

**REGULATION 61****GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PASTORAL AND SPIRITUAL CARE**

Current version with effect from: 1 Jan 2023

Approved by: Council

Approval History: 3 Dec 2014, 26 Apr 2017, 20 Jun 2018, 10 Nov 2021

**61.1 Admission and Enrolment**

61.1.1 A person may apply to the Academic Board to enrol as a candidate for the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care if he or she:

- a) has obtained or is qualified to obtain a Bachelor degree from the University of Divinity or from a university or college recognised by the Academic Board; or
- b) has obtained a Graduate Certificate from the University of Divinity.

61.1.2 Notwithstanding any other provision in this Regulation, the Academic Board may require an applicant to demonstrate fitness for admission by carrying out such work and sitting for such examinations or meeting such other standards as the Academic Board may decide.

61.1.3 An applicant who meets the requirements of the Academic Board may be admitted as a candidate for the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care in a College of the University.

61.1.4 Every candidate for the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care must be enrolled during the period of candidature at a College of the University, and must comply with the requirements of that College and of the University. Candidates may study units offered at other Colleges of the University.

61.1.5 The Academic Board may discontinue the candidature of any person whom it deems to have made unsatisfactory progress.

**61.2 Course Structure**

61.2.1 The standard full-time duration of the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care is one year. The Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care must be completed in not less than one year and not more than three years from the date on which the course is commenced, not including any approved periods of leave of absence, unless the Academic Board decides otherwise.

61.2.2 Every course of study for the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care must consist of 144 points.

61.2.3 The Academic Board must establish course outcomes for the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care.

61.2.4 The Academic Board must decide the number and type of units required to complete the course of study and to meet the course outcomes for the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care.

61.2.5 No candidate for the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care may enrol in more than 72 points in any one semester, unless the Academic Board decides otherwise.

**61.3 Credit**

61.3.1 The Academic Board may grant credit of up to 72 points towards the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care. The Academic Board may establish specific credit arrangements for the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care. Where credit is granted, the minimum term for completion of the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care is reduced accordingly.

**61.4 Award**

61.4.1 When a candidate has completed the requirements for the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care, the Academic Board may recommend that the award be made to the candidate. A candidate to whom such an award has been made is entitled to use the letters 'GDPSC' as a suffix to his or her name.

**SCHEDULE TO REGULATION 61****GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PASTORAL AND SPIRITUAL CARE**

Current version with effect from: 1 Jan 2023

Approved by: Academic Board

Approval History: 14 Nov 2014, 6 Nov 2015, 1 Jun 2018, 23 Apr 2021

**61.2 Course Structure****61.2.3 Statement of Rationale and Course Outcomes**

The Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care provides students with the opportunity and skills for reflective and critical engagement in the conversation between the texts of human experience, contemporary culture, ministry or service or wider societal context, and Christian scriptures and tradition. The purpose of this engagement is to encourage the development of relevant, flexible strategies for effective pastoral mission and practice in partnership with all those who seek to serve the world through individual or systemic practice.

Graduates of the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care:

1. have knowledge of sources, terms and concepts required for theological engagement and articulate the nature of practical theology as a method of biblical and theological inquiry;
2. apply their own experience and practice (personal or professional) to social and behavioural sciences and / or cultural studies and offer an integration of these with the Christian tradition;
3. have skills to explore issues of Christian identity, personal vocation and self-understanding through the methods and practices of theological reflection and dialogical engagement with their ministry and mission context;
4. apply advanced pastoral helping skills with a developed capacity to engage in the processes of theological reflection.

**61.2.4 The Graduate Diploma in Pastoral and Spiritual Care consists of 144 points comprised of:**

- a) 72 points of Postgraduate Foundational units comprised of:
  - i) 24 points in the discipline of Biblical Studies
  - ii) 24 points in the discipline of Systematic Theology
  - iii) 24 points in the discipline of Pastoral Theology and Ministry Studies
- b) 72 points of postgraduate units in the discipline of Pastoral Theology and Ministry Studies

**61.3 Credit**

61.3.1 Credit may be granted in accordance with the Credit Policy of the Academic Board.