

Regulation 5 Bachelor of Divinity (BD)

Regulation 5.1 – Candidature (REPEALED)

- 1 The degree of Bachelor of Divinity is open to candidates who have obtained the degree of Bachelor of Theology of the Melbourne College of Divinity or a degree from the University of Melbourne or an equivalent qualification as determined by the College.
- 2 For the purposes of Section 24(2)(a) and Regulation 5.1 an equivalent qualification as determined by the College shall be
 - (a) a degree from an Australian University or College of Advanced Education
 - (b) a degree from a New Zealand University
 - (c) any degree from a University, Institute or Faculty which the College from time to time shall prescribe by resolution on the recommendation of the Academic Board .
- 3 The Academic Board may recommend to the Council that certain awards in appropriate disciplines of other tertiary institutions or in exceptional cases certain levels of relevant and attainment be recognised by the College as "equivalent qualifications" for the purposes of Regulation 5.1.2, and upon such recognition, either in general terms or in relation to particular applications, the Board may proceed as if the applicant fell within the terms of Regulation 5.1.2.
- 4 Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Divinity shall pass the examinations hereinafter prescribed.

Regulation 5.2 - Ordinary and Honours Degrees

- 1 Candidates shall proceed to the Degree of Bachelor of Divinity either as an Ordinary Degree or as an Honours Degree.
- 2 Candidates may apply to the College to be accepted as an Honours candidate after having passed either three of four subjects in their first annual examination. Acceptance shall depend upon the candidate having passed the subjects at a level determined by the Academic Board as satisfactory for an Honours candidate. The candidate shall nominate, subject to approval of the Board, one or two of the fields A to E as the field or fields of specialisation.

Regulation 5.3 - The Subjects of the Ordinary Degree

- 1 The Degree shall consist of ten subjects. All candidates must take *Old Testament Survey, Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels and Paul, Early Church History to 500 CE* or *Church History: Mediaeval and Reformation, Christology and Soteriology*, plus one subject from either Field A or Field B, plus another subject from either Field C or Field D, plus another subject from Field F_ The foregoing named required subjects should normally be taken as the first subject within the respective field and other subjects will be examined on this basis. The remaining four subjects shall be the choice of the candidate, provided that no candidate may obtain credit for more than one of the optional subjects listed in Regulation 5.5.
- 2 All candidates are required to pass in either a Field A (Hebrew) or Field B (Greek) subject listed in Regulation 5.5.
- 3 A candidate may not enter at one Annual Examination for more than four subjects.
- 4 When a candidate has passed in five subjects, the remaining five subjects required to complete the Degree must be passed in not more than four subsequent sittings. A year in which only an essay subject or subjects are taken shall constitute a sitting.
- 5 A candidate who has passed in four subjects shall be entitled to take subjects by means of an essay as and when this option is offered provided that a candidate will be permitted to take a maximum of four subjects by means of an essay.

Regulation 5.4 - The Subjects of the Honours Degree

- 1 The Degree shall consist of ten subjects, in addition to which there shall be an essay, set as an examination paper on a topic relevant to the field or fields of specialisation as defined by the Fields A to E. The candidate must take *Old Testament Survey, Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels and*

Paul, Early Church History to 500 CE or *Church History: Mediaeval and Reformation, Christology and Soteriology*, plus another subject from Field A or Field B, plus another subject from Field C or Field D. The foregoing named required subjects should normally be taken as the first subject within the respective Field and other subjects will be examined on this basis. Subject to the provisions of Regulation 5.4.2 the remaining subjects may be selected at the choice of the candidate provided that five of the ten subjects of the Degree are taken from the Field approved by the Board for the purposes of specialisation. When two Fields are approved by the Board for the purposes of specialisation the candidate shall take at least six of the ten subjects of the Degree from the two Fields.

2 Requirements for the special fields

(a) *Honours in Field A*

Candidates must take at least two of the subjects *Old Testament Survey, Old Testament II, Old Testament III* in Hebrew. A candidate who has passed *Old Testament Survey* and *Old Testament II* in Hebrew may take an *Old Testament III* examination set on Aramaic texts.

