BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY

AWARD SUMMARY
For students residing outside Australia and studying via distance education.

Abbreviation:	BTh
CRICOS Course Code:	063703C
AQF Level:	Level 7
Entry Requirements:	• Completion of Year 12 and an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 65, or its equivalent; or • Mature Age and Special Entry Admissions for those who have reached the age of 21; or • articulation from other Sydney College of Divinity programs.
Course Duration:	3 years full-time or part-time equivalent (max. of 9 years)
Course Structure:	24 units (216 credit points)
Study Mode(s):	*Distance Education (Live Webinars and/or Webinar Recordings)* Full time and part time study available
English Proficiency:	Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally require a minimum International English Language Testing System (IELTS, or equivalent) score of 6.5 with no score less than 6.0 in all bands of the test. A student may be admitted provisionally into the BTh when they have an IELTS result of 6.0 with no score less than 6.0 in all bands of the test.
2023 Tuition Fees and Financial Support:	See page 7 for details. FEE-HELP may be available for Australian citizens living abroad (eligibility criteria apply). Visit www.studyassist.gov.au.
How to Apply	Please contact the Registrar for an application interview. See http://www.sagotc.edu.au/admission/overseas-students.

OVERVIEW

The Bachelor of Theology degree is a primary qualification in theology and is the basis for further study at postgraduate level. It is a broad course combining both theological and practical studies.

Admission into this course is open to all suitably qualified applicants, male and female. After satisfying the requirements of the Bachelor of Theology, students may be eligible to complete a postgraduate course of study advised by the Faculty Board.

The Bachelor of Theology also serves as a means of training men for ordination within the Church. However, at all times, applicants striving to discern a priestly vocation are advised that completion of their studies does not constitute a guarantee of ordination in the Orthodox Church. Among other things, applicants considering ordination should keep in mind that the years of education and training at St Andrew's serve as a period of discernment, and that ordination itself is regulated by the canon law of the Eastern Orthodox Church. Application of the relevant canons as well as the establishment and application of any other requirements relating to ordination lies exclusively with the competent ecclesiastical authority. Applicants who have questions concerning their eligibility for ordination should consult with their appropriate ecclesiastical authority. They may also seek general advice and basic information from the Registrar.

Part-time study is available, although priority of placement is given to prospective full-time students during the admissions process.

RATIONALE

The program at St Andrew's has simultaneously an academic, spiritual and practical nature in order to impart to students a thorough knowledge, skills and *phronema* (mentality or attitude) in Orthodox theology and spirituality for multifarious *diakonia* (ministry) in their local context.

Given the distinctive theological ethos and character of Eastern Christianity, the aim of the College's educational program is to integrate spirituality, faith and academic excellence. Consequently, St Andrew's is not a secular institution. The mind, the heart and the soul are to be nurtured: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself" (Luke 10:27). At St Andrew's, the lecture room, the library and the study (the places of learning), and the chapel (the place of worship), are all of equal significance. All scholarly endeavours are ultimately a reflection upon the glory and truth of the Holy Trinity and divine revelation. This sacred meditation upon God's Word is to be pursued by both faculty and students within the various theological disciplines within the lecture room with the certainty of academic freedom and dignity.

In the spirit of Orthodox Christianity, educational growth is inseparably bound to the values, spirit and experience of the faith. As such, St Andrew's is concerned with the spiritual and moral development of the students. The theologian is the one who struggles not only to gain a deep understanding of the faith but also lives this faith with all its powers and practical applications.

St Andrew's aspires to promote a student's potential towards excellence. The College is concerned with the advancement of Eastern Orthodox Christian thought and life. Through research, publications and ecumenical encounters, it seeks to provide sound theological reflection on vital issues facing the Church. It has always envisioned itself to be a place and

source of renewal and continuing education for those already engaged in ministry. It is dedicated to the task of helping those aspiring to fulfil their calling in various ministries in the midst of the complexities and responsibilities of this post-modern era. Furthermore, given our own sceptical and secular age, which has attempted to demythologise and trivialise the most fundamental elements of the faith, one aspect of the College's academic thrust is to demonstrate the historical certainty upon which the Church's faith is grounded. In this particular endeavour, St Andrew's does not hesitate to employ contemporary historical and analytical forms of inquiry.

NATURE OF THE PROGRAM

The primary aim of St Andrew's is to train and educate priests, theologians and theologically literate volunteers and co-workers for Greek Orthodox Parishes and Communities throughout Australia, as well as to train and educate those who serve, or will serve, within the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia, and, more broadly, within the jurisdictions of local canonical hierarchs who belong to the Episcopal Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of Oceania.

