

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 units may be taken by interested lay persons and professionals as single, non-award units 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).

Research Centres

Ellen G White Adventist Research Centre

Head of Centre:

John Skrzypaszek

BA (Theol) Avondale, MA (Theol), Avondale

Centre for Religion and Society Research

Head of Centre:

Dr Terry Butler

BA PUC, MPH Loma Linda, DrPH UCLA

Consultancy

Institute of Worship

Head of Centre:

Dr Lyell Heise

BA PUC, Adv Cert in CPE Kettering USA, M Div Andrews, DMin Fuller

Staff

Dean

Dr Robert McIver

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

Senior Lecturers

Dr H Ross Cole

BA PUC, MA Andrews, PhD Andrews

Old Testament

Dr Rick Ferret

RN SAH, BA Theol Avondale, MA La Sierra, PhD Sydney College of Divinity

Pastoral Care

Dr Lyell V Heise

BA PUC, Adv Cert in CPE Kettering USA, M Div Andrews, DMin Fuller

Ministry

Dr Murray House

BA Theol Avondale, MA Religion Andrews, DMin Fuller

Ministry

Dr Robert McIver

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

New Testament

Dr Douglas E Robertson

BA Avondale, MA Andrews, DMin Fuller

Ministry

Dr Steven W Thompson

BA South Miss Coll, MDiv Andrews, PhD St Andrews

New Testament

Lecturers

John Skrzypaszek

BA (Theol) Avondale, MA (Theol), Avondale

Adventist Studies

Honorary Senior Research Fellows

Dr Bryan Ball

BA Newbold (CUC), MA, Andrews, PhD Lond

Theology

Dr S Graeme Bradford

BA Avondale, MA Andrews, DMin Trinity International

Theology

Dr Milton Hook

BA Avondale, MA Lutheran Seminary, EdD Andrews

Research Fellow

Dr Arthur Patrick

BA Avondale, MA Andrews, MDiv Andrews, DMin Christian Theological Seminary, MLit UNE, 1984, PhD Newcastle

Theology

Dr Norman H Young

BA PUC, BD(Hons) Manc, PhD Manc, LittM UNE.

Theology

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

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: TBA

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. Must be completed within nine years.

Credit points

192 credit points

Mode of delivery

On campus. A small number of first-level units 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 units 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 consisting of a minimum of thirty-two 6-credit point units (192 credit points) over eight semesters. All units 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.

Required units

Biblical Formation

BBBL16000	New Testament Greek IA
BBBL16100	New Testament Greek IB
BBBL17000	Hebrew A
BBNT36200	New Testament Apocalypses
BBOT26200	Pentateuch
BBOT26500	Old Testament Prophets
BBOT36100	Old Testament Seers and Sages

plus at least one of

BBNT16000	Gospels A
BBNT1700	New Testament Epistles A
BBNT35100	Gospels B
BBNT36100	New Testament Epistles B

Theological-Historical Formation

THCH16500	SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White
THCH26500	Early and Medieval Church

plus at least six of

THCH26600	The Reformation
THCH37100	Historical Theology
THRN35000	Research Seminar in Theological Studies
THSY16100	Introduction to Theology
THSY27000	Ethics, Philosophy and Science in a Theological Context
THSY36000	Systematic Theology A
THSY37100	Historical Theology (Modern Period)

Spiritual-Pastoral Formation

CMIN16000	Spiritual Formation for Pastoral Ministry
CMIN16100	Communications and Worship
CMIN26500	Preaching in Ministry
CMIN28100	Evangelism in Practice A
CMIN28200	Australian and New Zealand Religions
CMIN28300	Ministry in Practice A
CMIN38100	Evangelism in Practice B
CMIN38300	Ministry in Practice B
CMPS16000	Developmental and Pastoral Psychology

General education

plus up to eight electives

NOTE: In addition to the units listed above, the following electives are regularly offered within the Faculty of Theology:

BBBL17100	Hebrew B
BBBL26000	New Testament Greek IIA
BBBL26100	New Testament Greek IIB
BBTR20100	Bible Lands Tour (<i>odd years</i>)
CMIN10500	Childrens Ministry in the Local Church (<i>odd years</i>)
CMIN16500	Youth Ministry in the Local Church (<i>even years</i>)
CMPS36500	Marriage and Family Psychology
THCH27500	Ellen White: Life and Writings

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
- Australian Catholic University
- Sydney College of Divinity
- Australian College of Theology

