



GOVERNANCE

REGULATION 36 – BACHELOR OF ARTS/BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY

36.1 Admission and Enrolment

- 36.1.1 A person may apply to the Academic Board [the Board] to enrol as a candidate for the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology if he or she is qualified to be admitted to a University or other tertiary institution in Australia approved from time to time by the Board.
- 36.1.2 A person who is not qualified to enrol as a candidate in accordance with Clause 36.1.1 above, but will have attained the age of twenty one years prior to the commencement of the semester in which they would be first enrolled, may apply to the Board to enrol as a provisional candidate for the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology. Such candidates will be required to complete a provisional period of study for the degree, and having successfully completed 120 credit points, will then be permitted to proceed as an ordinary candidate for the degree. Candidates who fail more than 30 credit points of units during their provisional candidature will have their candidature terminated.
- 36.1.3 Every candidate for the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology must be enrolled during the period of their candidature at a Recognised Teaching Institution [RTI], and must comply with the requirements of that institution and such other requirements relating to the admission and enrolment of students as the Regulations prescribe. Notwithstanding where they are formally enrolled, candidates may study units offered at other RTIs.
- 36.1.4 If a candidate seeks to undertake units in the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology using flexible delivery arrangements, the Board must only give permission for an enrolment on this basis if it is satisfied that the requirements of the degree can be completed through these arrangements, and that the candidate will have appropriate learning opportunities: access to appropriate learning resources, peer interaction and faculty supervision.
- 36.1.5 Notwithstanding any other provision in this Regulation, the Board may require an applicant to demonstrate fitness for admission by carrying out such work and sitting for such examinations as the Board may determine.

36.2 Course Structures

- 36.2.1 The basic structure of the course of study leading to the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology consists of a series of single semester length units, grouped by discipline and level as determined by the Board.
- 36.2.2 The successful completion of a standard unit that has been approved by the Board as to content, teaching methods, learning outcomes, assessment and bibliography counts as 15 credit points towards the degree.
- 36.2.3 The disciplines available must be grouped by the Board within four Fields of study, namely: Field A, Humanities; Field B, Biblical Studies; Field C, Christian Thought and History; Field D, Theology: Mission and Ministry.
- 36.2.4 Units must be allocated by the Board within disciplines to level 1, 2 or 3, where units at a lower level may be prerequisites for units at higher levels.
- 36.2.5 The Board must specify the number and type of unit sequences required to complete the requirements of a course of study.

36.3 Course of study - general

- 36.3.1 Unless the Board determines otherwise, the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology must be completed in not less than four and not more than ten years, and the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology (Honours) must be completed in not more than twelve years.
- 36.3.2 The Board may discontinue the candidature of any person whom it deems to have made unsatisfactory progress.
- 36.3.3 Determinations of the Board made pursuant to this regulation must be communicated appropriately by the Registrar.
- 36.3.4 Unless the Board determines otherwise, no candidate for the degree may enrol in more than four units in any one semester.

36.4 Course of study – Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology

Every course of study for the Bachelor of Theology component of the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology will consist of 360 credit points and include sequences approved by the Board.

Candidates may receive up to 120 points of credit towards their Theology component for their studies in the Bachelor of Arts component.

36.5 Course of study – Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology (Honours)

Students undertaking the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology (Honours) must have previously completed the requirements for the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology. Every course of study for the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology (Honours) must consist of 90 credit points as approved by the Board including 60 points of units and an Honours Essay of 12,000 words.

Regulation approved by: Regulations & Procedures Committee 17 November 2010; Academic Board 7 October 2011; Council 7 December 2011.

Determinations approved by Academic Board 7 October 2011

36.6 Credit and transfer credit for the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology

- 36.6.1 In the combined degree of Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology, each degree provides one full-time year towards the other degree. Beyond this, no more than 120 credit points may be given towards fulfilling the requirements of the degree.
- 36.6.2 The Board may grant up to 120 credit points in the appropriate Fields for studies of equivalent content and standard passed towards an incomplete degree in theology.
- 36.6.3 The Board may grant other credit points in accordance with the Schedule of Credits determined by the Board.

