

SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS
ORTHODOX INSTITUTE

HANDBOOK 2022



“Divinely wise Cyril and Methodius, Equals-to-the-Apostles and teachers of the Slavs, entreat the Master of all to strengthen all nations in Orthodoxy and unity of mind, to grant peace to the world and to save our souls.”

This Handbook should be read in conjunction with the advice and policies published on the Adelaide College of Divinity website: www.acd.edu.au

The information in this Handbook may be updated, amended or corrected from time to time. The current version is available online at www.scmoi.edu.au

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ACD is registered by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) as a Higher Education Provider. Details of ACD's registration and course accreditation in this sector can be found on the TEQSA National Register (<https://www.teqsa.gov.au>).

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ABOUT SCMOI

Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Institute (SCMOI) serves to equip current and future clergy, leaders, teachers, and Christian men and women generally to know, apply, and communicate the Orthodox Faith.

SCMOI is the higher education institute of the Australian and New Zealand Diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia. Founded in 2017, with the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Hilarion, First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia, SCMOI is the only Russian Orthodox institute of higher learning established in the Southern hemisphere. SCMOI aims to be of service to the Orthodox Church across Australasia.

MISSION

To equip clergy and the faithful that they may better:

Know the Faith – understand what the Church teaches and why it matters.

Communicate the Faith – as effective communicators who share their faith in word and deed both within and beyond the Church.

Apply the Faith – to everyday life and the challenges confronting the Church and our society.

Live the Faith – as faithful disciples of Christ, growing in grace through prayer and participation in the life of the Church.

SCMOI offers accredited tertiary awards and degrees, through the Adelaide College of Divinity; Continuing professional development (CPD) for clergy, parish workers, and volunteers; and occasional public lectures and seminars.

GOVERNANCE

Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Institute Limited is an incorporated not-for-profit company limited by guarantee (ACN: 623 975 913) and a registered charity with the ACNC. The Constitution of SCMOI is online at www.scmoi.edu.au

Company Board

His Eminence Metropolitan Hilarion (Chairman):

First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia

His Grace Bishop George (Vice-Chairman):

Bishop of Canberra, Australian and New Zealand Diocese ROCOR

Very Rev. Dr Michael Protopopov, OAM (Company Secretary):

Chancellor, Australian and New Zealand Diocese ROCOR

Very Rev. Nicholas Karipoff: *Rector, Holy Protection Cathedral, East Brunswick*

Very Rev. Gabriel Makarov: *Rector, St Nicholas Cathedral, Brisbane*

Mrs Julia Harrop: *Human Resource Manager, Ruscare, Dandenong.*

SCMOI FACULTY

Rev. Dr John D'Alton, BTh, BMin, GradDipMissionStudies (Tabor, Vic.), PhD (Monash)

Theology

Rev. Dr Erich Fein, BS (USAFA), MFA (EWU), MA, PhD (OSU)

Christian Leadership

Very Rev. Dr Peter A.L. Hill, BA(Adel), DipTheol(PTCVic), MAprelim, MAHons, PhD(Melb), FRAS

Institute Director; New Testament, Hermeneutics & Homiletics

Very Rev. Nicholas Karipoff, BA(UNSW), BTh(SUNY)

Theology

Dr Danijel Kevesevic, BThHons, PhD(Flind), AdvDipLdshp&Mgt (DeptEd)

Old Testament

Very Rev. Nemanja Mrdjenovic, BA(UWS), MATheol(SCD), Cand. DMin(ACD)

Christian Discipleship, Spiritual Life

Very Rev. Dr Michael Protopopov, OAM, TPTC(Burwood), BEd, GradDipEdAdmin(VU),

BTheol(MCD), MPhil, PhD(ACU), MACE

Church History

Subdeacon Irenaeus (Dr Ryan) Strickler, BA(Spring Arbor), MA(CompRel)(WestMich), MA(Hist),

MA(Class)(Kentucky), PhD(MU)

Greek & Patristics

Dr Primrose Mira White, BSc, DipEdPsych, MPsych, PhD (Monash), MAPS

Pastoral Psychology

Distinguished Visiting Faculty

His Eminence Metropolitan Jonah (Paffhausen), BA(UCSC), MDiv, MTh(SVOTS)

His Grace Bishop Irenei (Steenberg), BA, MSt, DPhil(Oxon)

Very Rev. Dr Peter Alban Heers, BTh, MTh, DTh (AUTH)

Rev. Protodeacon Dr Andrei Psarev BTh (SUNY), MTh(SVOTS), PhD(QUB)

STAFF

Librarian

Ms Melanie Hechenberger, BAHons, MA (Monash), MInfoM (RMIT)

Administrative Assistant

Mrs Anastasia Metlenko, BSc (Specialist) (Belarussian State University)

Honorary Chaplain

Very Rev. George Lapardin, BTh(SUNY)

...casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ...

2 Corinthians 10:5 (NKJV)

HIGHER EDUCATION

SCMOI delivers higher education courses for students seeking to deepen their understanding and practice of the Orthodox faith, whether as current or prospective clergy, as informed and active laity, or as emerging scholars.