Degree structure

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

Bachelor of Theology/Bachelor of Ministry Typical Grid

Sem				
1	BBNT16000 Gospels A	THCH16500 SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White	THSY16100 Introduction to Theology	CMIN16000 Spiritual Formation for Pastoral Ministry
2	BBNT17000 NT Epistles A	BBBL17000 Hebrew A	CMPS16000 Developmental and Pastoral Psychology	CMIN16100 Communication and Worship
3	BBBL16000 New Testament Greek 1A	BBOT26500 Old Testament Prophets	THCH26500 Early and Medieval Church	CMIN21500 Ministry: Theory and Practice A
4	BBBL16100 New Testament Greek 1B	BBOT26200 Pentateuch	THCH26600 The Reformation	CMIN26500 Preaching in Ministry
5	BBNT35100 Gospels B	Elective	THSY36000 Systematic Theology A	CMIN28100 Evangelism in Practice A
6	BBNT36100 NT Epistles B	THSY27000 Ethics, Philosophy and Science in Theological Context	THCH37100 Historical Theology (Modern Period)	CMIN28200 Australian and NZ Religions
7	BBOT36100 Old Testament Seers and Sages	Elective	THRN35000 Research Seminar in Theological Studies	CMIN38100 Evangelism in Practice B
8	BBNT36200 New Testament Apocalypses	CMPS36500 Marriage and Family Psychology	THSY36100 Systematic Theology B	CMIN38300 Ministry: Theory and Practice B

Components of BTh/BMin course	Units	Credit Points
Biblical Languages	3+	18+
Biblical Studies (in addition to the language requirement, to make a minimum of 8 units)	5+	30+
Theology and Church History studies	8+	48+
Church Ministry	8+	48+
General education	0–8	0–48
TOTAL	32	192

NOTES FOR BTh/BMin degree

- Eight (8) subjects must be completed at 300-level or above, at least two of these must be with a TH prefix, and two with a BB prefix
- Students must pass eight subjects which have a field placement associated with them. (Please note, these subjects, eight in number, are: CMIN16000; CMIN16100; CMIN26500; CMIN28100; CMIN28200 CMIN28300; CMIN38100; CMIN38300)
- Students must also pass the following subjects: CMPS16000; THCH16500; THSY16100; BBOT26500; BBOT26200; BBOT36100 and BBNT36200.

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: TBA

Duration

Three years full-time or equivalent part-time. Must be completed within seven years.

Credit points

144 credit points

Mode of delivery

On campus. A small number of first-level units 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/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.

Ministry practicum requirements

Students who are taking Church Ministry units are initially placed and mentored in a local church during the initial phases of their enrolment in the BTh program. A number of specific requirements attached to several of the church ministry units 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 units (144 credit points) over six semesters. All units 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). Graduates are required to pass a minimum of four units (24 credit points) at third level or higher. The course is comprised of biblical Languages study, plus major study in the two of the areas offered by the Faculty of Theology: namely Biblical Formation and Theological-historical formation. Students also undertake minor study in a third coherent stream of four degree-level units.

Summary of the minimum requirements in the BTh degree

Components of course	Units	Credit Points
Biblical Languages	3+	18+
Biblical Studies (in addition to the language requirement, to make a total of 6 units)	3+	18+
Theology and Church History studies	6+	36+
Minor—four units approved by the Faculty of Theology as a coherent stream.	4+	24+
General education	0–8	0–48
TOTAL	24	144

Sample of units in the three formation areas offered by the Faculty of Theology

Biblical Languages (*an strand of the Biblical Formation group*)

at least three units of

BBBL16000	New Testament Greek IA
BBBL16100	New Testament Greek IB
BBBL17000	Hebrew A
BBBL17100	Hebrew B
BBBL26000	New Testament Greek IIA
BBBL26100	New Testament Greek IIB

Biblical Studies (*a strand of the Biblical Formation group*)

at least three units of

BBBL26000	Biblical Apocalypses (<i>may not be taken if either BBNT362000 or BBOT361000 have been taken for credit</i>)
BBNT16000	Gospels A
BBNT17000	New Testament Epistles A

BBNT35100	Gospels B
BBNT36100	New Testament Epistles B
BBNT36200	New Testament Apocalypses
BBOT26200	Pentateuch
BBOT26500	Old Testament Prophets
BBOT36100	Old Testament Seers and Sages

Theological-historical formation

at least six units from

THCH16500	SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White
THCH26500	Early and Medieval Church
THCH26600	The Reformation
THCH37100	Historical Theology
THRN35000	Research Seminar in Theological Studies
THSY27000	Ethics, Philosophy and Science in a Theological Context
THSY36000	Systematic Theology A
THSY37100	Historical Theology (Modern Period)

Minor

Four units approved by the Faculty of Theology as a coherent stream.

