Administration Committee.

In establishing the level of equivalence, the committee examines the subject content, the body and focus of knowledge, the outcomes and assessment of the VET programs in light of those of the Higher Education courses. This includes examining the content, outcomes and assessment of each competency in the scope of the VET course and assessing its equivalency to that within the Higher Education course units. This process is helped by involving the teachers of the VET programs who also teach in the Higher Education programs. This detailed process allows both the amount of credit to be determined as well as to what subject area the credit should be allocated.

The outcome of this process is a documented formal articulation arrangement for the course being examined into an SCD course. The table above lists such articulation arrangements.

Credit for previous study is also granted for completed accredited non-theological awards. This credit is distributed as advanced block credit in Humanities. The table below sets out the amount of credit granted for the various accredited awards.

**Credit for Previous Study**  
**Block credit in Humanities for completed awards in other disciplines**  
**– non-theological disciplines -**

<b>Award</b>	<b>Credit into SCD BTh (216cps)</b>	<b>Credit into SCD AssocDegChThPr (144cps)</b>	<b>Credit into SCD DipChSt (72cps)</b>	<b>Credit into SCD DipTh (144cps)</b>
<b>Diploma</b> 2y VET	9	-	-	9
<b>Diploma</b> 2y Higher Education	18	-	-	18
<b>Advanced Diploma</b> 3y VET	18	-	-	18
<b>Advanced Diploma</b> 3y Higher Education	27	9	-	27
<b>Degree 3y</b> Higher Education	36	18	9	36

▪ ***Credit for previous incomplete awards***

Credit into SCD undergraduate awards for previous study is also granted for incomplete accredited awards. Credit is granted on a unit by unit basis.

If the units are theologically related (comparable and equivalent with SCD units), at the same award level and are Higher Education accredited then the units are seen as equivalent and receive credit at degree or diploma level. The amount of credit given will depend on the proportion of the credit points of the unit to the total credit points of the course.

If the units are theologically related, at Diploma level and are Higher Education accredited then these units receive 2/3 credit at degree level.

If the units are theologically related, at Diploma level and are VET accredited then the units receive 1/2 credit at degree level or 2/3 credit at diploma level.

Foundational units in Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology receive block credit in Humanities into the degree. The amount of credit given will depend on the proportion of credit points of the unit to the total credit points of the course.

Clinical Pastoral Education units (400 hours) receive 18cps block credit (advanced) in Pastoral Theology and Practice in the degree. A maximum of 36 credit points can be granted for CPE units.

▪ ***Credit for Overseas Awards***

The equivalence of an overseas award to an Australian award is established using CEP-Online. The credit arrangements used for the overseas award are those that apply to the Australian equivalent award.

**Credit into SCD Postgraduate Awards**

The SCD offers five coursework postgraduate awards, the Graduate Certificate in Arts, Graduate Diploma of Arts, Master of Arts, Master of Theology and the Master of Divinity. The maximum credit that can be granted into each of these awards is set out in the following table.

<i>SCD Postgraduate Award</i>	<b>Entry Requirements</b>	<b>Possible Credit</b>
<b>Grad Cert Arts</b> (36cps)	3 year accredited undergraduate degree	up to 18cps for equivalent units*
<b>Grad Dip Arts</b> (72cps)	3 year accredited undergraduate degree	up to 36cps for equivalent units*
<b>MA</b> (108cps)	3 year accredited undergraduate degree	up to 54cps for equivalent units*
<b>MTh</b> (108cps)	Bachelor of Theology	up to 54cps for equivalent units*
<b>MDiv</b> (216cps)	3 year accredited undergraduate degree	up to 108cps for equivalent units*

\*Equivalent units – units within SCD subject areas at graduate level with outcomes, demand hours and assessment comparable to that of units in the SCD award.

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