

# Faculty of Theology

The Faculty of Theology offers two postgraduate coursework degrees in theology and ministry, namely the Master of Arts (Theology) and the Master of Ministry.

The Faculty also offers two graduate diplomas: the Graduate Diploma in Theology (one year) and the Graduate Diploma in Ministry (one year). Students may undertake these courses separately, however, students who hold tertiary qualifications and wish to prepare for the ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, may undertake both graduate diplomas concurrently. The two-year program is an initial preparation for a career in ministry. (See the Avondale College *Undergraduate Handbook 2009–2010* for other courses offered by the Faculty of Theology.)

## Staff

### Dean

Dr Robert McIver  
BSc, TeachDip, TC, BA, BD(Hons), MA, PhD

### Senior Lecturers

Dr H Ross Cole  
BA PUC, MA Andrews, PhD Andrews  
*Biblical Studies*

Dr Rick Ferret  
RN SAH, BA (Theol) Avondale, MA La Sierra, PhD SCD  
*Theology*

Dr Lyell V Heise  
BA PUC, Adv Cert in CPE Kettering USA, M Div Andrews, D Min Fuller  
*Ministry*

Dr Murray House  
BA Th Avondale, MA Religion (Andrews), D Min (Fuller)  
*Ministry*

Dr Grenville Kent  
BAComm, BATHeol, MAComm, MATheol, PhD (Manchester)  
*Biblical Studies*

Dr Robert McIver  
BSc Cant, TeachDip Christchurch TC, BA PUC, BD(Hons) Lond, MA Andrews, PhD Andrews  
*Biblical Studies*

Dr Douglas E Robertson  
BA PUC, MA Andrews, DMin Fuller  
*Ministry*

Dr Steven W Thompson  
BA South Miss Coll, MDiv Andrews, PhD St Andrews  
*Biblical Studies*

### Lecturer

John Skrzypaszek  
BA Th Avondale, MA Th Avondale  
*Adventist Studies*

## Honorary Senior Research Fellows

Dr Bryan Ball  
BA Newbold (Columbia Union College), MA, Andrews, PhD London  
*Church History*

Dr S Graeme Bradford  
BA Avondale, MA Andrews, DMin Trinity International USA  
*Ministry*

Dr Milton Hook  
BA Avondale, MA Lutheran Seminary, EdD Andrews  
*Adventist Studies*

Dr Arthur Patrick  
BA Avondale, MA Andrews, MDiv Andrews, DMin Christian Theological Seminary, MLitt University of New England, 1984, PhD Ncle  
*Adventist Studies*

Dr Norman H Young  
BA PUC, BD(Hons) Manc, PhD Manchester, LittM UNE.  
*Biblical Studies*

## Conjoint Staff

Dr Darius Jankiewicz  
BA (Th) Avondale, MDiv (Andrews), PhD (Andrews)  
*Historical Theology*

Dr Kim, SookYoung  
BS Yonsei, MS Chung Nam, MDiv Andrews, PhD Andrews  
*Intertestamental Studies*

Dr Graham Stacey  
BAppSci Curtin, BA (Theol) Avondale, MA Loma Linda, MSc Loma Linda, PhD Loma Linda  
*Pastoral Psychology*

Dr Koot van Wyck  
BTh (Religion) Andrews, BA Uni Sth Afr, BA(Hons) Uni Sth Afr, MA Stellenbosch, DLit & Phil, Uni Sth Afr, DTh, Rikkyo  
*Old Testament*

## Centre for Religion and Society Research

Director: Dr Terry Butler

BA PUC, MPH Loma Linda, DrPH UCLA

The Centre for Religion and Society Research (CRSR) began as the Institute of Church Ministry, founded by Dr Alwyn Salom at Avondale College in 1986. In its previous form it sought to empower local churches in Australia and New Zealand to reach the unchurched of their communities through the presentation of high quality, community-specific research data and through consultancies and equipping services.

