

# DIPLOMA OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES

<b>Abbreviation:</b>	DipChSt
<b>Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF):</b>	Level 5 (comprised of units at AQF Level 7)
<b>Entry Requirements:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 72.5, or its equivalent; or</li> <li>• Mature Age and Special Entry Admissions for those who have reached the age of 21; or</li> <li>• articulation from other SCD programs.</li> </ul>
<b>Admission:</b>	Annual only. Applications should be received before the end of January. Please check the website for 'Important Dates'.
<b>Duration:</b>	1 year full-time or equivalent part-time.
<b>Structure:</b>	72 credit points (i.e. 8 bachelor level units at AQF Level 7)
<b>Enrolment Options:</b>	<i>On-Campus Weekly Lectures:</i> full time and part time study available <i>Distance Education (Online):</i> full time and part time study available
<b>English Proficiency:</b>	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 'academic format' of the test.
<b>Fees:</b>	<p>\$900 per 9 credit points, taken normally at 7100 level or 7200 level. Please read 'Financial Information' in Section 6 of the Handbook for further details and scholarship opportunities. FEE-HELP is available (conditions apply).</p> <p>Special scholarships are available for volunteer Scripture teachers and Sunday School teachers.</p>

**Available Units  
(2014)****Semester 1**

A7120A Introduction to New Testament Greek ^  
B7120A Introduction to the Old Testament  
B7273A The Four Gospels  
C7146A Introduction to Pastoral Counselling  
H7110A History of the Early Church \*  
P7277A Basic Unit of Clinical Pastoral Education 1 (18)  
P7282A Supervised Ministry 1  
T7101A Introduction to Theology \*

**Semester 2**

A7170A New Testament Greek  
B7130A Introduction to the New Testament ^  
H7230A Early Byzantine History  
L7232A Orthodox Christian Hymnology  
P7101A Introduction to Pastoral Theology & Ministry  
P7277A Basic Unit of Clinical Pastoral Education 1 (18) *cont.*  
T7217A The Church  
T7281A Early Church Fathers \*

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**GRADUATE PROFILE AND RATIONALE**

The Diploma of Christian Studies is an undergraduate award based wholly on Bachelor of Theology units. It is designed to introduce students to Christian studies within higher education. Graduates will have acquired basic knowledge, skills, and values of Christian relevance to their professional, family, church, social, or personal lives and have deepened their awareness of the nature and scope of theology and their affinity with it as a field of study within higher education. Some graduates may have taken the opportunity to focus their elective studies in such a way as to complete a major. In this case, they will have acquired the skills, knowledge, and values outlined for the respective majors as set out for the Bachelor of Theology.

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**ENROLMENT**

1. Enrolment into a unit or units is preceded by an application for admission into the actual award. This application for admission should be made by contacting the Registrar directly via telephone or email by the end of January (for entry in Semester 1). Late applications may still be considered but only after consultation with the Registrar and at the discretion of St Andrew's.
2. If the application for admission is approved then enrolment takes place in conversation with the Registrar who is responsible for guiding the student's study pathway.

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**ARTICULATION TO OTHER AWARDS**

1. The Diploma of Christian Studies is both a stand-alone award and a nested award in the Associate Degree of Christian Thought and Practice and the Bachelor of Theology. As a result it articulates directly into either of these awards. On completion of either of these

further awards the student would surrender their Diploma of Christian Studies. The exception would be if there was no credit granted into the further awards for the units in the Diploma.

2. St Andrew's does not presently offer admission into the Associate Degree of Christian Thought and Practice.
3. As noted above, the Bachelor of Theology presently serves as the principal means of training men for ordination or active ministry within the Church and as such admission to this program is limited to male applicants aspiring to this end.

## **ADMISSION TO CANDIDATURE**

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1. An applicant for admission to candidature for a Diploma of Christian Studies shall: (a) have an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 72.5, or its equivalent; or (b) have reached the age of 21 and so satisfy the requirements for Mature Age Entry; or (c) have adequate grounds for Special Entry.
2. A candidate for a Diploma of Christian Studies shall be designated as full-time or part-time. A student is designated as a full-time if enrolled in three units (27 credit points) or more in a semester or else part-time if enrolled in less than three units (27 credit points) per semester.
3. No candidate for the Diploma of Christian Studies may be concurrently enrolled in any other undergraduate or postgraduate course within the SCD or any other tertiary institution, unless approval has been granted by the Academic Board.
4. 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 an IELTS (or equivalent) result of 6.5 with no score of less than 6.0 in all bands of the 'academic format' of the test.
5. Application for enrolment in the Diploma of Christian Studies program is made through the Registrar of St Andrew's.
6. Units at 7100 level and 7200 level may be available to cross-institutional students, non-award students, and auditors after consultation with the Registrar.

## **COURSE STRUCTURE**

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1. The Diploma of Christian Studies requires the completion of 72 credit points (eight bachelor level units).
2. Every program for the award shall include: (a) at least 9 credit points within Biblical Studies [marked ^ above]; (b) at least 9 credit points within Church History, namely History of the Early Church [marked \* above]; (c) at least 18 credit points within the discipline of Theology, namely Introduction to Theology and Early Church Fathers [marked \* above]; and (c) 36 credit points of electives.
3. Units are described in Section 4 of the Handbook.
4. Each unit has a 9 credit point value unless otherwise stated.
5. The website of the SCD may contain further details about this award. Please consult the Registrar for more information.

## **PERIOD OF CANDIDATURE**

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1. The period of candidature for the degree shall normally be one year full-time and three years part-time.
2. In certain circumstances the Student Administration Committee of the SCD may grant extensions.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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1. The Student Administration Committee of the SCD, at the recommendation of St Andrew's, may grant leave of absence from the Diploma of Christian Studies. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the degree.
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.

## ASSESSMENT

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1. The assessment of units shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board of the SCD in line with its established guidelines for assessment packages at graduate diploma level.
2. Students may be required by the Academic Board of the SCD to present themselves for oral examination.
3. Academic and non-academic misconduct will be penalised severely in accordance with the regulations of the SCD.

## CREDIT FOR PREVIOUS STUDY

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1. A candidate may seek credit up to a maximum of 45 credit points in the Diploma of Christian Studies.
2. Credit will be granted for units that are from an equivalent award or institution and have outcomes, content, demand hours, and assessment equivalent to that of units in the Diploma of Christian Studies.

## DELIVERY OF UNITS

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1. Units are offered primarily by weekly evening lectures on campus during each semester. Please consult the timetable.
2. Units are also offered via distance education (online) mode within the parameters of the two regular semesters. Units designated as foundational include a compulsory on-campus residential component. Please see Section 3 and consult the Registrar for more information.
3. The proposed schedule of distance education units for 2014 is listed in Section 3 of the Handbook and on the website.

## SAMPLE PROGRAM (FULL TIME STUDENT)

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Semester 1	Semester 2
Introduction to the Old Testament Introduction to Theology History of the Early Church ELECTIVE UNIT	Introduction to the New Testament Early Church Fathers ELECTIVE UNIT ELECTIVE UNIT