

Faculty of Theology

At undergraduate level the Faculty of Theology offers a four-year Bachelor of Theology/Bachelor of Ministry, a three-year Bachelor of Theology, and a two-year Associate Degree in Theological Studies. The theological disciplines provide students with a foundation for ministry and the resources with which to minister. The staff of the Faculty of Theology are deeply committed to the gospel of Jesus Christ and the ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Both the Bachelor of Theology/Bachelor of Ministry and the Concurrent Graduate Diplomas in Theology and Ministry are designed to prepare graduates for ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. In addition, individual subjects may be taken by interested lay persons and professionals as single, non-award subjects for Lifelong Learning credit. The degrees also provide a foundation for further reflection and advanced study.

The Faculty also offers a range of postgraduate courses in Theology and Ministry (see the Avondale College Postgraduate Handbook 2007—2008).

Research Centres

Ellen G White Adventist Research Centre

Head of Centre:

Pr John Skrzypaszek
BA(Theol), MA

Institute of Church Ministry

Head of Centre:

Dr Alwyn Salom
BA, MA, PhD

Consultancy

Institute of Worship

Head of Centre:

Pr Lyell Heise
BA, AdvCert in CPE, MDiv, DMin

Staff

Dean

Ray C W Roennfeldt
RN, BA, MA, PhD

Senior Lecturers

H Ross Cole
BA PUC, MA Andrews, PhD Andrews
Theology

Lyell V Heise
BA PUC, Adv Cert in CPE Kettering USA, M Div Andrews, DMin Fuller
Theology

Robert McIver
BSc Cant, TeachDip Christchurch TC, BA PUC, BD(Hons) Lond, MA Andrews, PhD Andrews
Theology

Douglas E Robertson
BA Avondale, MA Andrews, DMin Fuller
Theology

Ray C W Roennfeldt
RN SAH, BA PUC, MA St Andrews, PhD Andrews
Theology

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

Steven W Thompson
BA South Miss Coll, MDiv Andrews, PhD St Andrews
Theology

Lecturers

Pr John Skrzypaszek
BA (Theol) Avondale, MA (Theol), Avondale
Theology

Honorary Senior Research Fellows

Bryan Ball
BA Newbold (CUC), MA, Andrews, PhD London
Theology

S Graeme Bradford
BA Avondale, MA Andrews, DMin Trinity International USA
Theology

Milton Hook
BA Avondale, MA Lutheran Seminary, EdD Andrews
Research Fellow

Arthur Patrick
BA Avondale, MA Andrews, MDiv Andrews, DMin Christian Theological Seminary, MLit UNE, 1984, PhD Ncle
Theology

Alwyn Salom
BA Walla Walla College, MA Andrews, PhD Chicago
Ministry

Norman H Young
BA PUC, BD(Hons) Manc, PhD Manc, LittM UNE.
Theology

The Faculty offers the following degrees

Undergraduate degrees

- Bachelor of Theology/Bachelor of Ministry
- Bachelor of Theology
- Associate Degree in Theological Studies

Graduate entry degrees

- Graduate Diploma in Theology
- Graduate Diploma in Ministry

Bachelor of Theology/ Bachelor of Ministry

Course code: 4870

Course coordinator: Dr Ray C W Roennfeldt

This four-year BTh/BMin combined degree is designed specifically to prepare students for ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist church. It is both theological and vocational in nature. The course provides students with a foundation for theology and ministry and the resources with which to minister as an employed minister in the Seventh-day Adventist church.

Duration

Four years full-time or equivalent part-time

Credit points

192 credit points

Mode of delivery

On campus. A small number of first-level subjects are available in distance education mode.

Abbreviation of course title

BTh/BMin

Accreditation

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

Entry requirements

The general entry requirements for Avondale College degree courses are stated in the Academic Policies section of the Handbook.

The following entry requirements are specific to the Bachelor of Theology/Bachelor of Ministry course:

- 1 Recommendation from, and telephone interview with, pastor of church currently attended by applicant.
- 2 Optional telephone interview of applicant by faculty.
- 3 At least two years must have elapsed since the applicant's baptism, during which time the applicant must have been active in a local church.

