

# BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY (HONOURS)

## AWARD SUMMARY

Abbreviation:	BTh(Hons)
TEQSA Course ID:	CRS1200476
Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF):	Level 8
Entry Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A Bachelor of Theology from the Sydney College of Divinity, or a joint Bachelor of Theology degree, completed within the last five years and with a grade point average of 2.7 in the coursework and 3.0 in the area of specialisation, or</li><li>• equivalent qualifications from a university or other tertiary institution.</li></ul>
Duration:	2 years part-time.
Mode of Study:	Part-time.
Structure:	72 credit points, comprising 36 credit points in coursework and a thesis for 36 credit points.
English Proficiency:	Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally require a minimum International English Language Testing System (IELTS, or equivalent) score of 7.0 in all bands of the 'academic format' of the test.
Tuition Fees and Financial Support:	Tuition Fees are invoiced <u>each semester</u> as follows: \$1350 for the first unit (9 credit points) in a given semester \$550 for each subsequent unit taken in a given semester (up to four course units, 36 credit points, per semester) FEE-HELP is available (conditions apply)

## GRADUATE PROFILE AND RATIONALE

The Bachelor of Theology (Honours) qualifies candidates who apply a body of theological knowledge in a specific context to undertake professional work and as pathway for research and further learning in one or more theologically-related disciplines.

## OUTCOMES

Graduates will have:

### *Knowledge*

- a coherent and advanced body of knowledge with depth in the underlying principles and concepts in one or more theologically-related disciplines, and knowledge of research principles and methods.

*Skills*

- cognitive and technical skills in a theologically-related body of knowledge, so that they are able independently to:
  - review, analyse, synthesise and transform theological information and identify and transmit solutions to complex problems
  - think critically, evaluate and generate complex ideas
  - technical skills to design and use research in a project
  - communicate theologically-related knowledge, skills and ideas clearly and coherently to a variety of audiences

*Applications of Knowledge and Skills*

- the ability to demonstrate the application of knowledge and skills
  - with initiative and judgment in professional practice and/or scholarship in one or more theologically-related disciplines
  - adapt knowledge and skills in diverse theologically-related contexts
  - with responsibility and accountability for own learning and practice and in collaboration with others
  - to plan and execute project work and/or a piece of research and scholarship with some independence.

**ARTICULATION TO OTHER AWARDS**

Students may articulate to the Master of Philosophy (MPhil), the Doctor of Ministry (DMin), the Doctor of Theology (ThD), and the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) provided they meet the entry requirements.

**ADMISSION TO CANDIDATURE**

1. An applicant for admission to candidature for a degree of Bachelor of Theology (Honours) shall:
  - a. hold a Bachelor of Theology from the Sydney College of Divinity completed within the previous five years, with a grade point average of 2.7 overall and 3.0 in the area of specialisation;
  - or
  - b. hold a qualification from another university or tertiary institution that the Academic Board considers equivalent to the requirements above.
2. The grade point average is calculated as follows

$$\text{GPA} = (4H + 3D + 2C + 1P + 0N) \div E$$

where: H is the number of credit points gained at H grade

D is the number of credit points gained at D grade

C is the number of credit points gained at C grade

P is the number of credit points gained at P grade

N is the number of credit points attempted which earned an N grade

E is the total number of credit points for which a student has enrolled (excluding units with W and S)

You will need to supply transcripts for verification.

3. A candidate for a Bachelor of Theology (Honours) shall be designated as full-time or part-time. A student is designated as a full-time if enrolled in three units (27 credit points) or more in a semester or part-time if enrolled in less than three units (27 credit points) per semester.

4. An applicant may not be admitted to candidature unless St Andrew's can ensure that adequate supervision is available.
5. Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction will be required to demonstrate competency in English by an IELTS result of 7.0 in all bands of the test and may be required to attend such English language courses as prescribed by the Sydney College of Divinity.
6. Applicants will be required to show evidence of competence in appropriate ancient and/or modern languages in order to access primary sources and significant secondary works relevant to their thesis topic. Language requirements will be determined at the time of application in consultation with the proposed supervisor.
7. Application for enrolment in the Bachelor of Theology (Honours) is made to the Registrar.
8. No candidate for the Bachelor of Theology (Honours) may be concurrently enrolled in any other undergraduate or postgraduate course within the Sydney College of Divinity or any other tertiary institution unless the candidate is enrolled in an approved joint degree program, unless approval has been granted by the Academic Board of the Sydney College of Divinity.