The CRSR, as re-constituted in 2008, now functions with a specific research orientation and with stronger linkages with Avondale College's Faculty of Theology. Its mission is to:

- a engage in ministry, religious and sociological research that provides a basis for understanding religious trends, patterns and developments both in the Seventh-day Adventist Church and other Christian entities;
- b embrace an inter-disciplinary approach to research that encompasses sociological, psychological, anthropological, theological and historical elements as they impact on the church and its ministry;
- c in consultation with different South Pacific Division ministry entities (Conferences, Union Missions, Union Conferences and institutions), engage in academic research that both informs and provides direction for future ministry;
- d assist Avondale College in developing a research culture that can share Seventh-day Adventist heritage and ministry in a scholarly manner that engages the academic community;
- e contribute to the general body of research undertaken at Avondale College by publishing the results of the Centre's research in appropriate peer-reviewed national and international journals;
- f provide research support and supervision to ministry post-graduate and doctoral students;
- g liaise with the National Church Life Survey in Australia and the Christian Research Association and be responsible for providing and reporting relevant data to the Adventist Church as appropriate;
- h procure research grants for selected Avondale students for the purpose of undertaking post-graduate and doctoral studies in areas of research that focus on church ministry;
- i support Avondale's distinctly Christian ethos as a higher education provider.

## Consultancy

### Ellen G White Adventist Research Centre

Director John Skrypaszek

BA(Th) Avondale, MA(Th) Avondale

*Theology*

The Ellen G White/Adventist Research Centre was established on the Avondale College campus in 1976 with Dr Arthur Patrick as the founding Director. The centre is jointly funded by the South Pacific Division and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and facilitates research on the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Australasia, and internationally. It is one of several such centres around the world. Many of the research resources are available on CD-ROM and this has enabled researchers to search for information previously available only in hard copy in archives. Resources in the centre are able to support masters and doctoral programs by research. The centre also oversees resources available in the Hon Adventist Heritage Centre. Resources are also available at the Sunnyside Historic Home and the South Sea Islands Museum.

## Consultancy

### Institute of Worship

Director: Dr Lyell Heise

BA PUC, Adv Cert in CPE Kettering, MDiv Andrews, DMin Fuller

The purpose of the Institute of Worship is to

- a conduct and disseminate research on the topic of worship and issues related to worship.
- b develop and recommend strategies for the education and mentoring of congregations, regional worship consultants, and worship leaders
- c develop plans for ministry activities and programs which can contribute to putting the above strategies into practice
- d advise on philosophical and theological issues emerging in the process of worship education among congregations, worship leaders and students.

## Master of Arts (Theology)

Course code: 2010

Course coordinator: Dr Steven Thompson

The Master of Arts (Theology) degree provides opportunity for pastors and suitably qualified lay persons to explore aspects of biblical studies, theology, ministry studies and mission at postgraduate level.

### Duration

This course is offered in the part-time mode only. Students typically progress at the rate of two units per year and take four years to complete the course. Flexibility allows students to either 'fast-track' their course by taking overloads where possible, or to take fewer units in some years if necessary. The expectation is that the degree would be completed within a maximum of six years.

### Credit points

Eight units totalling 48 credit points

### Mode of delivery

Most units are delivered in mixed mode, comprising distance learning components and a residential session at Avondale College, or other designated centre, in the June–July period. The residential session provides opportunity for students to be involved in significant student-lecturer and student-student interaction.

Students receive unit outlines, textbooks, readings, and a distance education study guide. Lecturers and the course coordinator are available to communicate with students by phone or email. Students also attend a residential school designed to provide an integrating perspective to the unit. Personal contact with the lecturer/s and peers and library research is possible during this time. Finally students complete assignments designed to foster field-based reflection and application of the concepts encountered. Contact between students and lecturers is maintained via phone and email.

### Abbreviation of course title

MA(Theol)

### Accreditation

The course is accredited by the NSW Department of Education and Training.

### Entry requirements

- a a four-year Bachelors degree with a major in Theology, or adequate Theology units within a four-year degree to support intended postgraduate study, or a three-year

Bachelors degree plus honours year or one full year of postgraduate Theology study, or a Bachelors degree in any field plus a Graduate Diploma in Theology or Ministry.

- b an applicant whose Bachelors degree was not taught in English must demonstrate English competency by achieving level 7 on the IELTS.
- c an interview by a person designated by the Faculty of Theology.

### Course structure

The course consists of eight 6-credit point units taken on a part-time basis. Students generally enrol in a maximum of two units per year. A minimum of two Biblical-Theological units and two Pastoral-Mission units are required. Remaining units are chosen from Biblical-Theological, Pastoral-Mission, or Leadership and Management streams at the student's discretion. A 12-credit point research project, consisting of the preparation of a paper with a maximum length of 6,000 words, may be substituted for the final two units. There are no required units, elective units, or required unit sequences.

