

DIPLOMA OF MINISTRY

AWARD SUMMARY

CRICOS: None

Nomenclature: DipMin

AQF Level 5 Diploma

Entry Requirements An Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 65, or its equivalent (e.g. OP≤18); OR
Satisfactorily completed Year 12 (or equivalent); OR
Mature Age Special Entry Admission for those who have reached the age of 20; 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).

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 Ministry 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 Theology or Bachelor of Ministry awards, or those who are seeking an award requiring less overall commitment than AQF Level 6 or 7 studies.

The Diploma of Ministry provides students with introductory study designed for Christians seeking a foundation for informed participation in the local church, para-church ministries, and in the wider community. It also provides some opportunity to gain knowledge and skills appropriate for practical Christian ministry but not necessarily of the breadth or depth required for professional ministry. The award requires completion of course units in Biblical Studies, Theology, and Christian Life and Ministry.

Course Outcomes

Knowledge

Graduates will have:

- Technical and theoretical knowledge and concepts with introductory knowledge in Biblical Studies, Theology, and Christian Life and Ministry;
- wider experience of practical ministry generally that will form the basis for further learning.

Skills

Graduates will have:

- Cognitive, communication, and technical skills in a ministry-related body of knowledge, so that they are able to:
- identify, analyse, synthesise, and act on ministry-oriented information from a range of foundational sources;
- express ideas and perspectives related to Christian faith;
- communicate ministry-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 Christian ministry;
- perform technical operations within Christian ministry that have some complexity, taking personal responsibility for them;
- organise, with initiative and judgment, the work of self and others and plan, coordinate and evaluate the work of teams (within broad but generally well-defined parameters).

Academic regulations for the Diploma of Ministry

1 Admission to Candidature

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

- 1.1.1 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); OR
- 1.1.3 Mature Age and Special Entry Admission for those who have reached the age of 20, AND
- 1.1.4 Satisfactorily completes a pre-enrolment interview with a relevant course advisor.

1.2 A candidate for the Diploma of Ministry shall be designated as full-time or part-time. A student is designated as a full-time if enrolled in four units (36 credit points) or more in a semester or part-time if enrolled in less than four units (36 credit points) per semester

1.3 No candidate for the Diploma of Ministry 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 require:

- 1.4.1 a minimum IELTS (or equivalent) score of 6.0 with no score less than 5.5 in all bands of the test.

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

2 Course Structure

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

- 2.1.1 at least 9 credit points in Biblical Studies;
- 2.1.2 at least 9 credit points in Theology;
- 2.1.3 at least 36 credit points in Christian Life and Ministry of which at least 18 credit points are Supervised Ministry (or units with the equivalent focus of hands-on ministry practice);
- 2.1.4 A further 18 credit points from approved units.

2.2 Course units shall normally be taken from the University College units coded within the 5100 series. Candidates who have completed 36 credit points towards the Diploma of Ministry may select up to 36 credit points from the Schedule of 7100 and 7200 series units. Within these units, a candidate may select up to 18 credit points of 7200 series units, provided they have completed 7100 units and achieved a grade point average of 2.0 in all 7100 units.

3 Period of Candidature

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

3.2 In certain circumstances the 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 Ministry. 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 Articulating students with an AQF 5 award from an institution approved by the Academic Board will receive 36 credit points in the Diploma of Ministry.

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

6.3 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 Ministry.

7 Progress to Further Awards

7.1 Students who complete the Diploma of Ministry and desire to undertake the Bachelor of Ministry or Bachelor of Theology will receive credit awarded to equivalent Bachelor units for Diploma units completed with a grade of Credit or higher; or subject to additional assessment requirements set by the Student Support and Administration Committee; to a maximum of 72 credit points, on condition that the Diploma of Ministry will be surrendered prior to graduation in the further award.

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.

Version	Date and Governance	Changes
1.0	02/09/2016 Academic Board	Approved
2.0	December 2019 Academic Board	Changed from 12 units to 8 units
3.0	04/07/2022 Academic Board	Modified Section 2 Course Structure to allow for level 7 units and Section 7 for relinquishing award for course progression
4.0	4/3/2024	IELTS test scores update