It should be noted that an emphasis on the discipline of 'Theology' is due to the significance which Orthodoxy places upon the Church Fathers and their understanding of Holy Scripture. As an essential and universal dimension of Orthodox theological endeavour, Patristic Theology constitutes an additional field in the discipline of 'Theology', owing to its interrelationship and interaction with Systematic Theology. In this offering, St Andrew's becomes distinctive among member institutions of the SCD.

The program at St Andrew's includes both academic and practical components in order to give students a thorough training in Eastern Orthodox theology and the skills needed for a contemporary pastoral ministry in Australia. In addition, St Andrew's is intended to be a centre of ecumenical scholarship and interaction.

COURSE OUTCOMES

Knowledge
Graduates will have a broad and coherent body of knowledge in Theology, Biblical Studies, and one other discipline or area of practice, that will form the basis for independent lifelong learning.

Skills
Graduates will have cognitive, communication, and technical skills in a theology-related body of knowledge, so that they are able to:
- review, reflect on, and synthesize theological information and identify and provide solutions to complex problems
- think critically and generate and evaluate complex ideas
- demonstrate an understanding of theoretical theological concepts
- communicate theologically related knowledge, skills and ideas clearly and coherently

Applications of Knowledge and Skills
Graduates will have the ability to:
- demonstrate an understanding of theological knowledge by applying it creatively in Christian ministry
- make high level, independent judgments in a range of ministry settings
- initiate, plan, and implement activities and projects within a range of ministry settings

COURSE STRUCTURE

1. Completion of 216 credit points (i.e., 24 units) including three sub-major sequences:
   a. Biblical Studies
   b. Systematic Theology
   c. Church History
2. At least one of these sub-majors shall be extended to a major, namely Systematic Theology.
3. A second major may be completed in the disciplines of Biblical Studies or Christian Life and Ministry, or in the sub-discipline of Church History.
4. A major in a sub-discipline requires 54 credit points from the sub-discipline, with not more than 18 credit points from 7100 series units. Under certain provisions (see clause 7 below), up to 36 credit points from 8100 and 9200 series units may be included.
5. A major in a discipline requires 54 credit points from the discipline, with at least 27 credit points in one sub-discipline, with not more than 18 credit points from 7100 series units. Under certain provisions (see clause 7 below), up to 36 credit points from 8100 and 9200 series units may be included.
6. A sub-major requires 36 credit points from units assigned to the major including no more than 18 credit points from 7100 series units.
7. Candidates who have completed 108 credit points towards the Bachelor of Theology may select up to 36 credit points from the Schedule of 8100 and 9200 series units. Within these units, a candidate can only select up to 18 credit points of 9200 series units provided they have already completed at least a sub-major in that sub-discipline with a Grade Point Average of at least 2.0.

Study Areas	Discipline	Sub-Disciplines	Majors / Sub-majors
	Biblical Studies	Biblical Studies ('B')	Biblical Studies
Christian Thought	Theology	Systematic Theology ('T') Christian Ethics ('E') Worship and Liturgy ('L')	Theology (discipline) Systematic Theology Worship & Liturgy
	Humanities in the Christian Tradition	Church History ('H')	Humanities in the Christian Tradition (discipline) Church History
Christian Practice	Christian Life and Ministry	Christian Spirituality ('S') Pastoral Theology ('P')	Christian Life & Ministry (discipline) Pastoral Theology

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1. The Student Support and Administration Committee of the Sydney College of Divinity, at the recommendation of St Andrew's, may grant leave of absence from the Bachelor of Theology. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the Bachelor.
2. The period of leave shall normally be one semester after which a candidate may apply for a further period of one semester or else be required to complete their candidature.

CREDIT FOR PREVIOUS OR CONCURRENT STUDY

1. Credit may be granted in units for comparable work completed or concurrently being undertaken at an approved level at any recognised tertiary institution, to a maximum of 144 credit points. Applications for credit must include an authorised transcript of the studies undertaken and the official description of units completed at the other institutions.
2. Credit is determined by the Student Administration Committee of the SCD and is subject to its final approval.
3. Receipt of credit for previous or concurrent study does not normally exempt a student from completing the compulsory requirements of St Andrew's unless such exemption is approved by the Faculty Board.

EXTERNAL STUDIES

The requirements of specific units in majors and sub-majors may also be fulfilled if a student undertakes an equivalent unit at another member institution of the SCD or at a university or recognised tertiary institution via cross-institutional study after consultation with the Registrar and subject to Faculty Board approval.

