



## DIPLOMA OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES

### AWARD SUMMARY

**CRICOS: 071257J**

**Nomenclature: DipChSt**

**AQF Level 5 Diploma**

**Entry Requirements** An Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 65, or its equivalent (e.g. OP $\leq$ 16); OR Satisfactorily completed Year 12 (or equivalent) from an institution recognised by the Academic Board; OR Mature Age Special Entry Admission for those who have reached the age of 21; AND Satisfactorily completes a pre-enrolment interview with a relevant course advisor.

**Duration:** 1 year full-time or 3 years (maximum) part-time.

**Attendance Type:** Full-time, part-time.

**Delivery Mode:** Online, face-to-face, or multi-modal

**Structure:** 72 credit points (8 units in 7100-7299 series).

### **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 6.0 in all bands of the test with no score less than 5.5 in all bands of the test.

### **Exit Points**

The Diploma of Christian Studies is both a stand-alone award and a nested award in the Associate Degree of Christian Thought and Practice, the Bachelor of Theology and the Bachelor of Ministry. As a result, it articulates directly into any of these awards. On completion of any of these further awards the student would surrender the Diploma of Christian Studies. The award may be retained if no credit is granted into the further awards

### **Enrolment**

Contact the Registrar of the Member Institution with whom you intend to study for enrolment and fee details.

### **Graduate Profile and Rationale**

The Diploma of Christian Studies course is an undergraduate award that introduces students to Christian studies within higher education. Graduates will have acquired basic knowledge, skills, and values of Christian relevance to their professional, family, church, social, or personal lives, and have deepened their awareness of the nature and scope of theology and their affinity with it as a field of study within higher education.

It provides an opportunity to undertake some theological study with special focus on Christian Thought (including Biblical Studies, Theology, and Humanities in the Christian Tradition) or on Christian Practice (Christian Life and Ministry). The special focus is achieved by completing a sub-major in the area of interest (see Academic Regulations section 2.1).

## **Course Outcomes**

### **Knowledge**

Graduates will have:

- technical and theoretical knowledge and concepts with introductory knowledge in Biblical Studies and Theology;
- wider knowledge of the theological disciplines generally that will form the basis for further learning.

### **Skills**

Graduates will have cognitive, communication, and technical skills in a theologically-related body of knowledge, so that they are able to:

- identify, analyse, and act on theological information from a range of foundational sources;
- express ideas and perspectives in theology;
- communicate theologically-related knowledge, skills and ideas to others.

### **Applications of Knowledge and Skills**

Graduates will have the ability to:

- demonstrate and understanding of theological knowledge by applying it in their professional, family, church, social or personal lives;
- perform technical operations of some complexity in relation to Christian living, taking personal responsibility for them;
- exercise initiative and judgment in reflecting on issues of Christian living, including some ability to do so with others.

## **Academic regulations for the Diploma of Christian Studies**

### **1 Admission to Candidature**

1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature into the Diploma of Christian Studies shall:

- 1.1.1 have an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 65, or its equivalent (e.g. OP $\leq$ 16); OR
- 1.1.2 satisfactorily complete Year 12 (or equivalent) from an institution recognised by the Academic Board; OR
- 1.1.3 Mature Age and Special Entry Admission for those who have reached the age of 21; OR
- 1.1.4 have adequate grounds for Special Entry; AND
- 1.1.5 satisfactorily complete a pre-enrolment interview with a relevant course advisor.

1.2 A candidate for the Diploma of Christian Studies shall be designated as full-time or part-time.

1.3 No candidate for the Diploma of Christian Studies may be concurrently enrolled in any other undergraduate or postgraduate course within the University College or any other tertiary institution unless approval has been granted by the Academic Board.

1.4 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:

- 1.4.1 achieving an IELTS (or equivalent) result of 6.0 with no score below 5.5 in all bands of the test.

1.5 Application for enrolment in the Diploma of Christian Studies is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the course.

### **2 Course Structure**

2.1 The Diploma of Christian Studies requires the completion of 72 credit points (8units) which shall include:

- 2.1.1 at least 9 credit points within the discipline of Biblical Studies; and
- 2.1.2 at least 9 credit points within the discipline of Systematic Theology;
- 2.1.3 at least one sub-major (36 credit points) in the domain of Christian Thought (drawn from Biblical Studies, Theology, and Humanities in the Christian Tradition), or in the domain of Christian Practice (drawn from the Christian Life and Ministry discipline and its subdisciplines);

2.2 Units coded "A" are not counted towards a major/sub-major in any discipline or sub discipline.

2.3 All course units will be taken from the University College Schedule of units of study coded within the 7100-7299 series and above.

### **3 Period of Candidature**

3.1 The period of candidature for the Diploma of Christian Studies shall normally be 1 year (2 Semesters) full-time and up to 3 years (6 Semesters) part-time.

3.2 In certain circumstances the University College Student Support and Administration Committee may grant course extensions.

### **4 Leave of Absence**

4.1 The Student Support and Administration Committee may grant leave of absence from the Diploma of Christian Studies. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the award.

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 will be required to complete candidature.

### **5 Assessment**

5.1 The assessment of units shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board in line with the University College's established guidelines for assessment packages.

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 in accordance with the Policies and Regulations of the University College, whose stipulations are severe.

### **6 Credit**

6.1 A candidate may seek credit up to a maximum of 36 credit points in the Diploma of Christian Studies.

6.2 Credit will be granted for units that are from an equivalent award or institution and have outcomes, content, demand hours, and assessment equivalent to that of units in the Diploma of Christian Studies.

### **7 Progress to Further Awards**

7.1 The Diploma of Christian Studies is both a stand-alone award and a nested award in the Associate Degree of Christian Thought and Practice, the Bachelor of Theology and the Bachelor of Ministry. As a result, it articulates directly into any of these awards. On completion of any of these further awards the student would surrender the Diploma of Christian Studies. The award may be retained if no credit is granted into the further awards.

## **8 Saving Clause**

8.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Academic Board of the University College 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 University College.

**SCHEDULE**

|                           | <b>Discipline</b>                     | <b>Subdisciplines</b>  | <b>Majors / Submajors</b>  |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Christian Thought</b>  | Biblical Studies                      |  | Biblical Studies   |
|                           | Theology                              | Systematic Theology<br>Christian Ethics<br>Worship & Liturgy                   | Theology (discipline)<br>Systematic Theology<br>Christian Ethics<br>Worship & Liturgy                                    |
|                           | Humanities in the Christian Tradition | Church History<br>Philosophy   | Humanities in the Christian Tradition (discipline)<br>Church History<br>Philosophy                                       |
| <b>Christian Practice</b> | Christian Life & Ministry             | Christian Spirituality<br>Mission<br>Pastoral Counselling<br>Pastoral Theology | Christian Life & Ministry (discipline)<br>Christian Spirituality<br>Mission<br>Pastoral Counselling<br>Pastoral Theology |

| <b>Version</b> | <b>Date and Governance</b> | <b>Changes</b>               |
|----------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1.0            | 14/11/2013 Academic Board  | Initial Approval             |
| 2.0            | 4/3/2024 Academic Board    | IELTS admission requirements |