APPROACH

- **Traditional**

Course content delivered by SCMOI is firmly grounded in the fulness of “the faith which was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3). We teach the abiding truth of the Church revealed in the Holy Scriptures and Holy Tradition, framed by the Orthodox heritage of worship, prayer and transformed life.

- **Engaged**

We create opportunities for students to engage deeply in their own learning, to apply knowledge across contexts and to reflect effectively. On-line delivery and resources enable students to tailor study to the demands of their situation. Above all, studying at SCMOI is about belonging to an educational community engaged with the love of the Father, the grace of the Son and the communion of the Holy Spirit.

- **Practical**

Learning focuses on solid educational outcomes that will equip graduates to serve the Church, live faithfully, communicate effectively, and confidently address current and emerging challenges.

ASSOCIATION WITH ADELAIDE COLLEGE OF DIVINITY

SCMOI has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Adelaide College of Divinity (ACD) and the Uniting College for Leadership and Theology (UCLT), enabling SCMOI to offer ACD courses. ACD courses are government accredited, meet strict quality standards, and are monitored for regulatory compliance. They are equivalent at their respective levels to Australian university courses and recognised nationally and internationally. Eligible Australian students can access the Commonwealth Government’s FEE-HELP scheme.

ACD was founded in 1979, when several denominations came together to offer an institution of high-quality theological and ministry formation.

Our partnership with ACD and UCLT is academic, educational and administrative. It ensures that the units offered by SCMOI meet ACD requirements and that they are Orthodox in content and ethos, being taught by a well-qualified and experienced faculty of Orthodox academics and clergy.

AUDIT STUDENTS

Audit enrolment is also called "Non-Award Study". Audit students attend the online classes but are not assessed and audit enrolment does not achieve a qualification. It is a good option for those who want the benefit of attending classes but who do not want to commit to formal study. You might also audit a unit to check out whether an award course is the path for you. You will need first to enrol with SCMOI and then to enrol as an audit student with ACD for the selected units. If you are interested in auditing a unit please contact us at info@scmoi.edu.au

AWARD COURSES

ACD award courses consist of ministry units, i.e., units that teach and apply a body of knowledge accented on service. These courses enable students to integrate knowledge with experience and to develop their capacity for Christian service in real world situations.

ACD courses comprise of semester length units. For example, the Diploma of Ministry course requires completing eight units with a total value of 36 credit points.

1.1 Undergraduate courses:

Certificate of Ministry	1 Semester full-time or part-time equivalent	4 units, 18 Credit points
Certificate of Christian Leadership	1 Semester full-time or part-time equivalent	4 units, 18 Credit points
Diploma of Ministry (DipMin)	1 year full-time or part-time equivalent	8 units, 36 Credit points
AssocMin	2 years full-time or part-time equivalent	16 units, 72 Credit points
BMin	3 years full-time or part-time equivalent	24 units, 108 Credit points

1.2 ACD undergraduate course outcomes

Graduates of the Diploma of Ministry will have:

- developed foundational skills in the core areas of ministry practice
- the ability to apply skills in ministry contexts, including employed and voluntary roles
- developed the ability to access, comprehend and evaluate information across the disciplines of ministry practice
- developed interpersonal and teamwork skills applicable to a range of ministry practice contexts
- begun to develop skills which foster self-directed lifelong learning.
- have developed at least one area of specialization within the disciplines of ministry practice, and the ability to apply that knowledge to ministry contexts
- be responsible and accountable for their exercise of ministry practice
- have foundational skills in leadership in the context of ministry practice.

Graduates of the Associate Degree of Ministry will have:

- acquired academic and practical skills to access, comprehend and evaluate information across the disciplines of ministry studies
- developed two areas of specialisation within the disciplines of ministry practice
- developed ministry skills at an introductory level relevant to a range of employment or voluntary work contexts
- developed a capacity for self-directed and lifelong learning
- developed interpersonal, communication, creative and teamwork skills appropriate to a range of employment or voluntary ministry contexts.
- have the ability to apply ministry practice skills across a range of employment or voluntary ministry contexts
- have developed two areas of specialisation within the disciplines of ministry practice
- have developed the ability to integrate theory and practice within a range of ministry practice settings
- have developed foundational leadership skills for planning, problem solving and decision making applicable to a variety of ministry contexts.

Graduates of the Bachelor of Ministry will have:

- the cognitive skills to undertake research, analyse information and apply knowledge and techniques learned in an academic or professional context
- developed skills for self-directed and life-long learning
- skills and capacities to be a reflective ministry practitioner, integrating aspects of theory and practice in an academic or professional context
- developed interpersonal, communication, creative and teamwork skills appropriate to employment and/or further study.
- be able to initiate, plan, problem solve and implement decisions in a leadership role in a range of ministry contexts
- have the appropriate knowledge and skills to make independent judgements in a range of leadership contexts
- be able to identify and apply innovative approaches and solutions to issues arising in ministry practice
- understand the dynamics of healthy interpersonal relationships, and be able to generate appropriate trust
- have skills and capacities to be a reflective practitioner.