36.7 Award of degree

- 36.7.1 When a candidate has satisfied the examiners and completed the requirements for the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology, the Board may recommend that the award be made to the candidate. A candidate to whom such an award has been made is entitled to use the letters 'BA/BTheol' as a suffix to their name.
- 36.7.2 When a candidate has satisfied the examiners and completed the requirements for the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology (Honours), the Board may recommend that the award be made to the candidate, with High Distinction or Distinction Honours, with the name 'Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology (Honours)'. A candidate on whom such an award has been conferred is entitled to use the letters 'BA/BTheol (Hons)' as a suffix to their name.
- 36.7.3 When the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology degree has already been conferred upon a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology (Honours) graduand, the first degree must be relinquished and the testamur returned to the MCD Registrar prior to the conferral of the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology (Honours) degree and the entitlement in 36.7.1 is thereby revoked.

MELBOURNE COLLEGE OF DIVINITY

GOVERNANCE

GENERAL DETERMINATIONS MADE BY THE ACADEMIC BOARD RELATED TO REGULATION

36

36.1.1 Other Tertiary Institutions approved by the Board.

Adelaide College of Divinity
Australian Catholic University
Australian College of Theology
Avondale College
Charles Sturt University
Christian Heritage College
Harvest Bible College
Harvest West Bible College
Moore Theological College
Murdoch University
Otago University
Sydney College of Divinity
Tabor Adelaide
Tabor Victoria
University of Auckland
University of Newcastle Australia
University of Notre Dame Australia
Wesley Institute

36.2.2 Standard and non-standard units

Subject to ratification by the Academic Board, non-standard units (that is, units with a value other than 15 points) can be included in the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology, provided they are offered with other units in that specific discipline to carry a total value of 15 credit points, or a multiple of 15 credit points.

36.2.3 Grouping of Disciplines with Fields

The four Fields of Study currently have the disciplines shown allocated to them.

A Humanities

Biblical Languages
History
Languages ancient and modern
Philosophy
Religious Studies

B Biblical Studies

Biblical Studies
New Testament
Old Testament

C Christian Thought and History

Church History
Systematic Theology

D Theology: Mission and Ministry

Canon Law
Ecumenical Studies
Liturgy
Ministry Studies
Missiology
Mission and Ministry
Moral Theology
Pastoral Theology and Ministry Studies
Religious Education
Spiritual Direction
Spirituality

36.2.4 Approved Units

Units that have been approved by the Board within each discipline and at each level are to be found in the Handbooks and websites of Recognised Teaching Institutions of the College. Sequences of units approved by the Board per clause 4.4 of the regulation are also to be found there.

36.2.5 Types of unit sequences.

A **major** unit sequence will consist of 90 points in the same discipline over all three levels including at least 30 points at level 3 and no more than 30 points at level 1.

A **sub-major** unit sequence will consist of 60 points in the same discipline including at least 30 points at level 2.

A **minor** unit sequence will consist of 30 points in the same discipline.

36.3.1 Reduction of Time.

Where credit has been granted, the minimum time for completion is reduced accordingly.

36.4 Course of Study – Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology

Every course of study for the Bachelor of Theology component of the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology will consist of 360 points made up as follows:

36.4.1 Three sub-major sequences:

36.4.1.1 Biblical Studies (including minor sequences in each Testament)

36.4.1.2 Systematic Theology, and

36.4.1.3 Theology: Mission and Ministry (Field D)

or

One discipline in Humanities (Field A).

Sequences taken in the Bachelor of Arts in approved disciplines may be used to fulfil this component. Approved disciplines include: Languages ancient and modern; History; Philosophy; Religious/Interfaith Studies.

36.4.2 **Two** of the sub-major sequences must articulate to **major sequences**; all units in these major sequences must be completed at the Melbourne College of Divinity.

36.4.3 **A minor sequence** (30 points) in Church History

36.4.4 The remainder of the 120 credit points for the Bachelor of Arts component not claimed under 36.4.1.3.

36.4.5 At least 30 points must be included from Theology: Mission and Ministry (Field D), except where a student is completing a major in Church History.

36.4.6 Candidates may receive up to 120 points of credit, or the equivalent of one full-time year, towards their Theology component, for their studies in the Monash Bachelor of Arts component. These 120 points of credit may include a submajor sequence.