Field education requirements

There is an intentional placement of and mentoring of students in a local church during their enrolment in the BTh/BMin degree. A number of specific requirements attached to several of the church ministry subjects need to be fulfilled in a local church. In order to be placed in a local church, students are required to sign a self-disclosure form

(Prohibited Persons Declaration) and consent to a criminal records check. Further information is available in the Field Education Handbook.

Course structure

The BTh/BMin is a four-year degree consists of a minimum of 32 x 6-credit point subjects (192 credit points) over eight semesters. All subjects are worth six credit points (unless otherwise specified) with a notional semester workload of 150 hours, averaging 10–12 hours per week (including contact hours). The course is comprised of biblical-theological formation, pastoral formation and general education.

Summary of minimum requirements in the BTh/BMin degree

Components of course	Subjects	Credit Points
<i>Spiritual-Pastoral Formation</i>		
Church Ministry	8	48
Applied Psychology	2	12
Research Seminar	1	6
<i>Theological-Historical Formation</i>		
Theology	5	30
History/Church History	3	18
<i>Biblical Formation</i>		
Biblical Studies	8	48
Biblical Languages	3	18
<i>General Education</i>		
Electives	2	12
TOTAL	32	192

Required subjects

Biblical Studies

NT160.1	Gospels A
NT170.2	New Testament Epistles A
NT351.1	Gospels B
NT361.2	New Testament Epistles B
NT362.2	New Testament Apocalypses
OT262.2	Pentateuch
OT265.1	Old Testament Prophets
OT361.1	Old Testament Seers and Sages

Biblical Languages

BL160.1	New Testament Greek IA
BL161.2	New Testament Greek IB
BL170.2	Hebrew A

Theology and History

CY165.1	SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White
CY265.1	Early and Medieval Church
TH161.1	Introduction to Theology
TH270.2	Ethics, Philosophy and Science in a Theological Context
TH360.1	Systematic Theology A
TH361.2	Systematic Theology B
TH371.2	Historical Theology (Modern Period)
HI265.2	The Reformation

Spirituality and Ministry

CM160.1	Spiritual Formation for Pastoral Ministry
CM161.2	Communication and Worship
CM265.1	Homiletics
CM281.2	Evangelism in Practice A
CM282.2	Australian and New Zealand Religions
CM283.1	Ministry in Practice A
CM381.2	Evangelism in Practice B
CM383.2	Ministry in Practice B
RN350.1	Research Seminar in Theological Studies

Psychology

PS160.2	Developmental and Pastoral Psychology
PS365.2	Marriage and Family Psychology

General Education

Two Electives

Course assurance

Details of course assurance arrangements are shown on the Avondale website. For the Bachelor of Theology/Bachelor of Ministry the “Second Providers” are:

- Christian Heritage College
- Tabor College
- Australian Catholic University
- Sydney College of Divinity
- Australian College of Theology

Degree structure

The standard structure for the BTh/BMin degree is shown on the following page.

Bachelor of Theology/Bachelor of Ministry

Sem				
1	NT160 Gospels A	CY165 SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White	TH161 Introduction to Theology	CM160 Spiritual Formation for Pastoral Ministry
2	NT170 Epistles A	BL170 Hebrew A	PS160 Developmental and Pastoral Psychology	CM161 Communication and Worship
3	Elective	BL160 New Testament Greek IA	CY265 Early and Medieval Church	CM265 Homiletics
4	OT262 Pentateuch	BL161 New Testament Greek IB	TH270 Ethics, Philosophy and Science in Theological Context	CM282 Australian and NZ Religions
5	NT351 Gospels B	OT265 Old Testament Prophets	Elective	CM283 Ministry in Practice A
6	NT361 Epistles B	HI265 The Reformation	TH371 Historical Theology (Modern Period)	CM281 Evangelism in Practice A
7	OT361 Old Testament Seers and Sages	TH360 Systematic Theology A	RN350 Research Seminar in Theological Studies	CM381 Evangelism in Practice B
8	NT362 New Testament Apocalypses	TH361 Systematic Theology B	PS365 Marriage and Family Psychology	CM383 Ministry in Practice B

NOTE: Field placement is required throughout the course. The assessed field education components are incorporated into most of the CM (Church Ministry) subjects.

In addition, specific field education components are incorporated into specialised subjects in years 3 and 4.