1.3. ACD undergraduate course admission

Admission to ACD undergraduate awards is open to applicants who have:

- Satisfactorily completed the final year of secondary schooling in the Australian secondary system including the International Baccalaureate or other equivalent year 12 qualification; or
- Satisfactorily completed or part completed a higher education qualification from an Australian University or TEQSA registered Higher Education Provider; or
- Completed a recognised bridging, foundations or enabling course; or
- Completed vocational education and training (VET) study at Certificate IV level or above from a registered training provider.

Applicants who do not meet any of the above entry criteria, may still be able to qualify for entry into the ACD undergraduate awards by:

- Supplying a statement with information regarding your work, life experience. This statement will be reviewed by the ACD Undergraduate Co-ordinator for fitness of admission.
- Granted provisional admission by the Undergraduate Coordinator for a specified period, in accordance with the Provisional Entry policy.

Domestic applicants with overseas qualifications will be assessed by the Undergraduate Coordinator for admission into undergraduate awards. Overseas qualifications are expected to be translated into English where necessary.

2.1 Postgraduate courses (ACD):

- Graduate Certificate in Ministry Studies (GCertMin)
- Graduate Diploma in Ministry (GDipMin).
- Master of Ministry (MMin)
- Doctor of Ministry (DMin)

The **Graduate Certificate in Ministry Studies** (GCertMin) builds on the core unit, Reflecting on Best Practice in Ministry. It prepares students for advanced thinking and skills used in the area of Ministry Practice. Building on the core unit, students can either choose three Guided Studies units or three Coursework units.

The path that you will take depends on whether you already hold a degree in ministry or theology (these students follow guided studies), or rather a degree in a different discipline (these students follow coursework units).

For the GCertMin course structure see SCMOI Course Template 4 (p. 22 in this Handbook)

The **Graduate Diploma in Ministry** (GDipMin) is a postgraduate professional diploma aimed at developing advanced knowledge and skills for innovative Christian leadership in a range of ordained and lay ministry settings and preparing students for advanced research.

The Graduate Diploma in Ministry offers the opportunity for students with an undergraduate degree in ministry or theology to specialise in areas of professional interest. It is also suitable for those with a degree in another discipline to advance their ability to apply theological and scriptural knowledge and ministry practice skills to their field of expertise. Students enrolled in the ACD Master of Ministry who have completed the required components, may choose to exit with a Graduate Diploma in Ministry.

For the GDipMin course structure see SCMOI Course Template 5 (p. 23 in this Handbook)

Notwithstanding ACD requirements, SCMOI does not normally admit candidates to the Graduate Certificate in Ministry Studies and the Graduate Diploma in Ministry who do not have a three-year qualification in ministry and/or theology.

However, persons with relevant ministry experience may be admitted to Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma if under certain circumstances and subject to specific conditions, they can show evidence of fitness for candidature.

2.2 Postgraduate Research Degrees

From 2023 it is anticipated that SCMOI will the research degrees of **Master of Theology** and **Doctor of Philosophy**. It is envisaged that SCMOI will offer co-supervision in the fields of Theology, Patristics, New Testament, and Leadership studies. Research in other fields may be possible depending on supervisor availability. Students interested in attempting a research degree should in the first instance contact the Institute Director.

CENSUS DATE

The census date in each semester is the last date on which students are able to withdraw from a higher education unit without incurring either the tuition fee or FEE-HELP debt.

CHAPLAIN and COUNSELLING

An Orthodox priest is appointed chaplain to the Institute. The chaplain is available to all SCMOI staff and students for confidential consultation and spiritual advice. Should the need arise, the chaplain can assist you in identifying an appropriate counselling service in your location.

Chaplain: Archpriest George Lapardin

Contact by calling the SCMOI Office, or email: info@scmoi.edu.au

COURSE DELIVERY

SCMOI offers all course units at distance. Students access instruction and resources online, from the convenience of their own location, whether in Australia or overseas. We use interactive technology that is user-friendly and that provides an authentic classroom experience.

SCMOI also schedules an annual study week (the Residential School), enabling students to gather on site with faculty and visiting lecturers for an enriched learning experience.

CROSS-INSTITUTIONAL STUDY

Students currently studying at an Australian university may be eligible to take one or more units for cross-institutional credit.

Contact your university to find out how many elective units you can study, then contact SCMOI to discuss your study options and which ACD units can be taken for cross-credit. Arrangements for cross-institutional enrolment are made between your university and ACD.

Austudy and FEE-HELP assistance are available to university students undertaking studies for cross-institutional credit towards university programmes.

