

GRADUATE DIPLOMA OF ARTS (GradDipArts)

AWARD SUMMARY

AQF Level 8 Graduate Diploma

Entry Requirements	<p>A three-year AQF Level 7 award in any discipline.</p> <p>Students with an SCD Graduate Certificate in Arts may enter the program. To receive the award they are required to complete a further 36 credit points (4 units), and hand back the GradCertArts upon graduation.</p>
Duration	1 year (2 semesters) full-time or 3 years (6 semesters) part-time
Mode	Full-time, part-time.
Structure	<p>72 credit points (i.e. 8 units)</p> <p>The course may be taken with or without a specialisation.</p> <p>A specialisation in the GradDipArts comprises 36 credit points in a sub-discipline with at least one 9600-series unit.</p>
Exit Point	Graduate Certificate in Arts (36 credit points)
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) score of 7.0 in all bands of the test.
Fees	Contact the Teaching Body with which you intend to enrol.
Contact	<p>The Registrar of one of the following Teaching Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian College of Ministries • Catholic Institute of Sydney • Emmaus Bible College • Nazarene Theological College • New South Wales College of Clinical Pastoral Education • Saint Andrew's Greek Orthodox Theological College • Salvation Army Booth College

Graduate Profile and Rationale

The Graduate Diploma of Arts course is designed primarily for those who hold a tertiary qualification in a non-theological discipline, who wish to pursue a graduate qualification in theology, and who are seeking skills in theological studies to enhance their professional work. Graduates will be able to apply a body of theological knowledge in a range of contexts relating to ministry and/or further learning.

Outcomes

Graduates will have:

Knowledge

- an advanced understanding within a coherent body of knowledge in one or more theologically related disciplines or areas of practice; this may include the acquisition and application of knowledge and skills in a new or existing discipline or professional area.

Skills

- cognitive and technical skills in a theologically-related body of knowledge, so that they are able independently to:
 - review, reflect on, and synthesize theological information and identify and provide resources towards resolving complex problems
 - think critically and evaluate complex ideas
 - apply specialised and creative skills in Christian living and ministry
 - demonstrate an advanced understanding of theoretical concepts in theology
 - transmit theologically-related knowledge, skills and ideas to a variety of audiences

Applications of Knowledge and Skills

- the ability to
 - make high level, independent judgments
 - where the course is taken with specialisation, plan and evaluate activities and projects within a particular ministry setting.

Enrolment

The GradDipArts is offered through the Teaching Bodies. In light of the units offered students are able to choose their program to suit their interests and needs, while fulfilling the requirements of the award. Details are available from the Teaching Body offering the course.

Assessment

Graduate Diploma students are expected to give evidence of a breadth of research and a depth of understanding beyond that of an undergraduate student. In particular, their work should manifest the higher order skills of:

- Analysis - the ability to recognize the distinctive aspects of a topic, and the inter-relationships between them.
- Synthesis - the ability to integrate the various aspects of a topic and see them in the light of the whole.
- Evaluation - the ability to think critically and originally, making judgments based on relevant evidence and methods.

Exit points

Students enrolled in the GradDipArts may exit with the Graduate Certificate in Arts provided they have met the requirements of the award.

Articulation to Other Awards

Students are eligible to articulate to the Master of Arts offered by the Sydney College of Divinity, on completion of which students are required to surrender their GradDipArts.

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS for the Graduate Diploma of Arts

1 Admission to Candidature

- 1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature for a degree of Graduate Diploma of Arts shall:
 - 1.1.1 have qualified for admission to a three-year AQF Level 7 award from an accredited Australian Tertiary institution; or
 - 1.1.2 hold, from a university or other tertiary institution, qualifications approved by the Student Administration Committee as equivalent to such an award;
 - 1.1.3 hold an SCD Graduate Certificate in Arts: to receive the award a student is required to complete a further 36 credit points (4 units), and hand back the GradCertArts upon graduation;
 - 1.1.4 hold a Vocational Graduate Certificate (VET accredited) and be granted provisional admission.
- 1.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation the Student 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 Administration Committee may determine.
- 1.3 In exceptional cases an applicant may be admitted as a candidate for a Graduate Diploma of Arts if the applicant submits evidence of other academic and professional attainments to the Student Administration Committee.

- 1.4 A candidate for a Graduate Diploma of Arts 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 part-time if enrolled in less than three units (27 credit points) per semester.
- 1.5 No candidate for the award may be concurrently enrolled in any other undergraduate or postgraduate course within the Sydney College of Divinity 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 an IELTS (or equivalent) result of 7.0 in all bands of the test and may be required to attend such English language courses as prescribed by the Sydney College of Divinity.
- 1.7 Application for enrolment in the Graduate Diploma of Arts program is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Teaching Body offering the program.

2 Course Structure

- 2.1 The Graduate Diploma of Arts requires the completion of 8 units.
- 2.2 All course units shall be taken from the Schedule of Units of Study from 8500 and 9600 series.
- 2.3 The course may be taken with or without a specialisation. A specialisation in the GradDipArts comprises 36 credit points in a sub-discipline with at least one 9600-series unit.
- 2.4 Students who enter the program from a BTh, BMin, MDiv or equivalent course cannot enrol in units with content similar to those covered in their earlier studies.

3 Period of Candidature

- 3.1 The period of candidature for the degree shall normally be 1 year full-time and up to 3 years part-time.
- 3.2 In certain circumstances the Student Administration Committee may grant extensions to the period of candidature.

4 Leave of Absence

- 4.1 The Student Administration Committee may grant leave of absence from the Graduate Diploma of Arts. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the degree.
- 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

© Copyright in this handbook belongs to the Sydney College of Divinity Ltd.

The Handbook may not be used in whole or part without the written permission of the College

- 5.1 The assessment of subject units shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board in line with the College's established guidelines.
- 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 regulations of the Sydney College of Divinity, whose stipulations are severe.

6 Credit

- 6.1 A candidate may seek credit up to a maximum of 36 credit points in the Graduate Diploma of Arts. Credit can be granted only from units at graduate level where the outcomes, content, demand hours and assessment are equivalent to that of units in the SCD award.

7 Saving Clause

- 7.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Academic Board of the Sydney College of Divinity 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 Sydney College of Divinity.