

## Coursework

[www.mcd.edu.au](http://www.mcd.edu.au)

### Graduate Diploma in Theology



### **MCD postgraduate studies in theology**

Postgraduate studies in theology provide enriching and enhancing education for students at advanced academic levels.



## Course Information

The purpose of the Graduate Diploma in Theology (GradDipTheol) is to allow those with a degree in a discipline other than theology to engage in theological study. This is the 'General' Graduate Diploma, which will introduce you to the study of theology through an engagement with the texts of the Church - both Old and New Testaments - and through an introduction to Christian Thought and History. Candidates with a degree in a discipline other than theology will enroll for the 'General'

Graduate Diploma in Theology.

Candidates with a prior degree in theology enroll for the 'Specialised' Graduate Diploma in Theology, whether in one of the above mentioned disciplines, or other approved disciplines such as Biblical Studies, Church History, Liturgical Studies, Moral Theology, Philosophy, Religious Education, Spirituality and Spiritual Direction. You will study the course through the MCD's Recognised Teaching Institutions. This course is managed by the Coursework Committee of the MCD Academic Board.

## Eligibility for GradDipTheol

The Graduate Diploma in Theology (General) is open to candidates with a degree from an Australian University, or who hold equivalent qualifications.

The Graduate Diploma in Theology (Specialised) is open to candidates with a theological degree, from an Australian University, or who hold equivalent qualifications.

*International students must score 6.5 across all bands with no band under 6.0 of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).*

## Details of the MCD GradDipTheol

The course must be completed in three years.

### General

At least 45 points (3 standard units) must be in Foundation studies, introducing candidates to three theological disciplines (typically Old Testament, New Testament, Systematic Theology, Church History, Ethics, Spirituality etc.).

Further points (usually 45 points or 3 standard units) from the Integrative or Specialised units of the MDiv MCD degree, presuming that appropriate pre-requisites have been fulfilled. A 12,000-word research essay may replace two of these units.

### Specialised

60 points (four standard units) must be in the area of specialisation.

30 further points (two standard units, or a 12,000-word research essay) from Integrative or Specialised units

of the MCD's Master of Divinity degree (presuming that appropriate pre-requisites for these units have been fulfilled).

A GradDipTheol graduate will have laid good foundations in key theological disciplines, and had the opportunity to learn at graduate level in elective units, developing their analytical thinking and engaging with ideas, qualities which form a sound basis for further learning and living.

Academically, the general GradDip articulates to the MCD Master of Divinity degree. The specialised GradDip articulates to the Master of Arts (Coursework) and to the Master of Theological Studies. A GradDip graduate who has completed a 12,000-word at Distinction level may apply to enter the MA (Research).

## Fees

Refer to MCD website, [www.mcd.edu.au](http://www.mcd.edu.au)

### FEE-HELP

If you are an Australian citizen, or hold a Permanent Humanitarian visa, you are

eligible for a Commonwealth Government FEE-HELP loan. The Commonwealth pays the MCD for your studies. Your loan is repaid through the tax system once your taxable income reaches around \$40,000.

The MCD recommends that all eligible GradDip students consider FEE-HELP and students who make early voluntary repayments on their FEE-HELP loan receive a 10% discount from the Commonwealth.

Further details about FEE-HELP are available on the MCD web site.



# Governance and Accreditation

The MCD Coursework Studies Committee manages the GradDipTheol, and each GradDipTheol RTI Coursework Coordinator is a member. The Committee reports to the MCD Academic Board, which is responsible to the MCD Council for all matters of academic policy and procedure.

All RTI faculty are approved by the MCD Academic Board to ensure that each is qualified and experienced for their teaching and research work.

Each RTI is audited every five years, reviewing units and courses offered, staff development, and library and learning facilities, in each case with student feedback and planning for future needs and opportunities. The MCD is audited every five years by the Australian University Quality Agency (AUQA): the first took place in 2005, and the AUQA Report on the MCD is on <http://www.auqa.edu.au>. The MCD is recognized by both

Federal and State Governments as a self-accrediting institution. The audits assure students of the quality of their course of study and that it is recognized across the academic world.

## Application Process

- Obtain a Postgraduate Coursework Application Form from the MCD website ([www.mcd.edu.au](http://www.mcd.edu.au)) or from one of the Recognised Teaching Institutions.
- Discuss your proposed course of studies with the Coursework Co-ordinator at the RTI of your choice, especially if you plan to include a ministry placement, synthesis or oral examination in your course.
- Submit the completed Application form to the MCD office, having ticked the relevant GradDip box

and had the form signed by the Coursework Coordinator.

- Unless articulating immediately from an MCD award, the Application fee, and certified photocopies of previous relevant academic qualification(s) and transcripts must accompany the application.

The Associate Registrar will present each application to the Coursework Studies Committee for consideration. Approved candidates will then be offered a place in the program.

## For further information:

Contact:

**Associate Registrar**

Melbourne College of Divinity  
21 Highbury Grove, Kew,  
Victoria 3101

Tel: (03) 9853 3177

Fax: (03) 9853 6695

Email

[assocregistrar@mcd.edu.au](mailto:assocregistrar@mcd.edu.au)

Website [www.mcd.edu.au](http://www.mcd.edu.au)