FEES – TUITION (ACD)

Tuition fees for courses of study are set annually by ACD. Students must pay ACD tuition fees at the time of enrolment or apply for a FEE-HELP loan. Library membership and Handbooks are included in the tuition fee. See [Adelaide College of Divinity Fees \(acd.edu.au\)](http://acd.edu.au)

Fee structure (2022)

Course	Undergraduate	Postgraduate (inc. MMin/DMin)
*1 EFTSL	36 credit points	36 credit points
Fee 1 EFTSL (p.a.)	\$15800.00	\$18280.00
#EFTSL	0.125 (4.5 credit points)	0.125 (4.5 credit points)
Fee per Unit	\$1975.00	\$2285.00
Audit	\$350	N/A

*1 EFTSL: Equivalent Full Time Student Load. The unit load of a full-time course of study over one year is 36 credit points which is 1 EFTSL.

#EFTSL per Unit of Study: The proportion of a full-time student load for a year that is undertaken by a student enrolled in a unit of study.

FEE-HELP and AUSTUDY

Students enrolled in higher education courses may apply for FEE-HELP loans. These loans are not means tested and are available to Australian citizens and people in Australia on Permanent Humanitarian Visas. For further information, contact ACD Student Services.

Austudy (for those over 25 years of age) or Youth Allowance (16-24 years, means tested) may be available.

Students normally are required to enrol in at least 75% of the normal full-time work load to be eligible for Austudy and Youth Allowance.

For further information on Austudy and Youth Allowance see your nearest Centrelink office. Students receiving Austudy or Youth Allowance should notify Centrelink if their enrolment falls below a full-time load in any semester. The national Centrelink telephone number for inquiries is 13 24 90. The Centrelink web site may be found at www.centrelink.gov.au.

GRADING SYSTEM

HD High Distinction 85-100%; DN Distinction 75-84%; CR Credit 65-74%; P Pass 50-64%; F Fail 0-49%; NGP Non-graded Pass; SATIS Satisfactory; WN Withdraw, Not Fail.

A student who fails the same unit twice may not re-enrol in that unit without special permission. Refer to the ACD Policies on Assessment and on Academic Review of Student Progress (refer ACD website or contact student services officer for policies).

LANGUAGE STUDIES

Historic languages are an integral component of the Orthodox tradition. While recognising that languages can be a challenging area of study, we believe it is important that SCMOI students have an opportunity to gain a basic proficiency in biblical and traditional liturgical languages. For this reason, all SCMOI Associate Degree/Bachelor of Ministry candidates are required to undertake MINS2704 Biblical Greek, and Clergy Track candidates also undertake Church Slavonic (Faith and Life Track

candidates have the option of taking Church Slavonic). Students with prior proficiency in Greek may undertake a Guided Reading unit in Greek (Bible or Patristics) in lieu of MINS2704. In the case of students from non-Slavic jurisdictions, where possible we will attempt to facilitate the study of their traditional liturgical language. Exemptions from language study may be granted in special circumstances.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE and WITHDRAWAL FROM A COURSE

Students enrolled in an ACD course may apply for leave of absence from the course normally for one calendar year. The application should be made in writing and submitted for approval before the census date through ACD Student Services. An extension beyond one year may be granted in special circumstances.

Students who choose to withdraw from their ACD course once enrolled should complete an ACD Amendment Form. Students must apply for leave from their course before the census date, in order to retain their place in the course.

Students who do not have approved leave and are absent from a course for two consecutive semesters or more shall be deemed to have withdrawn from their ACD course.

LIBRARY RESOURCES

Adelaide Theological Library

Formed in 1997, the Adelaide Theological Library supports the teaching and research of the Adelaide College of Divinity and the Flinders University Department of Theology.

The Library holds over 60,000 titles and provides an extensive collection of online electronic publications. SCMOI students enrolled with ACD have access to the Library, including borrowing arrangements for distance students.

Library contact details: T: 08 8416 8416 W: <https://atl.org.au/>

SCMOI Research Library

The SCMOI Research Library commenced in 2021. A few thousand volumes of academic works, including significant holdings in Russian, and some sets of journals have been acquired. Our goal is to build the collection so as to provide comprehensive Orthodox resources for current and future generations of students, researchers, and the wider community. The collection currently is being catalogued which, for the present, limits borrowing facilities. When completed, the catalogue will be available and searchable online. But students and visitors are welcome to browse the collection and copying and scanning facilities are available (subject to copyright regulations).

Contact details: T: 03 8595 4350 E: library@scmoi.edu.au W: www.scmoi.edu.au/library-1

PREREQUISITE

A prerequisite is a unit or units which must be completed before a higher-level unit may be studied.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SCMOI policies and procedures related to student and staff behaviour, academic integrity, and the functioning of the Institute are made available online as developed at www.scmoi.edu.au. As an agency of the Church, diocesan policy, ethical standards and the compliance required of clergy and congregations, where applicable applies equally to the operation of SCMOI and the behaviour of staff and students. ACD policy and procedures are online at <https://www.acd.edu.au/policies-procedures>

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)

Applicants for admission into ACD courses who bring with them knowledge and abilities gained as the result of work experience and/or life experience may be granted credit toward studies in the Diploma, Associate Degree or Bachelor of Ministry.