General education

Up to eight units of 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
- Australian Catholic University
- Sydney College of Divinity
- Australian College of Theology

Degree structure

The typical structure for the BTh degree is shown below.

Bachelor of Theology Typical Course Structure				
Sem				
1	BBNT16000 Gospels A	THCH16500 SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White	THSY16100 Introduction to Theology	CMIN16000 Spiritual Formation for Pastoral Ministry
2	BBNT17000 NT Epistles A	BBBL17000 Hebrew A	CMPS16000 Developmental and Pastoral Psychology	CMIN16100 Communication and Worship
3	BBBL16000 New Testament Greek IA	BBOT26500 Old Testament Prophets	THCH26500 Early and Medieval Church	CMIN21500 Ministry: Theory and Practice A
4	BBBL16100 New Testament Greek IB	BBOT26200 Pentateuch	THCH26600 The Reformation	CMIN26500 Preaching in Ministry
5	BBNT35100 Gospels B	THRN35000 Research Seminar in Theological Studies	THSY36000 Systematic Theology A	Elective
6	BBNT36100 NT Epistles B	BBBI26000 Biblical Apocalypses	THCH37100 Historical Theology (Modern Period)	Elective

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: TBA

Duration

Two years full-time or equivalent part-time. Must be completed within five years.

Credit points

96 credit points

Mode of delivery

On campus. A small number of first-level units 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.

Ministry practicum requirements

Students who are taking Church Ministry units are initially placed and mentored in a local church during the initial phases of their enrolment in the Associate Degree program. A number of specific requirements attached to several of the church ministry units 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 sixteen 6-credit point units (96 credit points) over four semesters. All units 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). Graduates are required to pass a minimum of six units (36 credit points) at second level or higher. The course is comprised of units from the three formation areas offered by the Faculty of Theology: Biblical Formation, Theological-historical formation, and Spiritual-pastoral formation. A minimum of four units (24 credit points) need to be passed in each of two of these formation areas.

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

Components of course	Units	Credit Points
Biblical Formation	Up to 12	Up to 72
Theological-Historical Formation	Up to 12	Up to 72
Spiritual-Pastoral Formation	Up to 12	Up to 72
TOTAL	16	96

Students are required to pass a minimum of four units (24 credit points) in each of two formation streams.

Required units

Biblical Studies

at least four units from

BBBL16000	New Testament Greek IA
BBBL16100	New Testament Greek IB
BBBL17000	Hebrew A
BBNT16000	Gospels A
BBNT17000	New Testament Epistles A
BBNT35100	Gospels B
BBNT36100	New Testament Epistles B
BBNT36200	New Testament Apocalypses
BBOT26200	Pentateuch
BBOT26500	Old Testament Prophets
BBOT36100	Old Testament Seers and Sages

Theology and History

and/or at least four units from

THCH16500	SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White
THCH26500	Early and Medieval Church
THCH26600	The Reformation

THCH37100	Historical Theology
THSY16100	Introduction to Theology
THSY27000	Ethics, Philosophy and Science in a Theological Context
THSY36000	Systematic Theology A
THSY37100	Historical Theology (Modern Period)
THRN35000	Research Seminar in Theological Studies

Spirituality and Ministry

and/or at least four units from

CMIN16000	Spiritual Formation for Pastoral Ministry
CMIN16100	Communications and Worship
CMIN26500	Preaching in Ministry
CMIN28100	Evangelism in Practice A
CMIN28200	Australian and New Zealand Religions
CMIN28300	Ministry in Practice A
CMIN38100	Evangelism in Practice B
CMIN38300	Ministry in Practice B
CMPS16000	Developmental and Pastoral Psychology

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
- Australian Catholic University
- Sydney College of Divinity
- Australian College of Theology

Degree structure

The typical structure for the AssocDegTheolStuds is shown below.

Associate Degree of Theological Studies				
Typical Course Structure				
Sem				
1	BBBNT16000 Gospels A	THCH16500 SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White	THSY16100 Introduction to Theology	CMIN16000 Spiritual Formation for Pastoral Ministry
2	BBNT17000 NT Epistles A	BBBL17000 Hebrew A	CMPS16000 Developmental and Pastoral Psychology	CMIN16100 Communication and Worship
3	BBBL16000 New Testament Greek IA	BBOT26500 Old Testament Prophets	THCH26500 Early and Medieval Church	CMIN21500 Ministry: Theory and Practice A
4	BBBL16100 New Testament Greek IB	BBOT26200 Pentateuch	THCH26600 The Reformation	CMIN26500 Preaching in Ministry

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

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: TBA

The Graduate Diploma in Theology is designed to extend units undertaken in the undergraduate course. Graduates of the GradDipTheol alone are not eligible for employment as ministers of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on the basis of this degree.