36.4.7 In exceptional circumstances the Board may recommend to the Council an enrolment and programme of study which does not conform to the Regulation.

36.5 Course of study – Bachelor of Arts / Bachelor of Theology (Honours)

36.5.1 The Honours degree is taken in a particular discipline or combination of disciplines, as approved for each candidate by the Board.

36.5.2 A Bachelor of Theology candidate may apply to the Board to become a candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Theology (Honours) after successfully completing the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology.

36.5.3 If the Board is satisfied that the candidate has demonstrated capacity to achieve satisfactory honours grades, they may be admitted as a candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Theology (Honours).

36.5.4 A candidate may be admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology (Honours) after completing and graduating from the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology; such a candidate must relinquish his/her Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology prior to being awarded the degree of Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology (Honours).

36.5.5 Each candidate must work in consultation with a supervisor nominated by the relevant Recognised Teaching Institution and approved by the Board.

36.5.6 In addition to the requirements of clause 36.4 above, each candidate must successfully complete:

- Four units at level 3, in the approved Honours discipline(s), which may include a Research Methods unit deemed appropriate by the student's coursework coordinator;
- An Honours essay of 12,000 words related to the approved discipline(s).
- Any additional units specified by the Board.

36.5.7 Assessment for Honours

36.5.7.1 The Honours essay must be graded by two examiners.

36.5.7.2 After considering all grades obtained by an Honours candidate, the Chair of Examiners will recommend to the Board the class of Honours to be awarded (if any). In making this recommendation and calculating the final result, the Honours essay will be weighted at 60%, and the units taken for the Honours degree at 40%.

36.5.7.3 A candidate may be granted the degree with High Distinction Honours only if the essay was awarded High Distinction.

36.5.7.4 Each Honours candidate is required to achieve a final result of at least 70%.

36.6.5 Schedule of Credits

	Schedule / Regulation provision	Credits (maximum)
1	Completed Bachelor of Arts component	120 credit points
2	Transfer from complete or incomplete Bachelor's degree in theological studies	120 credit points
3	Graduate Diploma in Education	30 credit points Level 1 ReEd conditional on completing 30 credit points ReEd Level
4	MCD Advanced Diploma of Theology or Ministry or equivalent	With Credit (C) average, 120 credit points
5	MCD Diploma of Ministry or Theology or equivalent	With Credit (C) average, 120 credit points
6	Advanced Diploma of Salvation Army	30 credit points Field B 30 credit points Field C 60 credit points Field D

Description of Schedule of Credits

Degrees

1. On completion of the Bachelor of Arts, a candidate may obtain up to 120 credit points in Field A.
2. A candidate with a degree who has completed units considered by the Board to be equivalent to MCD BTheol units may obtain up to 60 credit points in one or more Fields. Credit in this case may be conditional upon further credit points being obtained in the relevant Field [36.6.3].
3. A candidate with incomplete theological degree studies may be granted up to 120 credit points, provided the units are equivalent to those of the MCD Bachelor of Theology [36.6.4].
4. A candidate with a Graduate Diploma of Education may obtain 30 credit points conditional upon their completing two units (30 credit points) of Religious Education at Level 2. The combination may be considered a sub-major in Religious Education (Field D).

Diplomas

5. A candidate who has completed an MCD or equivalent Advanced Diploma of Theology / Ministry with a Credit average may obtain 120 credit points.
6. A candidate who has completed the MCD or equivalent Diploma of Theology / Ministry with a Credit average may obtain 120 credit points.
7. A candidate who has completed the Advanced Diploma of the Salvation Army Training College prior to the College becoming an MCD RTI may obtain a total of 120 credit points: 30 credit points Field B, 30 credit points Field C, 60 credit points Field D.

Other

8. Credit will not normally be granted for theological studies completed more than ten years prior to the application for entry to the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology. The Board may grant an exception if professional or life experience in the intervening period has reinforced those studies, and if those studies directly relate to the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Theology.
9. If an application for credit is not successful, exemption may be granted at the discretion of the Board, such that a candidate is not required to repeat the content of prior learning but must complete other units instead, within the same discipline if applicable. The requirement remains to complete the total number of points.