Bachelor of Theology

The three-year BTh is for those who wish to study the theological disciplines for either personal interest or as a preparation for postgraduate study and a possible academic career in theology: it does not provide a recognised pathway into the employed ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist church.

Course code: 4871

Course coordinator: Dr Ray C W Roennfeldt

Duration

Three years full-time or equivalent part-time

Credit points

144 credit points

Mode of delivery

On campus. A small number of first-level subjects are available in distance education mode.

Abbreviation of course title

BTh

Accreditation

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

Entry requirements

The general entry requirements for Avondale College degree courses are stated in the Academic Policies section of the Handbook.

The following entry requirements are specific to the Bachelor of Theology Ministry course:

- 1 Recommendation from, and telephone interview with, pastor of church currently attended by applicant.
- 2 Optional telephone interview of applicant by faculty.
- 3 At least two years must have elapsed since the applicant's baptism, during which time the applicant must have been active in a local church.

Field education requirements

There is an intentional placement of and mentoring of students in a local church during the initial phases of their enrolment in the BTh degree. A number of specific requirements attached to several of the church ministry subjects need to be fulfilled in a local church. In order to be placed in a local church, students are required to sign a self-disclosure form (Prohibited Persons Declaration) and consent to a criminal records check. Further information is available in the Field Education Handbook.

Course structure

The BTh is a three-year degree consists of a minimum of 24 x 6-credit point subjects (144 credit points) over six semesters. All subjects are worth six credit points (unless otherwise specified) with a notional semester workload of 150 hours, averaging 10–12 hours per week (including contact hours). The course is comprised of Biblical-theological formation, pastoral formation and general education.

Summary of the minimum requirements in the BTh degree

Components of course	Subjects	Credit Points
<i>Spiritual-Pastoral Formation</i>		
Church Ministry	4	24
Applied Psychology	1	6
<i>Theological-Historical Formation</i>		
Theology	5	30
History/Church History	2	12
<i>Biblical Formation</i>		
Biblical Studies	6	36
Biblical Languages	3	18
<i>General Education</i>		
Electives	3	18
TOTAL	24	144

Required subjects

Biblical Studies

- NT160.1 Gospels A
 NT170.2 New Testament Epistles A
 NT351.1 Gospels B
 NT361.2 New Testament Epistles B
 OT262.2 Pentateuch
 OT265.1 Old Testament Prophets

Biblical Languages

- BL160.1 New Testament Greek IA*
 BL161.2 New Testament Greek IB*
 BL170.2 Hebrew A

Theology and History

- CY165.1 SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White*
 CY265.1 Early and Medieval Church
 TH161.1 Introduction to Theology
 TH270.2 Ethics, Philosophy and Science in a Theological Context
 TH360.1 Systematic Theology A
 TH361.2 Systematic Theology B
 TH371.2 Historical Theology (Modern Period)

Spirituality and Ministry

- CM160.1 Spiritual Formation for Pastoral Ministry
- CM161.2 Communication and Worship
- CM265.1 Homiletics
- CM282.2 Australian and New Zealand Religions

Psychology

- PS160.2 Developmental and Pastoral Psychology

General Education

Three Electives

Course assurance

Details of course assurance arrangements are shown on the Avondale website. For the Bachelor of Theology the “Second Providers” are:

- Christian Heritage College
- Tabor College
- Australian Catholic University
- Sydney College of Divinity
- Australian College of Theology

Degree structure

The standard structure for the BTh degree is shown on the following page.

Bachelor of Theology

Standard Course Structure

Sem				
1	NT160 Gospels A	CY165 SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White	TH161 Introduction to Theology	CM160 Spiritual Formation for Pastoral Ministry
2	NT170 Epistles A	BL170 Hebrew A	PS160 Developmental and Pastoral Psychology	CM161 Communication and Worship
3	Elective (NT, OT, CY, HI, BL or TH subject taken at 200- level)	BL160 New Testament Greek IA	CY265 Early and Medieval Church	CM265 Homiletics
4	OT262 Pentateuch	BL161 New Testament Greek IB	TH270 Ethics, Philosophy and Science in Theological Context	CM282 Australian and NZ Religions
5	NT351 Gospels B	OT265 Old Testament Prophets	TH360 Systematic Theology A	Elective (NT, OT, CY, BL or TH subject taken at 300-level)
6	NT361 Epistles B	TH361 Systematic Theology B	TH371 Historical Theology (Modern Period)	Elective (NT, OT, CY, BL or TH subject taken at 300-level)

NOTE: Field placement is required throughout the course. The assessed field education components are incorporated into most of the CM (Church Ministry) subjects.

