

Temporary Regulation 4x: Bachelor of Theology (BTheol) DRAFT

Preamble

A new version of Regulation 4 comes into effect from 1 January, 2009. That regulation will apply to all students commencing the Bachelor of Theology on or after that date. Temporary Regulation 4x enables students who enrolled before 2009 to complete their degrees under the structure and rules of the previous Regulation 4, should they so choose. This temporary Regulation will not be repealed until December 31, 2017, in order to allow students the maximum term of nine years to complete the Bachelor of Theology and the maximum of ten years to complete the Bachelor of Theology (Honours).

- 4.1 (a) In this Regulation, the term the Board means the Academic Board established as a committee of the College under Regulation 2.2.
- (b) In this Regulation, the term "Major" means a progressive course of study of 90 points, subject to the approval of the Board.
- (c) In this Regulation, the term "sub-Major" means a progressive course of study of 60 points, subject to the approval of the Board.

Candidature

- 4.2 Every candidate for the degree must be attached throughout his or her period of candidature to a Recognised Teaching Institution, and must comply with such other requirements relating to the admission and enrolment of students as the College may by regulation prescribe.
- 4.3 (a) Except as hereinafter provided, every candidate for the degree must provide the Dean or Registrar of the Recognised Teaching Institution to which s/he is attached with evidence of his/her qualification to be admitted to a university in Victoria or with evidence of an equivalent qualification before enrolling for the degree.
- (b) The College may grant probationary admission to students who have attained the age of twenty-one years prior to the commencement of the semester for which application is made. Such students will be required to undertake a "Qualifying Year" of full or part time study towards the degree and having obtained passes in eight units (120 points) (or their equivalent) at the end of the "Qualifying Year" may be permitted to enrol as candidates for the degree and be given credit for the units passed.
- 4.4 Every candidate must secure the prior approval of the Board to his or her proposed course of study and any later proposed variation thereto.
- 4.5 Unless the Board otherwise determines, every approved course of study shall extend over not less than three years, and not more than nine years.
- 4.6 The Board may authorize an Recognised Teaching Institution to discontinue the course of any candidate who fails to make satisfactory progress.

Structure of Degree

- 4.7 There shall be four Fields of Study for the degree:
- (a) Humanities
- (b) Biblical Studies
- (c) Christian Thought and History
- (d) Moral and Practical Theology

- 4.8 The disciplines for the degree shall be as follows:

Field A - Humanities

Hebrew
Greek
Latin
Religious Studies
English Literature
History
Philosophy
Sociology
Psychology
Maori Studies

Creative Communication; as well as other such units as the Board of Studies may from time to time approve.

Field B - Biblical Studies

Biblical Studies
Old Testament
New Testament

Field C - Christian Thought and History

Systematic Theology
Church History

Field D - Moral and Practical Theology

Moral Theology
Pastoral Care and Counselling
Liturgical Studies
Communication of the Faith
Religious Education
Sociology of Religion
Missiology
Spirituality
Maori Studies
Canon Law

- 4.9 (a) In order to qualify for the degree each candidate shall obtain an aggregate number of points not less than 360 which shall include:
- (i) Not more than 120 points from Field A
 - (ii) At least 60 points but not more than 180 points from Field B
 - (iii) At least 60 points but not more than 180 points from Field C
 - (iv) At least 60 points but not more than 180 points from Field D
 - (v) The Board may approve the inclusion of a unit from one field in a Major or sub-Major taken in another field
 - (vi) All candidates must complete either
two Majors chosen from Fields A, B, C or D as approved by the Board
OR
one Major to be taken from either Field B or Field C or Field D and
two sub-Majors chosen from Fields A, B, C or D as approved by the Board..
- (b) Points cannot be credited in any one discipline unless at least 15 points have been gained in that discipline.

- 4.10 Subject to ratification by the College, the Board
- (a) shall settle the details of the units and disciplines of the course for publication in the Handbook of the College, and in so doing
 - (b) may permit variation as between the Recognised Teaching Institutions in the content of the units and disciplines and in the manner and order in which they are offered, and in particular may approve an application from an associated teaching institution to offer a unit or discipline in sections over a period of more than one academic year.
- 4.11 Subject to ratification by the College, the Board may prescribe such prerequisites for units and disciplines or sections thereof as it thinks necessary.
The Board shall determine the manner in which the units or disciplines of the course are to be examined, make all necessary arrangements through the Dean for the conduct of such examinations on behalf of the College and report the results of those examinations to the College.

