



MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

AWARD SUMMARY

CRICOS: 107372E

Nomenclature: MThSt

AQF Level 9 Masters (Coursework)

Entry Requirements Holding a University College Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies (or equivalent); OR hold, from a university or other tertiary institution, qualifications approved by the Student Support and Administration Committee as equivalent to such an award; AND Satisfactorily completes 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 will be taken with at least 36 credit points (4 units) from the discipline of Biblical Studies and the subdiscipline of Systematic Theology.

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 Master of Theological Studies comprises 54 credit points with at least 18 cps of 9200-series units. Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies entry award units may be used towards the 54 credit points required for specialisation.

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.

Exit Points

Candidates of the Master of Theological Studies may exit with 36 credit points to the University College Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies, provided they surrender the Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies after graduation.

Graduate Profile and Rationale

The Master of Theological Studies is designed for those who hold a Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies and who wish to pursue a further qualification in the discipline of Biblical Studies and the subdiscipline of Systematic Theology as part of their continuing education for ministry.

Graduates will have specialised knowledge and skills for research, and/or professional practice and/or further learning and the ability to apply such knowledge and skills in a theologically-related area.

Course Outcomes

Knowledge

Graduates will have:

- an integrated understanding of an advanced body of knowledge in Systematic Theology and Biblical Studies including recent developments in theory and practice;
- an understanding of research principles and methods applicable to Systematic Theology and Biblical Studies and their practice.

Skills

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

- analyse critically, reflect on and synthesize complex information, problems, concepts and theories associated with theology and Biblical studies;
- research and apply established theories to theology and Biblical studies;
- apply specialised and creative skills for Christian living and ministry;
- interpret and transmit knowledge, skills and ideas through coherent and sustained argument to specialist and non-specialist audiences in relation to Theology and Biblical Studies.

Applications of Knowledge and Skills

Graduates will have the ability to:

- apply knowledge and skills in a way that demonstrates autonomy, expert judgement, adaptability, and accountability as a practitioner and/or learner in relation to the interdependent building of the church and good of the wider community;
- plan and execute a research-based project, and/or piece of scholarship in either the discipline of Biblical Studies or the subdiscipline of Systematic Theology.

Academic regulations for the Master of Theological Studies

1 Admission to Candidature

- 1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature into the Master of Theological Studies shall:
- 1.1.1 hold an Australian University College of Divinity Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies or equivalent; 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 Master 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 Master 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 Master 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 Master of Theological Studies is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the course.

2 Course Structure

2.1 The Master of Theological Studies requires the completion of 72 credit points (8 units) from 8100 and 9200 series units from the University College Schedule of Units of Study coded within the 8100 and 9200 series.

2.2 The 72 credit points (eight units) will include 36 credit points (4 units) from the discipline of Biblical Studies and the subdiscipline of Systematic Theology.

2.3 The course may include a specialisation which comprises 54 credit points in either Biblical Studies or Systematic Theology with at least two 9200-series units. The Grad Cert entry award can be used towards the 54 credit points required.

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

2.5 The course will include a Generic (Research) unit and / or a Capstone unit and / in either the discipline of Biblical Studies or the subdiscipline of Systematic Theology as found in the University College Schedule of Units of Study.

2.6 A candidate may take a maximum of 36 credit points in units listed as Generic (Research) units in the Schedule of Units of Study with a maximum of 18 credit points in Independent Guided Study units, 18 credit points in Research Project units, and 18 credit points as a Research Essay.

2.7 A candidate may include 18 credit points in the Research Essay (10,000-12,000 words in length and written in the area of specialisation under supervision) providing the candidate completes a 8100 Research Methodology unit (9 credit points) before or concurrently with the Research Project.

2.8 Candidates wishing to proceed to the degree of Master of Philosophy must include one 18 credit point research unit at Distinction level.

3 Period of Candidature

3.1 The period of candidature for the Master of Theological Studies will normally be 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 Master 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 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 Master 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 Candidates wishing to proceed to the degree of Master of Philosophy must include one 18 credit point research unit at Distinction level.

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

Compulsory Units to attain the Master of Theological Studies

One foundational unit (9 credit points) in Systematic Theology

AND

One foundational unit (9 credit points) in Biblical Studies

Further Units

A choice of another 18 credit points (two units) from the suite of University College 8100 or 9200 level units.

Students who may wish to complete the Master of Theological Studies with a concentration need to take a further 9 credit points (one unit) from the discipline of Biblical Studies or the subdiscipline of Systematic Theology.

Version	Date and Governance	Changes
1.0	4/12/2017 Academic Board	Approved
2.0	4/3/2024 Academic Board	IELTS admission requirements update