Associate Degree in Theological Studies

The Associate Degree in Theological Studies provides a two-year study of basic theology and ministry and is designed for those who wish to serve as educated and skilled laypersons in a local congregation. This qualification does not provide a recognised pathway into the employed ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist church.

Course code: 4872

Course coordinator: Dr Ray C W Roennfeldt

Duration

Two years full-time or equivalent part-time

Credit points

96 credit points

Mode of delivery

On campus. A small number of first-level subjects are available in distance education mode.

Abbreviation of course title

AssocDegTheolStuds

Accreditation

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

Entry requirements

The general entry requirements for Avondale College degree courses are stated in the Academic Policies section of the Handbook.

The following entry requirements are specific to the AssocDegTheolStuds course:

- 1 Recommendation from, and telephone interview with, pastor of church currently attended by applicant.
- 2 Optional telephone interview of applicant by faculty.
- 3 At least two years must have elapsed since the applicant's baptism, during which time the applicant must have been active in a local church.

Field education requirements

There is an intentional placement of and mentoring of students in a local church during their enrolment in the Associate Degree in Theological Studies. A number of specific requirements attached to several of the church ministry subjects need to be fulfilled in a local church. In order to be placed in a local church, students are required to sign a self-disclosure form (Prohibited Persons Declaration) and consent to a criminal records check. Further information is available in the Field Education Handbook.

Course structure

The AssocDegTheolStuds is a two-year degree consisting of a minimum of 16 x 6-credit point subjects (96 credit points) over four semesters. All subjects are worth six credit points (unless otherwise specified) with a notional semester workload of 150 hours, averaging 10–12 hours per week (including contact hours). The course is comprised of biblical-theological formation, pastoral formation and general education.

Summary of the minimum requirements in the Associate Degree in Theological Studies

Components of course	Subjects	Credit Points
<i>Spiritual-Pastoral Formation</i>		
Church Ministry	4	24
Applied Psychology	1	6
<i>Theological-Historical Formation</i>		
Theology	2	12
History/Church History	2	12
<i>Biblical Formation</i>		
Biblical Studies	3	18
Biblical Languages	1	6
<i>General Education</i>		
Electives	3	18
TOTAL	16	96

Required subjects

Biblical Studies

- BL170.2 Hebrew A
 NT160.1 Gospels A
 NT170.2 New Testament Epistles A
 OT282.2 Pentateuchal Studies, *or*

Biblical Languages

- BL170.2 Hebrew A, *or*
 OT282.2 Pentateuchal Studies

Theology and History

- CY165.1 SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White*
 CY265.1 Early and Medieval Church
 TH161.1 Introduction to Theology
 TH270.2 Ethics, Philosophy and Science in a Theological Context

Spirituality and Ministry

- CM160.1 Spiritual Formation for Pastoral Ministry
 CM161.2 Communication and Worship
 CM265.1 Homiletics
 CM282.2 Australian and New Zealand Religions

Psychology

PS160.2 Developmental and Pastoral Psychology

Electives

Four electives

Degree structure

The standard structure for the AssocDegTheolStuds is shown below.

Course assurance

Details of course assurance arrangements as shown on the Avondale website. For the Bachelor of Arts (Theology) the “Second Providers” are:

- Christian Heritage College
- Tabor College
- Australian Catholic University
- Sydney College of Divinity
- Australian College of Theology

Associate Degree of Theological Studies

Standard Course Structure

Sem				
1	NT160 Gospels A	CY165 SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White	TH161 Introduction to Theology	CM160 Spiritual Formation for Pastoral Ministry
2	NT170 Epistles A	BL170 Hebrew A or OT282 Pentateuchal Studies	PS160 Developmental and Pastoral Psychology	CM161 Communication and Worship
3	Elective (NT, OT, CY, BL or TH subject taken at 200- or 300- level)	Elective (NT, OT, CY, BL or TH subject taken at 200- level)	CY265 Early and Medieval Church	CM265 Homiletics
4	Elective (NT, OT, CY, BL or TH subject taken at 200- or 300-level)	Elective (NT, OT, CY, BL or TH subject taken at 200- or 300-level)	TH270 Ethics, Philosophy and Science in Theological Context	CM282 Australian and NZ Religions

NOTE: Field placement is required throughout the course. The assessed field education components are incorporated into most of the CM (Church Ministry) subjects.