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL

The Residential School provides a valuable opportunity for students and staff to come together in a structured environment for a week of prayer, instruction, and interaction. The Residential School supplements regular distance delivery by helping to build a sense of community, enrich the learning experience, and to strengthen relationships across the Institute. The Residential School is an integral component of our academic programme and students are expected to attend.

Full details of the July Residential School are made available in March. The Residential School is heavily subsidised by the Institute to keep costs for students to a minimum.

STUDENT SERVICES

ACD Student Services are available to assist you with matters relating to admission, enrolment in ACD courses, FEE-HELP applications and student cards.

Student Services is open Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.00pm.

Contact: E: nfo@acd.edu.au W: www.acd.edu.au T: 08 8416 8400

SUPERVISED FIELD EDUCATION (SFE)

Supervised Field Education (SFE) is the component of the degree course where the knowledge, skills and attitudes developed in course units are put into practice. Further details of SFE are provided in the undergraduate unit descriptions.

TIME COMMITMENT

Most SCMOI students enrol part-time in their ACD course. Any enrolment less than 13.5 credit points in a semester is considered part-time.

Undergraduate units are taught two to three hours per week. This 'class' time (**scheduled hours**) may consist of lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work or field education. Scheduled hours are considered 'contact' time.

Students should expect to spend at least twice the amount of contact time in non-contact time outside class, in activities such as reading, research, and writing up essays and assignments. For example, a student enrolled in one 4.5 credit point unit in a semester should allow a minimum of 6 to 9 hours per week: 2 to 3 contact hours and 4 to 6 non-contact hours.

The guideline for the total amount of student work expected for each unit is 1000 words per credit point. For each 4.5 credit point unit students should expect to submit 4500 words, or the equivalent in other forms of assessment.

ENROLMENT

BEFORE APPLYING

If you are considering applying to study with us, it is helpful to contact us first. We will be pleased to help you decide on the course that best suits you and to discuss your options.

STEP 1

Apply for SCMOI enrolment

The first step is to apply to us to become an enrolled student at SCMOI. The SCMOI enrolment form is online at www.scmoi.edu.au/apply-now

Completion of this step enrolls you as a SCMOI student. Please do not commence an ACD application until notified that your SCMOI enrolment is confirmed.

It is important to note that students intending to enrol for undergraduate ACD courses must satisfy ACD admission requirements. SCMOI policy is that students intending to undertake an undergraduate award who have not (1) satisfactorily completed or part completed a higher education qualification from an Australian University or TEQSA registered Higher Education Provider; or else (2) have not completed a recognised bridging, foundations or enabling course; are required to complete and pass

the **ACD PEAT** (Preliminary Entry Admissions Test). Intending students who have satisfactorily completed the final year of secondary schooling in the Australian secondary system including the International Baccalaureate or other equivalent Year 12 qualification, may in some circumstances be required to complete and pass the **ACD PEAT** to qualify for admission to an ACD undergraduate award course.

STEP 2

Apply to ACD

Once advised that your enrolment with SCMOI is confirmed, and you have decided on your course, you then apply to ACD.

ACD application is made online (<https://www.acd.edu.au/steps-forms> or go to the “Apply Now” tab on the ACD website). If your application is approved, you will be asked to complete an online enrolment form where you can also choose subjects.

You must provide documentary evidence of prior qualifications with your completed admission form, due by early February (Semester 1) or by early July (Semester 2).

Applications are normally processed within two weeks, applicants are notified of a decision via email or post from ACD.

Applicants who have successfully been granted admission into the ACD courses need to arrange an interview (online or telephone) with a SCMOI course coordinator prior to completing the Higher Education Enrolment Form (<https://www.acd.edu.au/steps-forms>).

For credit transfer and Recognised Prior Learning you need to complete the Application for Status form available from ACD Student Services and attach supporting documentary evidence. The amount of status to be granted will vary as each application for status is considered on an individual basis in relation to the rule of the award.

For FEE-HELP assistance please contact ACD Student Services.

STEP 3

Orientation

On completion of Step 2, SCMOI will contact you to advise about online class-times and other arrangements for the units in which you have enrolled.

The Institute **timetable** and **class schedule** are available online at www.scmoi.edu.au.

In the week prior to the commencement of each semester, an online **Orientation session** is held. This is for all students and faculty. The Orientation session allows you to become familiar with the online platform, meet fellow students and teachers, ask questions, and to learn about study strategies, academic integrity, and Institute requirements.

SCMOI PROGRAMME TRACKS

The SCMOI undergraduate programme has two tracks:

1. Clergy (in-service/pre-service) Track
2. Faith and Life Track

1. Clergy (in-service/pre-service) Track

The Clergy Track focuses on currently serving clergy (in-service) and men preparing for ordination (pre-service) in the Orthodox Church. The academic content of the track is at seminary level.

Enrolment in this track, whether as a cleric or pre-service candidate, is subject to the blessing of the applicant’s Ruling Bishop. Pre-service candidates are expected to participate actively in the life of their local parish and will be partnered with a clerical mentor for the duration of their course.

