

Diploma of Church Planting

AWARD SUMMARY

CRICOS: None

Nomenclature: DipChPlant

AQF Level 5 Diploma

Entry Requirements An Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 65, or its equivalent (e.g. OP \leq 18); or Satisfactorily completed Year 12 (or equivalent) from an institution recognised by the Academic Board; OR Special Entry Admission for those with evidence of capacity for successful study at this level.

Duration: 1 years full-time or 4 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).

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

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 Church Planting provides students with the opportunity to undertake AQF Level 5 study in practical ministry-oriented disciplines. It is designed for those who have a less formal educational background than those undertaking the Bachelor of Church Planting or other Bachelor awards, or those who are seeking an award requiring less overall commitment than AQF Level 6 or 7 studies.

The Diploma of Church Planting provides students with introductory study designed for Christians seeking a foundation for informed participation in the development of new churches. It also provides some opportunity to gain knowledge and skills appropriate for practical Christian mission but not necessarily of the breadth or depth required for professional ministry. The award requires completion of course units in Mission and Biblical Studies or Theology.

Course Outcomes

Knowledge

Graduates will have:

- technical and theoretical knowledge and concepts with introductory knowledge in Mission, Biblical Studies or Theology, and Christian Life and Ministry, with a focus on Church Planting;
- wider understanding of initiating new churches that will form the basis for further learning.

Skills

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

- identify, analyse and act on church planting-orientated information from a range of foundational sources;
- express ideas and perspectives related to Christian faith;
- communicate church planting-related knowledge, skills, and ideas to others.

Applications of Knowledge and Skills

Graduates will have the ability to:

- demonstrate an understanding of theological knowledge by applying it in new church settings;
- perform technical operations within church planting that have some complexity, taking personal responsibility for them;
- organise, with some initiative and judgement, the work of self and others, and contribute to the planning, coordination and evaluation of the work of teams in the context of a church plant (within broad but generally well-defined parameters).

The learning outcomes of each Unit of Study will contribute to the attainment of the Course Outcomes and the Graduate Attributes, as specified in their Course Unit Outline.

Exit Points

Students enrolled in the Diploma of Church Planting may exit with an Undergraduate Certificate in Ministry provided they have met the requirements of the award.

Academic regulations for the Diploma of Church Planting (DipChPlant)

1 Admission to Candidature

1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature into the Diploma of Church Planting shall:

- 1.1.1 have an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 65, or its equivalent (e.g.OP \leq 18), or
- 1.1.2 Satisfactorily completed Year 12 (or equivalent) from an institution recognised by the Academic Board, or
- 1.1.3 have adequate grounds for Special Entry with evidence of capacity for successful study at this level.

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

1.3 A student is designated as full-time if enrolled in four units (36 credit points) or more in a teaching period or part-time if enrolled in less than four units (36 credit points) per teaching period

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 Church Planting is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the course.

2 Course Structure

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

- 2.1.1 at least 36 credit points of Specified Electives chosen from Schedule 1; AND
- 2.1.2 at least 18 credit points of Specified Electives chosen from Schedule 2
- 2.1.3 at least 9 cp of Electives selected from:
B5100 OR
T5100 series units ; AND
- 2.1.4 a further 9 credit points of Electives, chosen from accredited units of the University College.

2.2 Candidates who have completed 36 credit points towards the Diploma of Church Planting may select up to 36 credit points from the 7100 and 7200 series of University College accredited units. Within these units, a candidate can select a maximum of 18 credit points of 7200 series units, provided they have already completed at least 18 credit points in that sub-discipline with a Grade Point Average for that sub-discipline of at least 2.0.

3 Period of Candidature

- 3.1 The period of candidature for the Diploma of Church Planting shall normally be 1 years full- time and up to 4 years part-time.
- 3.2 In certain circumstances the Director of Student Services may grant course extensions.

4 Leave of Absence

- 4.1 The Director of Student Services may grant leave of absence from the Diploma of Church Planting. 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 of study shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board in line with the College's established guidelines for assessment packages at the undergraduate/postgraduate 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 in accordance with the Policies and Regulations of the Australian University College of Divinity.

6 Credit

6.1 Candidates from other institutions or with other awards may seek credit up to a maximum of 36 credit points in the Diploma of Church Planting.

6.2 Credit will be granted in accordance with the University College Credit Policy.

7 Progress to Further Awards

7.1 Students who complete the Diploma of Church Planting may articulate into:

- 7.1.1 Bachelor of Church Planting
- 7.1.2 Bachelor of Ministry
- 7.1.3 Bachelor of Theology
- 7.1.4 Bachelor of Arts

7.2 All units satisfactorily completed in the Diploma of Church Planting may be credited towards an AUCD award, on condition that a completed Diploma of Church Planting will be surrendered prior to graduation in that award.

8 Saving Clause

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

SCHEDULES

Schedule 1

M5132 Introduction to Church Planting
M5134 The Journey of Church Planting Teams
M5135 The Person of the Church Planter
M5139 Church Planting Proposal Seminar
M5195 Independent Guided Study in Mission

Schedule 2

M5109 Engaging in Discipleship
M5160 Reaching Australians/New Zealanders with the Gospel
P5104 Introduction to Theological Study
P5139 Introduction to Community Development
P5145 Introduction to Ministry in the Church
P5159 Church Movement Distinctives
P5171 Supervised Ministry I
P5172 Supervised Ministry II
S5101 Introduction to Spiritual Formation

Version	Date and Governance	Changes
1.0	30/06/2025 Academic Board Standing Committee	Approved