Graduate courses in Theology—Ministry

There are three possibilities:

- GradDipTheol (one year)
- GradDipMin (one year)
- GradDipTheol and GradDipMin (concurrent)

Graduate Diploma in Theology

Course code: 4885

Course Coordinator: Dr Ray C W Roennfeldt

The Graduate Diploma in Theology is designed to extend subjects undertaken in the undergraduate course. Graduates of the GradDip(Theol) are not eligible for employment as a minister of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on the basis of this degree alone.

Duration

One year full-time or equivalent part-time

Credit points

48 credit points (8 x 6-credit point subjects)

Mode of delivery

On campus

Abbreviation of course title

GradDipTheol

Accreditation

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

Entry requirements

Bachelors degree or equivalent and demonstrated proficiency in the English language (eg IELTS 6.5) for students whose first language is not English.

Prerequisites

At least four theology, religion or ministry subjects at undergraduate or postgraduate level. Avondale College offers subjects in the distance mode for students unable to fulfil this prerequisite. Contact the course coordinator for more information.

Word processing prerequisite

All applicants are required to have word processing skills.

Preliminary semester of study

Distance Education	On-campus alternative
CR160 SDA History and Heritage—DE	CY165 SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White
CR163 Christian Faith from an Adventist Perspective—DE	TH161 Introduction to Theology
EN223 Bible as Literature—DE	NT160 Gospels A
PS165 General Psychology (on-campus at Avondale or equivalent from another institution)	PS160 Developmental and Pastoral Psychology

Employment opportunities

Candidates wishing to work as clergy within the Seventh-day Adventist church upon completion of these studies are advised to inform themselves of their employment possibilities within the church before they commence this course. They are also advised to become aware of the nature of superannuation for church clergy for those entering such employment at their age.

Credit transfer and Advanced standing

Credit transfer is available for equivalent tertiary level subjects completed elsewhere (see Avondale College website for more information). However, credit transfer may require the substitution of subjects but not necessarily the overall duration of the course.

Summary of minimum requirements in the Graduate Diploma in Theology

Component of course	Subjects	Credit points
<i>Theological-historical formation</i>		
Theology	2	12
History/Church history	1	6
<i>Biblical formation</i>		
Biblical Studies	2	12
Biblical Languages	2	12
<i>Electives</i>		
selected from codes NT, OT, HI, CM, BL or TH	1	6
TOTAL	8	48

Required subjects

Theological—historical formation

CY465	Early and Medieval Church	6 cr pts
TH480	Systematic Theology A	6 cr pts
TH481	Systematic Theology B	6 cr pts

Biblical formation

BL460	NT Greek 1A	6 cr pts
BL461	NT Greek 1B	6 cr pts
BS460	Biblical Apocalypses	6 cr pts
NT451	Gospels B	6 cr pts

Elective

Selected from codes NT, OT, HI, CM, BL or TH at 300-level

Course assurance

The “Second Providers” for the Graduate Diploma in Theology are:

- Sydney College of Divinity
- Tabor College
- Australian College of Theology

**Graduate Diploma in Theology Course
Standard Course Structure (one year)**

Sem	Prerequisites: four subjects at undergraduate or postgraduate level in either theology, religion or ministry			
1	BL460 NT Greek 1A	NT451 Gospels B	TH480 Systematic Theology A	CY465 Early and Medieval Church
2	BL461 NT Greek 1B	Elective (NT, OT, CY, BL or TH subject taken at 300-level)	TH481 Systematic Theology B	BS460 Biblical Apocalypses

Graduate Diploma in Ministry

Course code: 4886

Course Coordinator: Dr Ray C W Roennfeldt

The Graduate Diploma in Ministry is designed to extend subjects undertaken in the undergraduate course. Graduates of the GradDip(Min) are not eligible for employment as a minister of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on the basis of this degree alone.