Duration

One year full-time or equivalent part-time. Must be completed within three years.

Credit points

48 credit points (eight 6-credit point units)

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, religions or ministry units at undergraduate or graduate level. Avondale College offers these units in distance mode. Students are encouraged to complete BBBL46000 New Testament Greek 1A and BBBL461000 New Testament Greek 1B by distance education before coming to Avondale College. If they need

to do preliminary units, they can then take two of them in the place of these units while they are completing the Graduate Diploma program itself.

Word processing skills

All applicants are required to have word processing skills.

Preliminary semester of study

Distance Education	On-campus alternative
CSTD16000 SDA History and Heritage—DE	THCH16500 SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White
CSTD16300 Christian Faith from an Adventist Perspective—DE	THSY16100 Introduction to Theology
ENGL2100 Bible as Literature—DE	BBNT160 Gospels A
PSYC16500 General Psychology (on-campus at Avondale or equivalent from another institution)	CMPS16000 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.

Credit transfer and Advanced standing

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

Summary of minimum requirements in the Graduate Diploma in Theology

Component of course	Units	Credit points
Biblical Formation	4–6	30–36
Theological-Historical Formation	2–4	12–18
TOTAL	8	48

Unit sequences

Biblical formation sequence

BBBL46000	New Testament Greek IA	6 cr pts
BBBL46100	New Testament Greek IB	6 cr pts

Plus at least two of the following four units:

BBBI46000	Jewish and Christian Apocalyptic Literature	6 cr pts
BBNT45100	Selected Themes in the Gospels of Matthew and John	6 cr pts

BBNT46100	Exegetical Studies in New Testament Epistles	6 cr pts
BBOT48200	Torah in Context	6 cr pts

Theological-historical formation

At least two of the following four units:

THCH46500	Studies in Christian History (Early and Medieval Periods)	6 cr pts
THRN45000	Research Seminar in Theological Studies	6 cr pts
THSY48000	Themes in Systematic Theology I	6 cr pts
THSY48100	Themes in Systematic Theology II	6 cr pts

Elective

Selected from codes BBNT, BBOT, HSTI, CMIN, BBBL THCH, THRN or THSY at 300-level

Students who have done a unit in a comparable area at undergraduate level will not normally be allowed to do a corresponding unit in a Graduate Diploma program. If necessary, they may substitute a fourth-level independent topic, such as THBS42000 Independent Topic (in Biblical Studies)

or THBS42500 Independent Topic (in Religious Studies). Independent Topics may be repeated for credit.

Course assurance

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

- Sydney College of Divinity
- Australian College of Theology

Graduate Diploma in Theology Course Standard Course Structure (one year)				
Sem	Prerequisites: four units at undergraduate or postgraduate level in either theology, religion or ministry			
1	BBBL46000 New Testament Greek 1A	BBNT45100 Selected Themes in the Gospels of Matthew and John	THSY46500 Studies in Christian History (Early and Medieval Periods)	THSY48000 Themes in Systematic Theology I
2	BBBL46100 New Testament Greek 1B	BBNT46100 Exegetical Studies in New Testament Epistles	BBOT48200 Torah in Context	THSY48100 Themes in Systematic Theology II

Graduate Diploma in Ministry

Course code: 4886

Course Coordinator: TBA

The Graduate Diploma in Ministry is designed to extend units undertaken in the undergraduate course. Graduates of the GradDipMin alone are not eligible for employment as ministers of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on the basis of this degree.

Duration

One year full-time or equivalent part-time. Must be completed within three years

Credit points

48 credit points (eight 6-credit point units)

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 units at undergraduate or postgraduate level. Avondale College offers these units in 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
CSTD16000 SDA History and Heritage—DE	THCH16500 SDA History and Ministry of Ellen White
CSTD16300 Christian Faith from an Adventist Perspective—DE	THSY16100 Introduction to Theology
ENGL21000 Bible as Literature—DE	BBNT16000 Gospels A
PSYC16500 General Psychology (on-campus at Avondale or equivalent from another institution)	CMPS16000 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.