### **COURSE STRUCTURE**

1. The award shall include:
  - a. a 8500 level Research Methodology Unit (9 credit points)
  - b. a 8500 level Honours Seminar Unit (9 credit points)
  - c. a further two units (18 credit points in total) in the area of specialisation from 9600 level units
  - d. a thesis of 20,000 words for 36 credit points in the area of specialisation
2. A candidate may not submit as the main content of the thesis any work or material which has previously been submitted for a degree without major reworking.
3. The Faculty of St Andrew's shall appoint a supervisor.
4. All thesis proposals involving the gathering of personal information from people by surveys, interviews or case studies etc. must first be referred to the Research Committee of the Sydney College of Divinity or its nominee for approval using the appropriate forms and will be dealt with according to the procedures and policies of the Ethics Review Committee of the Sydney College of Divinity.

### **PERIOD OF CANDIDATURE**

1. The period of candidature for the degree may be up to 3 years part-time.
2. In certain circumstances the Student Support and Administration Committee of the Sydney College of Divinity may grant extensions.

### **MONITORING OF CANDIDATURE**

Once each semester, and at any other time considered appropriate, the supervisor of the thesis shall report to the Faculty of St Andrew's on the progress of each candidate using the appropriate form.

### **TERMINATION OF CANDIDATURE**

1. If for any reason the candidate's progress is deemed to be unsatisfactory, the Faculty of St Andrew's shall ask the candidate to show cause why candidature should not be terminated.
2. Any show cause submission shall be forwarded to the Research Committee of the Sydney College of Divinity and the Committee's recommendation shall be forwarded to the

Academic Board of the Sydney College of Divinity. The Research Committee may recommend the termination of candidature, or else continuation of enrolment along with the imposition of conditions on the continuation of candidature.

3. If the candidate does not show cause, the Research Committee of the Sydney College of Divinity shall recommend termination of candidature to the Academic Board of the Sydney College of Divinity.
4. Persons whose candidature has been terminated may have recourse to the appeals procedures. The decision of the appeals committee is final.

### **EXAMINATION OF THESIS**

1. The student shall submit to the Registrar three copies of a thesis embodying the results of their research. All copies of the thesis shall be bound in temporary form. The length of the thesis shall conform to the prescribed requirements. The thesis must be written and presented in accordance with the current guidelines for the preparation of a thesis within the Sydney College of Divinity.
2. The thesis must be the student's own work, must be written in English, and must reach a satisfactory standard of literary presentation.
3. Before a student may submit a thesis, the supervisor must certify in writing that the thesis conforms to the requirements of the regulations. A certificate to this effect shall be supplied by the supervisor when the thesis is submitted. If the supervisor does not so certify, Faculty shall determine whether the thesis shall be submitted after having considered written submissions from the supervisor and the student.
4. The Research Degree Committee of the Sydney College of Divinity shall appoint two examiners, at least one of whom shall be external to St Andrew's. Examiners shall report in writing three months from the receipt of the thesis. Examiners will be replaced if the report is not received within four months unless the examiner is given leave to report late.
5. The thesis shall be graded by the examiners according to the standard grading practice within the Sydney College of Divinity and a final grade achieved by averaging the grades awarded by the examiners; provided that where the examiners' marks differ by more than ten (10) marks a third examiner will be asked to grade the thesis and the final result will be based on consideration of the three grades.
6. The four course work units shall be graded according to standard grading practice within the Sydney College of Divinity.
7. The final grade of honours is calculated by taking into account the results of the Honours thesis (equivalent to four course work units) and the four course work units. The final grade is the average of the eight course units' equivalent. The Faculty of St Andrew's shall then propose a final grade of 1<sup>st</sup> Class Hons, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Hons (Div.1), 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Hons (Div.2) or 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Hons, as deemed appropriate.
8. The cut off grades for classes of honours shall be H = First Class; D = Second Class, Division One; C = Second Class, Division Two; P = Third Class.
9. If a student completes all the components of the honours course but fails to qualify for the award of any class of honours, his or her academic record will be endorsed with an academic comment "Failed to qualify for a class of honours in the Bachelor of Theology" and the honours course description against which the class of honours is normally recorded will be deleted.

### **EXAMINERS' REPORTS**

Students will be given a copy of the examiners' reports at the completion of the examination process. Examiners' names will be included unless a written request to the contrary has been received by the Office of the Dean of the Sydney College of Divinity.

**GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE THESIS**

1. All copies of the thesis shall be in good quality typescript on one side of the paper only. In the main body of the thesis double-spacing of typescript is preferred, but one-and-a-half-spacing is acceptable. Single-spacing may be used only for appendices and footnotes. The paper shall be good quality, medium weight white stock, sufficiently opaque for normal reading.
2. Gender inclusive language is to be used.
3. The size of the paper shall be A4 (297mm x 210mm) except for illustrative material such as drawings, maps and printouts, on which no restriction is placed.
4. The margins on each sheet shall be not less than 40mm on the left-hand side, 20mm on the right-hand side, 30mm at the top and 20mm at the bottom.
5. The recommended structural sequence of a thesis is as follows:

Title Page  
 Declaration of Originality  
 Acknowledgements (if any)  
 Preface (if any)  
 Table of Contents  
 List of illustrations and tables (if any)  
 Abstract  
 Introduction (if separate from Chapter 1)  
 Chapters in sequence  
 Appendix or appendices (if any)  
 Bibliography

6. The title page shall contain the thesis title, author's name, degree and year of submission.
7. The Declaration of Originality shall take the following form:

*This thesis is based upon original work by the author and a study of the relevant published works as indicated and acknowledged in the text.*

*Signed:.....  
 (Author's signature)*

*Date.....*

8. The table of contents should be fairly comprehensive in a thesis, since an index is not usually included.
9. Beginning with the first page of Chapter 1, pages should be numbered consecutively using Arabic numerals. Preceding pages, except the title page, should normally be given lower case Roman numerals.
10. Each copy of the thesis shall have an abstract of not more than 500 to 700 words bound in. The abstract should indicate the problem investigated, the procedure followed, the general results obtained, and the major conclusions reached. It should not contain any illustrative material or tables.
11. Appendices contain supplementary material that the author considers necessary to the interpretation of the text itself. Long tables, raw or relatively unprocessed data, detailed reports or computer printouts are generally more appropriately included in an appendix.
12. Materials such as illustrations, charts and tables must not be submitted on the back of typed sheets. Except with the approval of the supervisor, these should be bound facing the text to which they refer, or if necessary, as right-hand pages, immediately after the first reference to them. The caption should be placed at the bottom of the page.

13. Materials such as diagrams, maps, and tables which exceed A4 size should be either: (a) folded so as to read as a right-hand page when opened; or (b) clearly referred to in the text, numbered and folded for insertion in a pocket in the back inside cover of the thesis binding.
14. Footnotes at the bottom of each page are preferred, but endnotes will be permitted.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCING**

No single method of referring is prescribed by the Sydney College of Divinity, but it is essential that candidates use one or other of the generally recognised systems of referencing such as the *Chicago Manual of Style* (16<sup>th</sup> Edition), with Australian spelling and punctuation.

## **PRESENTATION AND BINDING OF THESIS FOLLOWING EXAMINATION**

1. When any corrections as determined by the Research Committee in light of the examiners' reports have been completed two bound copies of the thesis and one electronic copy are to be submitted to the Office of the Dean of the Sydney College of Divinity. The bound copies are to conform to the guidelines for the presentation and binding of theses following examination.
2. A copy of the bound thesis is to be deposited in the designated home library of the student, while the other bound copy and electronic copy remain with the Office of the Dean of the Sydney College of Divinity. The copies will be available for consultation, loan, electronic distribution and photocopying forthwith. In exceptional cases the Research Committee, on application of the student, may determine that the thesis shall not be available until after the expiry of a period, normally no longer than a year.
3. Each copy of the final version of the thesis shall be bound in boards, covered with buckram or similar, and embossed on the spine as follows:
  - a. At the bottom and across, the words "Sydney College of Divinity";
  - b. 90mm from the bottom and across, the degree and year of submission, for example: BTh (Hons) 2015;
  - c. Evenly spaced between the statement in (b) and the top of the spine, the initials and surname of the author. No other lettering or decoration shall appear on the spine;
  - d. Where the spine of the thesis is too thin to support lettering across, the wording shall be printed along the spine reading from top to bottom in all cases.

## **EXTERNAL STUDIES**

The completion of discrete course units in the Honours program (not including the thesis) may be undertaken at another member institution of the Sydney College of Divinity or at a recognised tertiary institution or university via cross-institutional study after consultation with the Registrar and subject to the approval of Faculty Board.

## **TUITION FEES AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

St Andrew's is committed to admitting the most able and dedicated students to its courses, regardless of their financial means or background. Most students are eligible for financial support as outlined below.

Tuition Fees are invoiced each semester as follows:

\$1350 for the first 9 credit points taken in a given semester  
\$550 for each subsequent 9 credit points taken in a given semester  
(up to 36 credit points per semester)  
FEE-HELP is available (conditions apply)

*Alumni of St Andrew's Greek Orthodox Theological College*

Alumni of St Andrew's Greek Orthodox Theological College who satisfy the admissions criteria may undertake the Bachelor of Theology (Honours) and pay only \$675 for the first 9 credit points taken in a given semester, followed by \$550 for each subsequent 9 credit points taken in a given semester.

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