Duration

One year full-time or equivalent part-time

Credit points

48 credit points (8 x 6-credit point subjects)

Mode of delivery

On campus

Abbreviation of course title

GradDipMin

Accreditation

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

Entrance requirements

Bachelors degree or equivalent and demonstrated proficiency in the English language (eg IELTS 6.5) for students whose first language is not English.

Prerequisites

At least four theology, religion or ministry subjects at undergraduate or postgraduate level. Avondale College offers subjects in the distance mode for students unable to fulfil this prerequisite. Contact the course coordinator for more information.

Preliminary semester of study

Distance Education	On-campus alternative
CR160 SDA History and Heritage—DE	CY165 SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White
CR163 Christian Faith from an Adventist Perspective—DE	TH161 Introduction to Theology
EN223 Bible as Literature—DE	NT160 Gospels A
PS165 General Psychology (on-campus at Avondale or equivalent from another institution)	PS160 Developmental and Pastoral Psychology

Employment opportunities

Candidates wishing to work as clergy within the Seventh-day Adventist church upon completion of these studies are advised to inform themselves of their employment possibilities within the church before they commence this course. They are also advised to become aware of the nature of superannuation for church clergy for those entering such employment at their age.

Credit transfer and Advanced standing

Credit transfer is available for equivalent tertiary level subjects completed elsewhere (see Avondale College website for more information). However, credit transfer may require the substitution of subjects but not necessarily the overall duration of the course.

Summary of minimum requirements in the Graduate Diploma in Ministry

Component of course	Subjects	Credit points
<i>Spiritual-pastoral formation</i>		
Theology	5	30
Applied Psychology	1	6
<i>Electives</i>		
selected from codes NT, OT, HI, CM, BL or TH	1	6
selected from code CM	1	
TOTAL	8	48

Required subjects

Spiritual—pastoral formation

CM465	Homiletics	6 cr pts
CM481	Evangelism in Practice A	6 cr pts
CM482	Evangelism in Practice B	6 cr pts
CM483	Ministry in Practice A	6 cr pts
CM484	Ministry in Practice B	6 cr pts
PS466	Marriage and Family Psychology	6 cr pts

Electives

One elected from codes NT, OT, HI, CM, BL or TH
One selected from code CM

Course assurance

The “Second Providers” for the Graduate Diploma in Ministry are:

- Sydney College of Divinity
- Tabor College
- Australian College of Theology

Graduate Diploma in Ministry

Standard Course Structure (one year)

Sem	Prerequisites: four subjects at undergraduate or postgraduate level in either theology, religion or ministry			
1	CM465 Homiletics	Elective (NT, OT, CY, BL, TH, or BS subject taken at 400-level)	CM482 Evangelism in Practice B	CM483 Ministry in Practice A
2	PS466 Marriage & Family Psychology	Elective (CM subject taken at 400- level)	CM484 Ministry in Practice B	CM481 Evangelism in Practice A

NOTE: Field placement is required throughout the course. The assessed field education components are incorporated into most of the CM (Church Ministry) subjects.

Concurrent Graduate Diploma in Theology and Graduate Diploma in Ministry

Course Coordinator: Dr Ray C W Roennfeldt

The concurrent Graduate Diploma in Theology and Graduate Diploma in Ministry courses are designed as an initial preparation for ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church for candidates with a prior degree. These courses also provide a foundation for further reflection and advanced study.

Duration

Two years full-time or equivalent part-time

Credit points

96 credit points (16 x 6-credit point subjects)

Mode of delivery

On campus

Abbreviation of course title

GradDipTheol/Grad DipMin

Accreditation

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

Entry requirements

Applicants must hold a recognised 3- or 4-year Bachelors degree or equivalent. If this degree has been pursued in a language other than English, all academic transcripts and other supporting documents must be presented in English, along with demonstrated evidence of English language proficiency.

Prerequisites

Applicants without a background of study in at least four theology, religion or ministry subjects in their undergraduate degree will be required to complete a preliminary semester in order to provide an adequate foundation for theological or ministry subjects. Some of the preliminary subjects may be taken off-campus in distance mode. The preliminary semester is identical for both Graduate Diplomas and the concurrent Graduate Diplomas program.

Word processing prerequisite

All applicants are required to have word processing skills.