1) Diploma of Ministry (DipMin)

The Clergy Track DipMin (one year full-time or part-time equivalent; 36 Credit points) provides some foundational theological study in the disciplines underpinning pastoral ministry.

It is a basic qualification tailored for:

- Serving clergy without a formal theological qualification who are unable to commit to an extended course of study;
- Clergy wanting a 'refresher' course;
- Clergy with a theological qualification from a non-Orthodox institution who seek a structured foundation specifically in Orthodox faith and practice; and
- Mature-age pre-service candidates or others who due to their circumstances are unable to commit to an extended course of study.

For course structure see SCMOI Course Template 1 (p. 17 in this Handbook).

2) Associate Degree of Ministry (AssocMin)

The Clergy Track AssocMin (two years full-time or part-time equivalent; 72 Credit points) provides an up-to-date understanding of major pastoral concepts and theories as well as the skills to apply them to life situations as effective practitioners. Providing the same unit foundation as the BMin, the SCMOI course also provides for beginning specialisation in Biblical Studies and Missiology. This course supports the acquisition of knowledge, skills and attitudes relevant to pastoral service. Study at this level requires students to become critical and independent learners.

For course structure see SCMOI Course Template 2A (p. 18 in this Handbook).

3) Bachelor of Ministry (BMin)

The goal of the Clergy Track BMin (three years full-time or part-time equivalent; 108 Credit points) is to thoroughly form candidates in Orthodox faith and pastoral practice, and to equip them to be competent in establishing, developing, transforming and growing healthy communities and networks. The BMin provides a strong foundation across the full range of theological disciplines, together with Supervised Field Education and integrative studies, to equip candidates for contemporary pastoral service.

Candidates seeking to prepare for the priesthood, are strongly encouraged to enrol in the BMin course.

For course structure see SCMOI Course Templates 3A (p. 20 in this Handbook).

Developmental workshops

Clergy Track candidates also attend four developmental workshops (bi-annual cycle):

DW1: The ROCOR Normal Parish By-Laws (1 session, 3 hours).

DW2: Parish compliance (legal and regulatory requirements for religious charities, privacy, risk management) (2 sessions, 4 hours in total).

DW3: Homiletics (4 sessions, 6 hours in total).

DW4: Working with children (legal, regulatory and ethical requirements when working with children, child safety) (1 session, 3 hours).

The workshops normally are scheduled out of semester. There is no fee for enrolled SCMOI students. These workshops are internal to SCMOI and do not earn academic credit.

2. Faith and Life Track

The SCMOI Faith and Life Track courses offer foundational depth together with electives that allow students to explore areas of interest and to develop ministry skills.

The Faith and Life Track is for adult learners of all ages who want to:

- Develop a deeper understanding of Orthodox Christianity;
- Acquire a knowledge-base and skills generally, or especially as a:
 - Leader

- Teacher
- Communicator
- Advocate
- Parish, community or youth worker;
- Undertake tertiary studies in a personally enriching and supportive Orthodox educational environment.

1) Certificates (CertMinS/CertChLdrshp)

a) **Certificate of Ministry Studies:** The Certificate is comprised of four (4) Units - 18 credit points, which students complete through a variety of online study options. This course provides a range of specific study pathways for general learners as well as options to meet the training and study needs for those working within Church (based) organisations in areas such as ministry to young people families, aged care, school chaplaincy, leadership and social services.

b) **Certificate of Christian Leadership:** The Certificate is comprised of four (4) Units - 18 credit points, which students can complete through a variety of online study options. This course provides foundational knowledge and skills in Christian Leadership at introductory level in the disciplines which comprise the professional field of ministry studies, including biblical studies, Christian educational, discipleship, leadership and missiology.

Certificates can be completed in one Semester (subject to unit availability) full-time, or part-time equivalent.

2) Diploma of Ministry (DipMin)

The Faith and Life Track DipMin (one year full-time or part-time equivalent; 36 Credit points) provides students with a core understanding of the foundations of Orthodox belief, an opportunity to reflect on what service/ministry means for them, together with a wide range of elective units.

For course structure see SCMOI Course Template 1 (p. 17 in this Handbook).

3) Associate Degree of Ministry (AssocMin)

The Faith and Life Track AssocMin (two years full-time or part-time equivalent; 72 Credit points) provides an up-to-date understanding of major ministry concepts and theories as well as the skills to apply them to life situations as effective practitioners. Providing the same foundation as the BMin, the course also provides for beginning specialisation in Biblical Studies and Missiology. This course supports the acquisition of knowledge, skills and attitudes relevant to all aspects of Christian service. Study at this level requires students to become critical and independent learners.

For course structure see SCMOI Course Template 2B (p. 19 in this Handbook).

4) Bachelor of Ministry (BMin)

The Faith and Life Track BMin (three years full-time or part-time equivalent; 108 Credit points) thoroughly grounds candidates in Orthodox faith and practice, and equips them to be competent in establishing, developing, transforming and growing healthy communities and networks. The Faith and Life Track BMin approaches ministry broadly, whether this leads to a specific lay ministry role, or to personal enrichment and leadership development for other fields of endeavour. The course provides concentrations in selected areas and opportunities to explore the application of Orthodox faith and practice to service within the Church and the wider community.