4.12 Deleted

Credit

- 4.13 The Board may recommend to the College that a candidate be given credit for a unit in the course on the basis of the successful completion at a tertiary institution of an equivalent unit which the Board regards as having been taken at degree level, provided that no candidate shall receive credit for a total of more than 120 points, of which not more than 60 points may be from Fields B, C and D.

Transfers

- 4.14 The Board may recommend to the Council
- (i) That units passed towards an incomplete primary degree in theology at a tertiary institution be transferred to the BTheol with the proviso that, notwithstanding the provisions of Regulation 4.13 concerning credit, no candidate who transfers from another primary degree in theology to the degree of BTheol may receive credit for a total of more than 240 points;
and
 - (ii) That subjects passed in the BD examinations of the College which have been taken in a Recognised Teaching Institution and taught therein be transferred to the BTheol with the proviso that no candidate who transfers from the degree of BD to the degree of BTheol may receive credit for a total of more than 270 points.

Only such subjects as are equivalent to subjects prescribed for the BTheol may be so transferred and, in the case of transfers from the degree of BD to the degree of BTheol, subjects so transferred may not be credited thereafter for BD purposes. Such transfers shall not be available to those who already hold the BD degree.

4.15 *The Honours Degree*

1. Candidature

- 1.1 Students may apply for candidature within the honours programme in a particular discipline or combined disciplines as approved by the Board and ratified by the Council. Such applications may not be made until completing a minimum of 180 points of the BTheol and prior to commencing the final honours

year. Of these points normally at least 60 points, 30 points at first level and 30 points at second level, shall be in the discipline(s) chosen for specialization. Clear evidence of capacity to achieve satisfactory results at Honours level in the relevant discipline(s) is required for admission to candidature to be granted. BTheol graduates who meet the above requirements may also apply. (The degree with honours would replace any previously awarded pass degree).

Unless the Board otherwise determines, every approved course of study shall extend over not less than four years, and not more than nine years. The final honours year may be taken over one full time year or two part time years.

- 1.2 Each candidate for the honours degree shall work in consultation with a supervisor appointed by the relevant Recognised Teaching Institution.

2. Structure of Degree

- 2.1 All requirements of the BTheol (Pass) are to be met, except that up to 240 points may be taken from the field to which the chosen discipline belongs. (This allows for the existing maximum of 180 points per field - in Fields B, C and D - plus the additional final honours year.)
- 2.2 The BTheol (Hons) comprises 420 points, consisting of a final honours year in addition to the BTheol (Pass) programme. The final honours year consists of 60 points at final honours level within the honours discipline(s) and an honours thesis normally of about 12,000 words.
- 2.3 Candidates for the degree with honours may be required to take certain units in addition to those approved for the purposes of the final honours year.

3. Assessment of Final Honours Year

3.1 In the final honours year candidates' work will be assessed according to the following scale:

H1=	85+
H2A =	80-84
H2B =	70-79
Pass =	50-70
Fail =	-49

- 3.2 In order for the degree to be awarded with honours, candidates are normally required to achieve a standard of H2B or higher for the final honours year.
- 3.3 A candidate who does not meet the requirement for the degree with honours shall be awarded the pass degree provided the requirements for that degree are met.
- 3.4 Each item in the final honours year shall be assessed by an additional, independent examiner appointed by the Board. Examiners are to forward their grade to the Board and may make a joint recommendation to the Board on the level of the final honours year (H1, H2A, H2B).
- 3.5 The Board shall determine both the awarding and the class of the degree and the honours thesis shall normally carry more weight in the determination of the final honours level (H1, H2A, H2B).

Adjusted for 2005 Act November 30th 2005

Recognised Teaching Institutions

Catholic Theological College

278 Victoria Parade (PO Box 146)
EAST MELBOURNE 3002

Churches of Christ Theological College

44-60 Jacksons Road

Mulgrave 3170

United Faculty of Theology

1 Mollison Court

Parkville, Victoria, 3052

Whitley College: the Baptist College of Victoria

271 Royal Parade,

Parkville, Victoria, 3052

Yarra Theological Union

PO Box 79,

Box Hill, Victoria, 3128.

DOUBLE DEGREE BA / BTheol

Candidates may enrol in a double degree programme BA /BTheol in conjunction with Monash University. The requirements for admission to the University must be met. Applications are to be sent to Monash University (direct entry), no later than 31 December, and also to the chosen RTI.

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