Applicants must give evidence of good character, sufficient intellectual and physical health to pursue full-time

graduate study, and compatibility with, and commitment to the support of College purposes, objectives, regulations, and requirements. Suitability for the course will be demonstrated in the following ways:

- 1 Positive written recommendation from pastor of church currently attended by applicant. A member of the Faculty of Theology will also interview the pastor by telephone.
- 2 Optional telephone interview of applicant by faculty.
- 3 At least two years must have elapsed since the applicant's baptism, during which time the applicant must have been active in a local church.

Preliminary semester of study

Distance Education	On-campus alternative
CR160 SDA History and Heritage—DE	CY165 SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White
CR163 Christian Faith from an Adventist Perspective—DE	TH161 Introduction to Theology
EN223 Bible as Literature—DE	NT160 Gospels A
PS165 General Psychology (on-campus at Avondale or equivalent from another institution)	PS160 Developmental and Pastoral Psychology

Employment opportunities

Candidates wishing to work as clergy within the Seventh-day Adventist church upon completion of these studies are advised to inform themselves of their employment possibilities within the church before they commence this course. They are also advised to become aware of the nature of superannuation for church clergy for those entering such employment at their age.

Credit transfer and Advanced standing

Credit transfer is available for tertiary level subjects completed elsewhere (see Avondale College website for more information). However, credit transfer may require the substitution of subjects but not necessarily the overall duration of the course.

Field education requirements

There is an intentional placement of and mentoring of students in a local church during their enrolment in the concurrent Graduate Diploma in Theology and Graduate Diploma in Ministry courses. Specific requirements attached to several of the church ministry subjects need to be fulfilled in a local church. In order to be placed in a local church, students are required to sign a self-disclosure form (Prohibited Persons Declaration) and consent to a criminal records check. Further information is available in the Field Education Handbook.

Summary of minimum requirements in the concurrent Graduate Diploma in Theology and Graduate Diploma in Ministry

Component of course	Subjects	Credit points
<i>Spiritual-pastoral formation</i>		
Church Ministry	5	30
Applied Psychology	1	6
Research Seminar	1	6
<i>Theological-historical formation</i>		
Theology	2	12
History/Church history	1	6
<i>Biblical formation</i>		
Biblical Studies	4	24
Biblical Languages	2	12
TOTAL	16	96

Theological—historical formation

CY465	Early and Medieval Church	6 cr pts
TH480	Systematic Theology A	6 cr pts
TH481	Systematic Theology B	6 cr pts

Biblical formation

BL460	NT Greek 1A	6 cr pts
BL461	NT Greek 1B	6 cr pts
BS460	Biblical Apocalypses	6 cr pts
NT451	Gospels B	6 cr pts
NT461	NT Epistles B	6 cr pts
OT482	Pentateuchal Studies	6 cr pts

Course assurance

The “Second Providers” for the Concurrent Graduate Diploma in Theology and Graduate Diploma in Ministry are:

- Sydney College of Divinity
- Tabor College
- Australian College of Theology

Required subjects

Spiritual—pastoral formation

CM465	Homiletics	6 cr pts
CM481	Evangelism in Practice A	6 cr pts
CM482	Evangelism in Practice B	6 cr pts
CM483	Ministry in Practice A	6 cr pts
CM484	Ministry in Practice B	6 cr pts
PS466	Marriage and Family Psychology	6 cr pts
RN450	Research Seminar in Theological Studies	6 cr pts

Sequence of subjects when the Graduate Diploma in Theology and Graduate Diploma in Ministry are undertaken concurrently

Sem	Preliminary Semester required if student does not have a background in theology/religion/ministry at undergraduate level			
1	BL460 NT Greek 1A	CM465 Homiletics	TH480 Systematic Theology A	CM483 Ministry in Practice
2	BL461 NT Greek 1B	BS460 Biblical Apocalypses	TH481 Systematic Theology B	CM481 Evangelism in Practice A
3	NT451 Gospels B	RN450 Research Seminar in Theological Studies	CY465 Early and Medieval Church	CM482 Evangelism in Practice B
4	OT482 Pentateuchal Studies	NT461 NT Epistles B	PS466 Marriage and Family Psychology	CM484 Ministry in Practice B

NOTE: Field placement is required throughout the course. The assessed field education components are incorporated into most of the CM (Church Ministry) subjects.