The incremental structure of the ACD courses means that candidates who enrol for the BMin can, if they choose, exit with the DipMin or the AssocMin once they have completed the respective requirements for these awards. Alternatively, candidates who enrol for either the DipMin or AssocMin have the option of continuing with full credit to the BMin course.

For course structure see SCMOI Course Template 3B (p. 20 in this Handbook).

Exit or continue as best suits your circumstances

The incremental structure of the ACD courses means that candidates who enrol for the BMin can, if they choose, exit with either the DipMin or the AssocMin once they have completed the respective requirements for those awards. This affords pre-service candidates an opportunity to undertake part of their undergraduate training at SCMOI and exit with a recognised award, preparatory to completing their studies at a residential seminary. Alternatively, candidates who satisfactorily complete either the DipMin or AssocMin have the option of continuing with full credit to the BMin.

SCMOI COURSE TEMPLATES

SCMOI Course Template 1—Diploma of Ministry

Clergy Track & Faith and Life Track

Common Core Units	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MINS1101 Interpreting the OT • MINS1201 Interpreting the NT • MINS1304 Introduction to Christian Thought • MINS1601 Spirituality for 21st Century Disciples <p style="text-align: center;"><i>or</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">MINS1604 Beyond Sunday</p>	
Clergy (in-service or pre-service) Track	Faith and Life Track
<p><u>Plus:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MINS1510 Introduction to Formation for Ministry (required for Clergy Track, optional for Faith & Life Track)[†] • MINS2324 Christian Story A • MINS2534 Liturgy and Worship • Church Slavonic (in preparation) <p>[†] Clergy Track (DipMin only) students who completed MINS1509 before 2021 are not required to complete MINS1510.</p> <p>** In part or whole delivered through UCLT.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MINS1509 Introduction to Christian Leadership <p><u>Plus (subject to availability and completion of required prerequisites) any 2 units from:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MINS2324 Christian Story A • MINS2325 Christian Story B • MINS2534 Liturgy and Worship • MINS2704 Biblical Greek • MINS2219 Synoptic Gospels • MINS2218 I & 2 Corinthians • MINS2111 Pentateuch • MINS3002 Biblical Hermeneutics • MINS2314 Theology of Jesus Christ • MINS3335 God the Trinity • MINS3605 Public Faith in a Secular Age • MINS2611 Media and Communication** • MINS3515 Leadership and Organisational Culture • MINS2602 Youth and Young Adult Ministry** • MINS3602 Creative Arts • Church Slavonic

SCMOI Course Template 2A—Associate Degree of Ministry: Clergy Track

	Biblical Studies	Missiology	Christian Ed & Discipleship	Leadership & Pastoral Care
Level 1 (36 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS1101 Interpreting the OT •MINS1201 Interpreting the NT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS1304 Introduction to Christian Thought •MINS2324 Christian Story A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS1601 Spirituality for 21st Century Disciples •MINS1603 Beyond Sunday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS1509 Intro to Christian Leadership •MINS1510 Intro to Formation for Ministry
Level 2 (27 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS2704 Biblical Greek 	<p><i>Two units from:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS2325 Christian Story B •MINS2314 Theology of Jesus Christ •MINS3335 God the Trinity •MINS3336 Church, Ministry, Sacraments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Church Slavonic** 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MINS2534 Liturgy and Worship • MINS2533 Homiletics
Level 2 (Core units 9 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS3002 Biblical Hermeneutics •MINS2528 Supervised Field Education 1 			

** Unit under development. Candidates excused from Church Slavonic, are required to substitute MINS3602 Creative Arts or MINS3605 Public Faith in a Secular Age.



Faith is not an issue of great knowledge and learning but of humble submission, not to the prevailing knowledge, but to the truth of the Church, timeless and eternal.

Protopresbyter Theodore Zissis

SCMOI Course Template 2B—Associate Degree of Ministry: Faith and Life Track

	Biblical Studies	Missiology	Christian Ed & Discipleship	Leadership & Pastoral Care
Level 1 (36 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●MINS1101 Interpreting the OT ●MINS1201 Interpreting the NT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●MINS1304 Introduction to Christian Thought ●MINS2324 Christian Story A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●MINS1601 Spirituality for 21st Century Disciples ●MINS1603 Beyond Sunday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●MINS1509 Intro to Christian Leadership ●MINS1510 Intro to Formation for Ministry
Level 2 (27 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●MINS2704 Biblical Greek ●MINS2219 Synoptic Gospels <p><i>or</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●MINS2111 Pentateuch <p><i>or</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●MINS2218 I & 2 Corinthians 	<p><i>Two units from:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●MINS2325 Christian Story B ●MINS2314 Theology of Jesus Christ ●MINS3335 God the Trinity ●MINS3336 Church, Ministry, Sacraments 	<p><i>One unit from:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●Church Slavonic* ●MINS3602 Creative Arts ●MINS3605 Public Faith in a Secular Age 	<p><i>One unit from:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●MINS2534 Liturgy and Worship ●MINS2611 Media and Communication** ●MINS3515 Leadership and Organisational Culture ●MINS2602 Youth and Young Adult Ministry**
Level 2 (Core units 9 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●MINS3002 Biblical Hermeneutics ●MINS2528 Supervised Field Education 1 			

*Unit under development.

