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## Coursework

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

# Master of Theological Studies



## **MCD postgraduate studies in theology**

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



## Course Information

The Master of Theological Studies offers the opportunity to theological graduates to deepen their learning and explore disciplines they had not included in their first theological degree. The degree is flexible with a wide range of units and disciplines is available. It must be completed in five years.

MTS students learn through the MCD's Recognised Teaching Institutions. Each is committed to providing a supportive community of scholarship, teaching from its own heritage with an ecumenical openness towards others. MTS students may complete units at any MCD RTI, and permission may be sought to have units from non-MCD institutions.

The Coursework Coordinator at each RTI assists students

with course enquiries and planning on enrolment.

## Eligibility for the MTS

The MTS requires the completion of 150 credit points (ten standard units): 120 points at graduate level, 30 at post-graduate level. Candidates may study full or part time, for between three and ten semesters.

As well as standard units, candidates may include the following elements in their course:

- supervised ministry placements (up to 30 points);
- a supervised synthesis of 12,000 words of an interdisciplinary nature (30 points), and an oral examination of 60 minutes based on the

synthesis (15 points additional to the 30 synthesis points).

- an oral examination (45 points) of up to one and a half hours.
- a research essay of 12,000 words (30 points) *This is recommended for those wishing to undertake higher level research (see below).*

An MTS graduate will have broadened and deepened their learning in the theological disciplines, engaged with a wide range of ideas, and reached a solid postgraduate standard of academically. The MTS graduates may apply to enter the MCD MMin degree, and those who have completed the 12,000-word research essay at Distinction level may apply to enter the MCD MTheol or MA (Research).

*International applicants must score 7.0 across all bands with no band under 6.5 of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).*

## Details of the MCD MTS

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## 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 tuition. Your loan is repaid through the tax system once their taxation income reaches around \$40,000.

The MCD recommends that all eligible MTS students consider

FEE-HELP seriously: the scheme ensures a stable cash flow to the MCD and the RTIs, and students who make early voluntary repayments to their FEE-HELP loan receive a 10% discount from the Commonwealth, without reducing the amount paid to their RTI.

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



# Governance and Accreditation

The MCD Coursework Studies Committee manages the MTS, and each 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 MTS box and had the form signed by the RTI Coursework Coordinator.

- Unless articulating immediately from an MCD award, 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

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