#### Group A—Biblical-Theological units

Biblical-Theological units offered include the following. Other units may be offered from time to time. Please contact the Course Coordinator for current offerings.

THBB51400	Church and Ministry in Contemporary Society	6 cr pts
THBB52200	Exegesis of Isaiah	6 cr pts
THBB52300	Exegesis of Revelation	6 cr pts
THBB52400	Studies of Psalms	6 cr pts
THBB54200	Preaching for Faith and Spiritual Development	6 cr pts

#### Group B—Pastoral-Mission units

Pastoral-Mission units offered include the following. Other units may be offered from time to time. Please contact the Course Coordinator for current offerings.

CHTR58200	Master of Ministry Study Tour	6 cr pts
CMIN52300	Parenting and Parenting Resources	6 cr pts
CMIN52400	Marriage and Family Process	6 cr pts
CMIN53200	Outdoor Recreational Skills for Youth Ministry	6 cr pts
CMIN55200	Family Communication and Ministry	6 cr pts
CMIN55400	Group Process: Theory and Practice in Ministry	6 cr pts
CMIN55500	Human Sexual Behaviour	6 cr pts

**Group C—Selected Leadership and Management units**

LAMC50600	The Theology, Theory, and Practice of Leadership	6 cr pts
LAMC51200	Communication for Leadership	6 cr pts
LAMC51300	Organisational Behaviour	6 cr pts
LAMC51500	Leadership and Change Management	6 cr pts
<b>Research Project</b>		
THES59300	Master of Arts (Theol) Research Project	12 cr pts

**Master of Ministry**

Course code 2016

*Strand coordinator TBA*

The Master of Ministry degree is designed to provide postgraduate education for persons seeking to follow various ministry vocations within the church and parachurch contexts. Specialisations may be selected in the areas of church renewal and pastoral leadership, family ministry, youth ministry, pastoral care, and general church ministry. The course is designed to provide practising professionals with advanced ministry insight and skills by means of an integrated program combining the study of theology and ministry with relevant insights from the human sciences and the study of contemporary culture.

**Duration**

Part-time only, over a minimum of four years

**Credit points**

Eight units totalling 48 credit points

**Mode of delivery**

Most units are delivered in mixed mode, comprising distance learning components and a residential session at Avondale College, or other designated centre, in the mid-year period (normally June–July). The residential session provides opportunity for students to be involved in significant student-lecturer and student-student interaction.

Students receive unit outlines, textbooks, readings, and a distance education study guide. Lecturers and the strand coordinator are available to communicate with students by phone or email. Students also attend a residential school designed to provide an integrating perspective to the unit. Personal contact with the lecturer/s and peers and library research is possible during this time. Finally students complete assignments designed to foster field-based reflection and application of the concepts encountered. Contact between students and lecturers is maintained via phone and email.

**Abbreviation of course title**

MMin

**Accreditation**

The course is accredited by the NSW Department of Education and Training.

**Professional recognition**

The MMin course has been designed in consultation with the Board of Ministerial and Theological Education of the South

Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church to provide suitable specialised education for persons employed in various ministry leadership vocations in Australia and New Zealand.

comprise required specialisation units and three units may be chosen from among the electives for the various specialisations. The following grid provides an outline of typical programs for the five Master of Ministry specialisations.

## Entry requirements

### General Avondale College statement

Avondale College welcomes applications from individuals regardless of race, gender, status or religious affiliation. Admission to, and continuation at Avondale College, is dependent on evidence of good character and intellectual competence, support of the philosophy and mission of Avondale College and a willingness to conform to college regulations.

### Admission requirements

Places in the Master of Ministry course will normally be available to applicants with a bachelors degree in theology, religion, ministry or equivalent, or a major sequence in theological studies at the undergraduate level.

Alternate admission may be granted to applicants with a bachelors degree in alternate areas of “ministry” and the “people-caring” professions (eg teaching, social work, counselling, chaplaincy, medicine and nursing) provided the applicant has a sequence of at least three units in theology, religion, ministry or equivalent, taken at the undergraduate level. Should applicants lack such an undergraduate sequence, they may make up this deficit via study through Avondale College’s distance education program. Admission will be granted at the discretion of the Dean and the Course Coordinator.