(b) *Honours in Field B* Candidates must take at least two of the following subjects in Greek: *Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels and Paul, John and Romans, Luke-Acts, Later Epistles of the New Testament* or *Gospel of Matthew, Hebrews and James, or Apocalyptic and the Apocalypse.*

(c) *Honours in Field C* A candidate must include the subjects *Early Church History to 500 CE* and *Church History: Mediaeval and Reformation* in the course.

(d) *Honours in Field D* A candidate must include the subjects *Christology and Soteriology; The Christian Doctrine of God* or *Christian Anthropology, Church, Ministry and Sacraments; and Faith in the Modern World* or *Contemporary Christian Theology* in the course.

(e) *Honours in Field E* A candidate must take one of the following sets of subjects:

(i) **Pastoral**

Either *Theology of Pastoral Care* and *Pastoral Studies Essay*, together with three other subjects from Field E including at least one of *Principles of Pastoral Care, Aspects of Pastoral Care, Clinical Pastoral Education, The Pastoral Tradition* OR *Theology of Pastoral Care* or *Pastoral Studies Essay*, together with four other subjects from Field E including at least two of *Principles of Pastoral Care, Aspects of Pastoral Care, Clinical Pastoral Education, The Pastoral Tradition.*

(ii) **Educational**

Education in Christian Faith, Christian Theology and Education, Christian Education Essay, together with two other subjects from Field E.

(iii) **Ethical**

Basic Christian Ethics, Christian Social Ethics, Christian Ethics Essay, together with two other subjects from Field E. When a candidate takes *Basic Christian Ethics* or *Christian Social Ethics* or *Christian Ethics Essay* the requirement of "another subject from either Field C or Field D" in Regulation 5.4.1 may be waived.

3 Requirements for joint Fields Candidates must take at least three subjects in each of the Fields approved by the Board for the purposes of specialisation and, except as specified in this Regulation, must comply with the requirements of Reg 5.4.2.

When one of the approved Fields is Field D, the candidate must include the subjects *Christology and Soteriology* and either *The Christian Doctrine of God* or *Christian Anthropology* or *Church, Ministry and Sacraments* in the course.

When one of the approved Fields is Field E, the candidate may be granted permission to take only two subjects from one of the sets indicated in Regulation 5.4.2 provided that another approved subject from Field E is also taken.

4 All candidates are required to pass in either a Field A (Hebrew) or Field B (Greek) subject listed in Regulation 5.5.

- 5 Unless otherwise determined by the Board the candidate shall complete the requirements of the degree at three consecutive annual examinations.
- 6 When alternatives are offered in Fields A and B, only one alternative will be credited for the Degree.
- 7 A candidate who has passed in four subjects shall be entitled to take subjects by means of an essay as and when this option is offered provided that a candidate will be permitted to take a maximum of four subjects by means of an essay.

Regulation 5.5 - The Subjects of the Degree

Field A

- AII1 Old Testament Survey (Hebrew); or
- AI 12 Old Testament Survey (English)
- A201 Old Testament II (Hebrew); or
- A202 Old Testament II (English)
- A301 Old Testament III (Hebrew); or
- A302 Old Testament III (English)
- A401 The Old Testament Prophets and their Message; or
- A491 The Old Testament Prophets and their Message-Essay
- A601 Old Testament Theology; or
- A691 Old Testament Theology - Essay
- A790 Old Testament Studies - Essay
- A899 Old Testament Essay
- A901 Old Testament Honours Essay Paper

Field B

- B103 Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels and Paul (English) or
- B104 Introduction to the Synoptic Gospels and Paul (Greek);
- B203 John and Romans (English) or
- B204 John and Romans (Greek);
- B323 Luke-Acts (English) or
- B324 Luke-Acts (Greek);
- B325 Later Epistles of the New Testament (English) or
- B326 Later Epistles of the New Testament (Greek);
- B327 Gospel of Matthew, Hebrews and James (English) or
- B328 Gospel of Matthew, Hebrews and James (Greek);
- B331 Apocalyptic and the Apocalypse (English) or
- B332 Apocalyptic and the Apocalypse (Greek);
- B401 Recent New Testament Exegesis; or
- B491 Recent New Testament Exegesis - Essay
- B512 New Testament Theology; or
- B592 New Testament Theology - Essay
- B899 New Testament Essay
- B901 New Testament Honours Essay Paper

Field C

- C101 Early Church History to 500 CE
- C201 Church History; Mediaeval and Reformation
- C212 The Reformation in the English Speaking World
- C301 Modern Church History; or
- C391 Modern Church History - Essay

