

## DIPLOMA OF THEOLOGY

### AWARD SUMMARY

**CRICOS:** None

**Nomenclature:** DipTh

**AQF Level 5 Diploma**

**Entry Requirements** An Australian Tertiary Admission Rand (ATAR) of 65, or its equivalent (e.g. OP $\leq$ 18); OR Satisfactorily completed Year 12 (or equivalent); OR Mature Age Special Entry Admission for those who have reached the age of 21; AND Satisfactorily complete 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 Theology provides students with the opportunity to undertake AQF Level 5 study in theological 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 Theology provides students with introductory study across a range of theological disciplines. It is 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 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, Church History, and Christian Life and Ministry.

### **Course Outcomes**

#### **Knowledge**

Graduates will have:

- technical and theoretical knowledge and concepts with introductory knowledge in Biblical Studies, Christian Life and Ministry, Humanities within the Christian Tradition, and Theology;
- wider knowledge of theology 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;
- the ability to express ideas and perspectives related to Christian faith;
- the ability to 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 Theology**

### **1 Admission to Candidature**

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

- 1.1.1 An Australian Tertiary Admission Rand (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 21, AND
- 1.1.4 Satisfactorily completes a pre-enrolment interview with a relevant course advisor.

1.2 A candidate for the Diploma of Theology 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 Theology 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 Theology is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the course.

### **2 Course Structure**

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

- 2.1.1 at least 27 credit points in Biblical Studies;
- 2.1.2 at least 27 credit points in the subdiscipline of Systematic Theology;
- 2.1.3 at least 9 credit points in Church History;
- 2.1.4 a further 9 credit points chosen 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 Theology 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 Theology 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 Theology. 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 Theology.

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 Theology.

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 Theology.

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

7.1 Students who complete the Diploma of Theology 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 Theology 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.

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date and Governance</b>	<b>Changes</b>
1.0	02/12/2013 Academic Board	Approved
2.0	05/09/2016 Academic Board	TEQSA Accredited
3.0	04/07/2022 Academic Board	Modified Section 2 Course Structure to allow for level 7 units and relinquish award for progression
4.0	04/03/2024	IELTS test scores update