Normally applicants will be required to have a minimum of two years experience in a ministry setting, during which they have been accountable to an appropriate professional or official. (A written summary of the applicant’s work experience and a written recommendation from an accountable official will be required before admission is finalised.)

#### NOTES:

- 1 An official academic transcript must accompany the application form.
- 2 Applicants whose bachelors degree was not taught in the English language medium will demonstrate English competency by achieving level 7 on the IELTS.

### Advanced standing

Credit transfer is available for equivalent tertiary level units completed elsewhere (See Avondale College website for further information). Note that no more than 50% of the course may be granted as advanced standing.

### Course structure

The course requires eight 6-credit units at 500- level or above. Three units are required core units which must be completed irrespective of the specialisation chosen. Two further units

## Master of Ministry

### Standard course structure

<b>Three Required units</b>				
THBB50500 Theological Framework for Ministry Practice				
CMIN50300 Advanced Life Span Development for Ministry				
CMIN50400 Pastoral Care Counselling Skills I				
<b>Church Renewal and Pastoral Leadership Specialisation</b>	<b>Church Ministry (coherent sequence)</b>	<b>Family Ministry Specialisation</b>	<b>Youth Ministry Specialisation</b>	<b>Pastoral Care Specialisation</b>
<b>Two Core Specialisation units</b>				
CMIN51500 Christian Leadership in the Local Church	CMIN51500 Christian Leadership in the Local Church	CMIN52400 Marriage and Family Process	CMIN55300 Crisis Intervention for Ministry	CMIN55400 Group Process: Theory and Practice in Ministry
CMIN55300 Crisis Intervention for Ministry	THBB51500 Theology for Contemporary Adventism (unless the student has completed a full theological training)	CMIN55300 Crisis Intervention for Ministry	CMIN55400 Group Process: Theory and Practice in Ministry	CMIN54400 Pastoral Care Counselling Skills II
<b>Three Specialisation Elective units (from the following lists)</b>				
CMIN51300 Practice of Church Planting	eg CMIN51300 Practice of Church Planting	CMIN55500 Human Sexual Behaviour	CMIN55500 Human Sexual Behaviour	CMIN55200 Family Communication and Ministry
CMIN51400 Worship Renewal	CMIN54200 School of Chaplaincy Workshop	CMIN55200 Family Communication and Ministry	CMIN53200 Outdoor Recreational Skills for Youth Ministry	CMIN54200 School Chaplaincy Workshop
CMIN55400 Group Process: Theory and Practice in Ministry	CHTR58200 Master of Ministry Study Tour	CMIN52300 Parenting and Parenting Resources	CMIN53300 Youth Ministry Practicum	CMIN54300 School Chaplaincy Practicum
CMIN51600 Evangelism Workshop	NOTE This example is based on a pastor who is involved in a church plant, doing some school chaplaincy, and needs exposure to the cutting edge in contemporary ministry methods. Other professionals may need up-skilling in other areas of general ministry practice.)	CMIN55400 Group Process: Theory and Practice in Ministry	THBB51600 Church and Ministry in Contemporary Society	Equivalent of two units: one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (400 hours)—arranged through NSW College of Clinical Pastoral Education, Sydney College of Divinity, and Sydney Adventist Hospital
THBB51500 Theology for Contemporary Adventism		CMIN52500 Theoretical Framework for Children's Ministry	CHTR58200 Master of Ministry Study Tour	
CMIN51700 Advanced Homiletics Workshop		CMIN52600 Workshop in Children's Ministry Practice	CMIN59200 Directed Study in Ministry	
THBB51600 Church and Ministry in Contemporary Society		THBB51600 Church and Ministry in Contemporary Society	General elective at 500-level and above	THBB51500 Theology for Contemporary Adventism
CHTR58200 Master of Ministry Study Tour		CHTR58200 Master of Ministry Study Tour		CHTR58200 Master of Ministry Study Tour
CMIN59200 Directed Study in Ministry		CMIN59200 Directed Study in Ministry		CMIN59200 Directed Study in Ministry
General elective at 500-level and above		General elective at 500-level and above		General elective at 500-level and above
NOTE:				
1 Each student must complete either a field-based practicum unit, a directed study unit, or a ministry tour unit				
2 Theoretical/foundational units must be completed before commencement of a practicum				