EXIT POINTS

Students enrolled in the Bachelor of Theology may exit with a Diploma of Christian Studies (DipChSt) or an Associate Degree in Christian Thought and Practice (AssocDegChThPr) provided they have met the requirements of these awards.

DELIVERY OF UNITS

1. Units are offered by weekly lectures on campus in Redfern during each semester. Please consult the Timetable page on the website.
2. Units are also offered via distance education (online) within the parameters of the two regular semesters.
3. Distance education is available either in real-time (through Zoom video conferencing) or asynchronously (by accessing video/audio recordings within 24hrs after the lecture).

ASSIGNABLE UNITS FOR THE BTH DEGREE

Compulsory Units

A7122A New Testament Greek I
A7222A New Testament Greek II
B7110A Introduction to the Old Testament
B7150A Introduction to the New Testament
B7231A Prophetic Literature
B7253A The Four Gospels

H7110A History of the Early Church
H7232A Early Byzantine History
H7233A Later Byzantine History
H7234A Modern Orthodox Church History

T7101A Introduction to Theology
T7171A Early Church Fathers
T7214A The Trinity
T7228A The Church
T7272A Early Byzantine Patristic Theology
T7274A Later Byzantine Patristic Theology

L7101A Introduction to Christian Worship
L7250A Liturgical Rites

Elective Units

B7226A Psalms
B7260A Pauline Literature
L7221A Eastern Christian Hymnology
M7110 The Evangelising Mission of the Church
P7101A Introduction to Pastoral Theology and Ministry
P7207A Pastoral Ministry in Context
X7295A Minor Independent Guided Study
X7296A Major Independent Guided Study (18 credit points)
X7298A Minor Research Project
X7299A Major Research Essay (18 credit points)

See 'Sample Program' below.

TUITION FEES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

St Andrew's is committed to admitting the most able and dedicated students to its courses, regardless of their financial means or background. Most students are eligible for financial support as outlined below.

Tuition Fees are invoiced each semester as follows:

AUD $1,170 per unit (9 credit points)
(up to 4 units, 36 credit points, per semester)

FEE-HELP is available (eligibility criteria apply). Visit www.studyassist.gov.au.

Scholarship assistance with regards to tuition fees is available to persons enrolled in a course through St Andrew's and who meet the following description:

Scholarship Category	*Scholarship Coverage*
A. Full Time Student Scholarship	
The applicant be enrolled in 36 credit points during the semester and maintain a Grade Point Average of at least 2.0 (65%+) in each semester.	50%
B. Orthodox Christian Clergymen	
The applicant will be (i) a person whose application for admission has been approved by the College's Admissions Committee; (ii) an ordained clergyman; (iii) endorsed in writing by their local bishop or their bishop's designate on his behalf; (iv) enrolled for a minimum of 18 credit points during the semester; and (v) a student who maintains a Grade Point Average of at least 2.0 (65%+) in each semester.	50%

A student's scholarship eligibility is reviewed each semester.
Scholarship provisions are subject to change from year to year.

SAMPLE PROGRAM (FULL TIME STUDENT)

Year 1 Semester 1	Year 1 Semester 2
A7122 New Testament Greek I B7110 Introduction to the Old Testament H7110 History of the Early Church T7101 Introduction to Theology	A7222 New Testament Greek II B7150 Introduction to the New Testament H7232 Early Byzantine History T7171 Early Church Fathers
Year 2 Semester 1	Year 2 Semester 2
B7253 The Four Gospels H7233 Later Byzantine History L7101 Introduction to Christian Worship T7214 The Trinity[i]	B7231 Prophetic Literature H7234 Modern Orthodox Church History L7250 Liturgical Rites Elective Unit (9 credit points)
Year 3 Semester 1	Year 3 Semester 2
B7226 Psalms T7228 The Church[ii] T7272 Early Byzantine Patristic Theology Elective Unit (9 credit points)	B7260 Pauline Literature T7274 Later Byzantine Patristic Theology Elective Unit (9 credit points) Elective Unit (9 credit points)

Elective units are listed in the Timetable page on the website and may vary from year to year. These may include eligible postgraduate unit(s), generic unit(s) in an available discipline, and/or cross-institutional study at another tertiary college or university (with permission from the Faculty Board).

Last Updated: 12 December 2022

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[i] Alternates with T7228 The Church.
[ii] Alternates with T7214 The Trinity.