



## GRADUATE DIPLOMA OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

### AWARD SUMMARY

**CRICOS: 107373D**

**Nomenclature: GradDipThSt**

### AQF Level 8 Graduate Diploma

**Entry Requirements** Hold a University College Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies; OR  
Holding, from a university or other tertiary institution, qualifications approved by the Student Support and Administration Committee as equivalent to such an award;  
AND  
Satisfactory completion of a pre-enrolment interview with a relevant course advisor.

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

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

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

**Structure:** 72 credit points (8 units)

The course may be taken with at least one specialisation from the discipline of Biblical Studies or the subdiscipline of Systematic Theology.

A specialisation in the Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies comprises 36 credit points with at least one 9200-series unit.

### 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) result of 7.0 with no score less than 6.5 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 Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies is designed for those who hold a three-year undergraduate tertiary qualification in a non-theological discipline and who wish to pursue a graduate qualification in theology. Students will be able to critically engage Christian thought and traditions, enhance their professional work and give expression to insights for Christian living.

The Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies focuses on introducing students to the discipline of Biblical Studies and the subdiscipline of Systematic Theology equipping them with foundational knowledge for further study in these two areas.

## **Course Outcomes**

### **Knowledge**

Graduates will have:

- an advanced understanding, within a coherent body of knowledge in Systematic Theology and Biblical Studies;
- potential for acquiring and applying knowledge and skills in a new or existing discipline or professional area.

### **Skills**

Graduates will have cognitive and technical skills specifically in Theology and Biblical Studies, so as to be able independently to:

- review, reflect on and synthesize theological information, and identify and provide resources towards complex problems;
- think critically and evaluate complex ideas;
- apply specialised and creative skills for Christian living and ministry;
- research, analyse and communicate theologically-related ideas to a variety of audiences.

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

Graduates will have the ability to:

- make high level, independent and theologically informed judgements;
- plan and evaluate activities and projects within a particular ministry setting;
- identify ways that this body of knowledge relates to Christian living and / or ministry.

## **Academic regulations for the Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies**

### **1 Admission to Candidature**

- 1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature into the Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies shall:
- 1.1.1 hold an Australian University College of Divinity Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies (or equivalent). To receive the award a student is required to complete a further 36 credit points (4 units), and surrender the Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies upon graduation; OR
  - 1.1.2 hold, from a university or other tertiary institution, qualifications approved by the Student Support and Administration Committee as equivalent to such an award; AND
  - 1.1.3 satisfactorily complete a pre-enrolment interview with a relevant course advisor.
- 1.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation the Student Support and Administration Committee may require an applicant to demonstrate fitness for admission as a candidate for this degree by carrying out such work and/or sitting for such examinations as the Student Support and Administration Committee may determine.
- 1.3 In exceptional cases an applicant may be admitted as a candidate for a Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies, if the applicant submits evidence of other academic and professional attainments to the Student Support and Administration Committee.
- 1.4 A candidate for the Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies shall be designated as full-time or part-time. A candidate is designated as a full-time if enrolled in three units (27 credit points) or more in a semester or part-time if enrolled in less than three units (27 credit points) per semester.
- 1.5 No candidate for the Graduate Diploma of Theological 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.
- 1.6 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:
- 1.6.1 achieving an IELTS (or equivalent) result of 7.0 with no score below 6.5 in all bands of the test.
- 1.7 Application for enrolment in the Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the course.

## **2 Course Structure**

2.1 The Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies requires the completion of 72 credit points (8 units).

2.2 36 credit points of core units (4 units) will be taken from the discipline of Biblical Studies and the subdiscipline of Systematic Theology.

2.3 The course may be taken with a specialisation in the discipline of Biblical Studies or in the subdiscipline of Systematic Theology. A specialisation in the Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies comprises 36 credit points in the respective sub/discipline with at least one 9200-series unit.

2.4 Units coded "A" are not counted towards a concentration in any discipline or subdiscipline.

2.5 Students who enter the program from a Bachelor of Theology, Bachelor of Ministry, Master of Divinity or equivalent course cannot enrol in units with content similar to those covered in their earlier studies.

## **3 Period of Candidature**

3.1 The period of candidature for the Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies will normally 1 year (2 semesters) full-time or 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 Graduate Diploma of Theological 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 subject units shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board in line with the University 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 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 Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies.
- 6.2 Credit can only be granted for Bible and Theology units at graduate level, that are from an equivalent award or institution and have outcomes, content, demand hours, and assessment equivalent to that of units in a University College award.

## **7 Progress to Further Awards**

- 7.1 Students are eligible to articulate to the Master of Theological Studies offered by the University College, on completion of which students are required to surrender their Graduate Diploma of Theological Studies.

## **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	4/12/2017 Academic Board	Approved
2.0	4/3/2024 Academic Board	IELTS admission requirements update