- C501 Early and Mediaeval Christian Liturgies
- C502 Reformation and Modern Christian Liturgies
- C601 Australian Church History; or
- C691 Australian Church History - Essay
- C701 The History of Christian Spirituality; or
- C791 The History of Christian Spirituality - Essay
- C801 New Zealand Church History
- C899 Church History Essay
- C901 Church History Honours Essay Paper

Field D

- D102 Christology and Soteriology
- D202 The Christian Doctrine of God
- D213 Christian Anthropology
- D302 Church, Ministry and Sacraments
- D492 Faith in the Modern World - Essay
- D592 Contemporary Christian Theology - Essay
- D601 Basic Christian Ethics
- D602 Christian Social Ethics
- D690 Christian Ethics - Essay
- D712 The Theology of Mission (as in Field E)
- D801 Study of Religions
- D821 Ecumenics
- D899 Systematic Theology Essay
- D901 Theology Honours Essay Paper

Field E

- E101 Principles of Pastoral Care
- E102 Aspects of Pastoral Care
- E201 Clinical Pastoral Education
- E311 The Pastoral Tradition
- E401 Theology of Pastoral Care
- E490 Pastoral Studies - Essay
- E511 Education in Christian Faith
- E512 Christian Theology and Education
- E590 Christian Education - Essay
- E601 Basic Christian Ethics (as in Field D)
- E602 Christian Social Ethics (as in Field D)
- E690 Christian Ethics - Essay (as in Field D)
- E711 Missiology: History and Issues
- E712 The Theology of Mission
- E821 Sociology of Religion
- E899 Field Related Essay
- E901 Honours Essay Paper

Regulation 5.6 - Requirements for Essays (Note: Regulations 5.3.5 and 5.4.7)

- 1 The candidate shall write an essay of at least 10,000, and not more than 12,000 words, on a topic set or approved by the Council.
- 2 The essay shall be prepared in consultation with a supervisor, whose name shall be submitted to the Board for approval, when the essay is submitted, the supervisor shall provide the Dean with certification that the essay has been prepared under the approved supervision and is the work of the candidate.
- 3 The essay shall be submitted by 31st October in any year.

- 4 The essay shall contain a full and orderly bibliography, and give precise references to works which are quoted or referred to in the text.
- 5 The essay shall be presented on A4 pages, typewritten or computer produced, double-spaced, with the pages firmly fastened together.

Regulation 5.7

A candidate who fails to qualify for an Honours Degree may apply to the Council for admission to the ordinary degree.

Regulation 5.8 - Credit

- 1 A candidate holding the Diploma in Theology and after completion of such Diploma becoming eligible to be admitted as a candidate for the BD Ordinary Degree may be given credit for subjects in the BD as determined by the Academic Board (provided that no candidate shall receive credit for more than four subjects).
- 2 The Board may grant credit for a subject in the BD on the basis of the successful completion at a tertiary institution of an equivalent subject which the Board regards as having been taken at a level equivalent to that of the BD, provided that no candidate shall receive credit for more than four subjects. Such credit shall normally not be granted for subjects successfully completed for the purposes of a qualification whose requirements have been met.
- 3 Where a candidate does not satisfy the requirements as set out in Sections 1 & 2 above, but has completed equivalent subjects in theological study at a tertiary level and has completed at least two subjects of the Bachelor of Divinity degree at the level of credit or above, the Board may grant credits for up to two subjects unspecified.

Regulation 5.9

When a candidate enters for the degree and for a diploma, the maximum number of subjects which may be entered at one annual examination is five.

Regulation 5.10

Candidates who enrolled for the degree prior to 1996 may complete their course of studies under the Regulations in force at the time of their enrolment. Such studies must be completed before 31 December 1999.

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Regulation 5.11

Regulation 5 is repealed with effect 1 March 2009.

Regulation 5.12

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this or any other regulation, the only candidates who may enrol under this regulation in 2008 are any persons who were candidates in 2007.

Regulation 5:13

Any candidate, who completes the requirements of the degree prior to the repeal of the regulation, may subsequently have the degree conferred by the Council on the advice of the Academic Board.

*Adjusted for 2005 November 30th 2005
Repealed as approved at Council Meeting 29 November, 2007*