AWARD SUMMARY

Abbreviation: GradCertA

Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF):

Level 8

Entry Requirements: A three-year bachelor award (AQF Level 7) or equivalent in any discipline.

Admission: Annual admission intake only. Applications should be received by early December of the year prior to admission. Please check the website for ‘Important Dates’.

Duration: 6 months full-time or up to 1½ years part-time.

Structure: 4 units (36 credit points).

Enrolment Options: On-Campus Weekly Lectures: full time and part time study available Distance Education (Online): full time and part time study available

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: $1520 per 9 credit points $912 per 9 credit points for recipients of Scholarship D $760 per 9 credit points for recipients of Scholarship B FEE-HELP is available (conditions apply)

Available Units (2016)

Semester 1
A8520A Introduction to New Testament Greek
B8520A Introduction to the Old Testament
C8546A Pastoral Counselling in Ministry
H8510A The Early Church
L8501A Introducing Christian Worship
T8501A Introducing Theology *
T8581A Church Fathers: An Introduction

Available Units (2016)

Semester 2
A8570A New Testament Greek
B8530A Introduction to the New Testament
H8530A Byzantine Studies
P8501A Introduction to Pastoral and Practical Theology
T8517A Ecclesiology
COURSE OUTCOMES

The Graduate Certificate in Arts course is designed for those who hold a tertiary qualification in a non-theological discipline, who wish to pursue a graduate qualification in theology, and who are seeking skills in theological studies to enhance their professional work. Graduates will be able to apply a body of theological knowledge in a range of contexts relating to ministry and/or further learning. Graduates will have:

Knowledge
- an advanced understanding, within a coherent body of knowledge, in one or more theologically related disciplines or areas of practice; this may include the acquisition and application of knowledge and skills in a new or existing discipline or professional area.

Skills
- cognitive and technical skills in a theologically-related body of knowledge, so that they are able independently to:
  o review and synthesize theological information and identify and reflect on complex problems
  o think critically and evaluate complex ideas
  o demonstrate an understanding of theoretical concepts in one or more theological disciplines
  o transmit theologically-related knowledge, skills and ideas to a variety of audiences

Applications of Knowledge and Skills
- the ability to make high level, independent judgments related to a range of issues pertaining to Christian living and/or ministry.

ASSESSMENT

Graduate students are expected to give evidence of a breadth and a depth of understanding beyond that of an undergraduate student. In particular, their work should manifest the higher order skills of:

- Analysis - the ability to recognize the distinctive aspects of a topic, and the inter-relationships between them.
- Synthesis - the ability to integrate the various aspects of a topic and see them in the light of the whole.
- Evaluation - the ability to think critically and originally, making judgments based on relevant evidence and methods.

ARTICULATION TO OTHER AWARDS

Students are eligible to articulate to the Graduate Diploma of Arts (GradDipA) or the Master of Arts (MA).

ADMISSION TO CANDIDATURE

1. An applicant for admission to candidature for a degree of Graduate Certificate in Arts shall:
   a. have qualified for admission to a three-year degree from an accredited Australian tertiary institution; or
   b. hold, from a university or other tertiary institution, qualifications approved by the Student Administration Committee of the SCD as equivalent to a three year degree.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation the Student Administration Committee of the SCD may require an applicant to demonstrate fitness for admission as a candidate for this degree by carrying out such work and/or sitting for such examinations as the Student Administration Committee may determine.

3. In exceptional cases an applicant may be admitted as a candidate for a Graduate Certificate in Arts if the applicant submits evidence of other academic and professional attainments to the Student Administration Committee of the SCD.

4. A Candidate for the award 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.

5. No candidate for the award may be concurrently enrolled in any other undergraduate or postgraduate course within the Sydney College of Divinity or any other tertiary institution, unless approval has been granted by the Academic Board of the SCD.

6. Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally will be required to demonstrate competency in English by an IELTS (or equivalent) 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.

7. Application for admission into the Graduate Certificate in Arts program is made through the Registrar of St Andrew’s.

8. Units at 8500 level may be available to cross-institutional students, non-award students, and auditors after consultation with the Registrar.

STRUCTURE

1. The Graduate Certificate in Arts requires no less than 36 credit points (four units).
2. One foundational course unit in Theology is assigned by St Andrew’s, namely Introducing Theology.
3. Units shall be taken from the list given above under ‘Available Units’.
4. Each unit has a 9 credit point value unless otherwise stated.

PERIOD OF CANDIDATURE

1. The period of candidature for the degree shall normally be six months full-time and eighteen months part-time.
2. In certain circumstances the Student Administration Committee of the SCD may grant extensions.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1. The Student Administration Committee of the SCD, at the recommendation of St Andrew’s, may grant leave of absence from the Graduate Certificate in Arts. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the degree.
2. The period of leave shall normally be one semester after which a student may apply for a further period of one semester or else be required to complete their candidature.

ASSESSMENT

1. The assessment of units shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board of the SCD in line with its established guidelines for assessment packages at 8500 level.
2. Students may be required by the Academic Board of the SCD to present themselves for oral examination.
3. Academic and non-academic misconduct will be penalised severely in accordance with the regulations of the SCD.

**CREDIT FOR PREVIOUS STUDY**

A student may seek credit up to a maximum of 18 credit points in the Graduate Certificate in Arts. Credit can be granted only from units at graduate level where the outcomes, content, demand hours and assessment are equivalent to that of units in the SCD award.

**DELIVERY OF UNITS**

1. Units are offered primarily by weekly evening lectures on campus during each semester. Please consult the ‘Timetable’ page on the website.
2. Units are also offered via distance education (online) mode within the parameters of the two regular semesters. Units designated as foundational include a compulsory on-campus residential component. Please consult the ‘Distance Education’ page on the website for more information.

**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.

All students are invited to consider applying for a scholarship using the Enrolment Form available on the website.

Scholarship A  
*For full time students in the Bachelor of Theology*

Students undertaking the three year study program (focused on the BTh with an additional ecclesial program) on a full time basis (i.e. 36 credit points per semester) are normally provided a scholarship which may include free room and board within the college dormitory (subject to approval) and pays for up to 70% of the tuition fee per 9 credit point unit.

Scholarship B  
*For clergymen and/or their spouses*

Orthodox Christian clergymen serving within the jurisdictions of local hierarchs who belong to the Episcopal Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of Oceania may undertake any course of study and receive a scholarship which pays for up to 50% of the tuition fee per 9 credit point unit on the condition that they have enrolled in at least 18 credit points in a semester unless their final semester of study normally involves only 9 credit points. Such clergymen must provide a reference letter from their local hierarch if they are not under the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia. The wife of such a clergyman may also access the same scholarship.

Scholarship C  
*For current volunteer Scripture Teachers and Sunday School Teachers*

Current volunteer Scripture Teachers and Sunday School Teachers undertaking the Diploma of Christian Studies are normally provided a scholarship pays for up to 50% of the tuition fee per 9 credit point unit on the condition that they have enrolled in at least 18 credit points in a semester unless their final semester of study normally involves only 9 credit points. Such persons must provide a reference letter from their parish priest which clearly describes their teaching role and lists the school(s) which they serve.
Scholarship D

For students in any course of study at St Andrew’s

Students undertaking any course of study through St Andrew’s but who do not qualify for any of the scholarships listed above, are normally provided a scholarship which pays for up to 40% of the tuition fee per 9 credit point unit on the condition that they have enrolled in at least 18 credit points in a semester unless their final semester of study normally involves only 9 credit points.