

Postgraduate Courses

Master of Arts

Duration 1.5 years Full Time

ACCS is Member Institution of the Sydney College of Divinity and teaches their awards.

The Master of Arts (MA) course is great for those who hold a tertiary qualification in a non-theological discipline, and who wish to pursue a graduate qualification in theology, and who are seeking skills in theological studies to enhance their professional work.

The MA is accessed by first completing the Graduate Certificate in Arts.

It is also suitable for those who hold an undergraduate degree in ministry or theology who would like to broaden their studies in these areas. Holders of these degrees can proceed directly to the Master of Arts.

Incorporated within this qualification are two exit points:

- A Graduate Certificate in Arts may be awarded after the successful completion of four subjects.
- A Graduate Diploma of Arts may be awarded after the successful completion of eight subjects.

Discipline specialisations (6 subjects) within the Master of Arts are available in:

- Christian Leadership
- Pastoral Counselling (it should be noted that this specialisation does not lead to employment as a Counsellor without further study and practicum placement).
- Biblical Studies
- Theology

Master of Divinity

Duration 3 years Full Time

The Master of Divinity is designed as a graduate entry program in theology which provides a comprehensive education in theology comparable in breadth and depth to the Bachelor of Theology, but more rigorous in its academic requirements. It is a comprehensive degree leading to Christian Ministry or graduate research study in theology at the highest level.

The award provides a systematic and comprehensive study of theology and related disciplines through a structure of majors and sub- majors.

Master of Divinity graduates should be able to:

- demonstrate a critical appreciation and knowledge of the core disciplines of scripture and Theology and a selection of related disciplines and their respective methodologies
- critically evaluate primary and secondary material in the various disciplines

- acquire deeper knowledge of some of the key debates in their major area of study
- display independent research skills within one major area of study
- appreciate the social/historical/ literary context/background of their major subject area
- communicate their understanding of the faith to a variety of audiences and engage in dialogue with the contemporary world
- engage in ministry or associated activities
- appreciate the benefits of a theological education and its potential for making a useful contribution to society
- value various theological traditions
- build tolerance in a multi-cultural society through respecting the views of others

Master of Theology

Duration 1.5 years Full Time

The Master of Theology is a graduate program designed for those who hold a Bachelor of Theology or equivalent and wish to pursue theological studies in greater depth and at greater rigour, with up to 54 credit points able to be taken in the one sub-discipline. The sub-discipline available through ACCS is Theology or Biblical Studies.

Candidates should be able to:

Knowledge:

- deepen their understanding of theological problems/issues which have emerged in their ministerial/professional experience
- develop theological underpinnings for pastoral strategies/renewal
- incorporate learning from emerging and developing areas of theology such as bioethics, ecumenical dialogues, interdisciplinary approaches
- acquire deeper knowledge of some of the key debates in their subject area
- Skills:
- refine their capacity to think through issues/problems from a variety of perspectives
- develop a capacity to negotiate pluralism. Graduates will acquire skills of interaction with contexts, cultures and individuals from whom they differ
- access the major bibliographical references in their subject area
- Values:
- through interaction with peers and faculty members from a variety of traditions,
- value the variety of expressions of different Christian traditions and develop a mature understanding of genuine difference
- demonstrate an open, critical stance towards theological disciplines and traditions
- appreciate the value of a commitment to life-long learning
- appreciate the social/historical/ literary context/background of their subject area