Credit transfer and Advanced standing

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

Summary of minimum requirements in the Graduate Diploma in Ministry

Component of course	Units	Credit points
Spiritual-pastoral formation	6	36
Theological-historical formation	1	6
Elective	1	6
TOTAL	8	48

Required units

Spiritual—pastoral formation

CMIN46500	Homiletics	6 cr pts
CMIN48100	Evangelism in Ministry I	6 cr pts
CMIN48200	Evangelism in Ministry II	6 cr pts
CMIN48300	Church Ministry Practice	6 cr pts
CMIN48400	Church Ministry Leadership	6 cr pts
CMPS46600	Family Systems Theory	6 cr pts

Theological-pastoral formation

THRN45000	Research Seminar in Theological Studies	6 cr pts
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Elective

One elective unit at fourth level or higher with codes beginning with either BB or TH

Course assurance

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

- Sydney College of Divinity
- Australian College of Theology

Graduate Diploma in Ministry Standard Course Structure (one year)

Sem	Prerequisites: four units at undergraduate or postgraduate level in either theology, religion or ministry			
1	CMIN48100 Evangelism in Ministry I	CMIN48200 Evangelism in Ministry II	Elective BB or TH units taken at fourth level or higher	CMIN48300 Ministry in Practice A
2	CMIN46500 Homiletics	CMIN48400 Church Ministry Leadership	CMPS46600 Family Systems Theory	THRN45000 Research Seminar in Theological Studies
NOTE: Field placement is required throughout the course. The assessed field education components are incorporated into most of the CMIN (Church Ministry) units.				

Concurrent Graduate Diploma in Theology and Graduate Diploma in Ministry

For candidates with a prior degree, the Graduate Diploma in Theology and the Graduate Diploma in Ministry provide an initial preparation for ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church when these courses are undertaken concurrently. These courses also provide a foundation for further reflection and advanced study.

For program details see the GradDipTheol and GradDipMin information on the preceding pages.

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

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.

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.

Field education requirements

There is an intentional placement 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 units 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 record 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 program

Component of course	Units	Credit points
Biblical formation	6	36
Theological-historical formation	4	24
Spiritual-pastoral formation	6	24
TOTAL	16	96

Required units

Spiritual—pastoral formation

CMIN46500	Homiletics	6 cr pts
CMIN48100	Evangelism in Ministry I	6 cr pts
CMIN48200	Evangelism in Ministry II	6 cr pts
CMIN48300	Church Ministry Practice	6 cr pts
CMIN48400	Church Ministry Leadership	6 cr pts
CMPS46600	Family Systems Theory	6 cr pts

Theological—historical formation

THCH46500	Studies in Christian History (Early and Medieval Periods)	6 cr pt
THRN45000	Research Seminar in Theological Studies	6 cr pt
THSY48000	Themes in Systematic Theology I	6 cr pt
THSY48100	Themes in Systematic Theology II	6 cr pt

Biblical formation

BBBI46000	Jewish and Christian Apocalyptic Literature	6 cr pts
BBBL46000	New Testament Greek IA	6 cr pts
BBBL46100	New Testament Greek IB	6 cr pts
BBNT45100	Selected Themes in the Gospels of Matthew and John	6 cr pts
BBNT46100	Exegetical Studies in New Testament Epistles	6 cr pts
BBOT48200	Torah in Context	6 cr pts

NOTE: Students who have done a unit in a comparable area at undergraduate level will not normally be allowed to do a corresponding unit in a Graduate Diploma program. If necessary, they may substitute a fourth-level independent topic, such as THBS42000 Independent Topic (in Biblical Studies) or THBS42500 Independent Topic (in Religious Studies). Independent Topics may be repeated for credit.

Typical Graduate Diploma in Theology and Graduate Diploma in Ministry Typical Program (two years)

Sem				
	Preliminary Semester required if student does not have a background in theology/religion/ministry at undergraduate level			
1	BBBL46000 New Testament Greek 1A	THSY48000 Themes in Systematic Theology I	CMIN48300 Church Ministry Practice	CMIN48100 Evangelism in Ministry I
2	BBBL46100 New Testament Greek 1B	BBBI46000 Jewish and Christian Apocalyptic Literature	THSY48100 Themes in Systematic Theology II	CMIN46500 Homiletics
3	BBNT45100 Selected Themes in the Gospels of Matthew and John	THSY46500 Studies in Christian History (Early and Medieval Periods)	THRN45000 Research Seminar in Theological Studies	CMIN48200 Evangelism in Ministry II
4	BBNT46100 Exegetical Studies in New Testament Epistles	BBOT48200 Torah in Context	CMPS46600 Family Systems Theory	CMIN48400 Church Ministry Leadership
NOTE: Field placement is required throughout the course. The assessed field education components are incorporated into most of the CMIN (Church Ministry) units.				