** Unit may be delivered in whole or part by UCLT.



The person who loves God values knowledge of God more than anything created by God and pursues such knowledge ardently and ceaselessly.

Saint Maximos the Confessor

SCMOI Course Template 3A—Bachelor of Ministry: Clergy Track

	Biblical Studies	Missiology	Christian Ed & Discipleship	Leadership & Pastoral Care
Level 1 (36 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS1101 Interpreting the OT •MINS1201 Interpreting the NT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS1304 Introduction to Christian Thought •MINS2324 Christian Story A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS1601 Spirituality for 21st Century Disciples •MINS1603 Beyond Sunday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS1509 Intro to Christian Leadership •MINS1510 Intro to Formation for Ministry
Levels 2 & 3 (49.5 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS2704 Biblical Greek •MINS2111 Pentateuch •MINS2218 I & 2 Corinthians <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MINS3218 Gospel of John & Johannine Letters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS2325 Christian Story B •MINS2314 Theology of Jesus Christ •MINS3335 God the Trinity •MINS3336 Church, Ministry, Sacraments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church Slavonic* •MINS3602 Creative Arts <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MINS3605 Public Faith in a Secular Age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MINS2534 Liturgy and Worship • MINS2533 Homiletics
Level 2 (Core units 9 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS2801 Integrative Ministry Practice A •MINS2528 Supervised Field Education 1 			
Level 3 (Core units 13.5 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS3801 Integrative Ministry Practice B •MINS2529 Supervised Field Education 2 •MINS3002 Biblical Hermeneutics 			



Following the Holy Fathers...

...is not a reference to abstract tradition, to formulas and propositions. It is primarily an appeal to persons, to holy witnesses. The witness of the Fathers belongs, integrally and intrinsically, to the very structure of the Orthodox faith.

The Church is equally committed to the kerygma of the Apostles and to the dogmata of the Fathers. Both belong together inseparably. The Church is indeed 'Apostolic.' But the Church is also 'Patristic.' And only by being 'Patristic' is the Church continuously 'Apostolic.'

Protopresbyter Georges Florovsky

SCMOI Course Template 3B—Bachelor of Ministry: Faith and Life Track

	Biblical Studies	Missiology	Christian Ed & Discipleship	Leadership & Pastoral Care
Level 1 (36 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS1101 Interpreting the OT •MINS1201 Interpreting the NT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS1304 Introduction to Christian Thought •MINS2324 Christian Story A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS1601 Spirituality for 21st Century Disciples •MINS1603 Beyond Sunday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS1509 Intro to Christian Leadership •MINS1510 Intro to Formation for Ministry
Levels 2 & 3 (49.5 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS2704 Biblical Greek •MINS2219 Synoptic Gospels •MINS2111 Pentateuch •MINS2218 I & 2 Corinthians <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MINS3218 Gospel of John & Johannine Letters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS2325 Christian Story B •MINS2314 Theology of Jesus Christ •MINS3335 God the Trinity •MINS3336 Church, Ministry, Sacraments 	<p><i>Two units from:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Church Slavonic* •MINS3602 Creative Arts •MINS3605 Public Faith in a Secular Age 	<p><i>One unit from:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS2534 Liturgy and Worship •MINS2611 Media and Communication** •MINS3515 Leadership and Organisational Culture •MINS2602 Youth and Young Adult Ministry**
			<p>Alternatively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one unit from Levels 2/3 Christian Ed. & Discipleship, and • two units from Levels 2/3 Leadership & Pastoral Care 	
Level 2 (Core units 9 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS2801 Integrative Ministry Practice A •MINS2528 Supervised Field Education 1 			
Level 3 (Core units 13.5 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •MINS3801 Integrative Ministry Practice B •MINS2529 Supervised Field Education 2 •MINS3002 Biblical Hermeneutics 			

* Unit under development.

** Unit may be delivered in whole or part by UCLT.

SCMOI Course Template 4—Graduate Certificate in Ministry Studies

A. Course Structure: for students who hold a ministry or theology degree

Full-time	Unit code and title	Credit points
Semester	MINS8557 Reflecting on Best Practice in Ministry	4.5
	MINS8201 Guided Study A	4.5
	MINS8202 Guided Study B	4.5
	MINS8203 Guided Study C	4.5
<i>Exit</i>	<i>Graduate Certificate in Ministry Studies</i>	<i>18</i>

Part-time	Unit code and title	Credit points
Semester 1	MINS8557 Reflecting on Best Practice in Ministry	4.5
	MINS8201 Guided Study A	4.5
Semester 2	MINS8202 Guided Study B	4.5
	MINS8203 Guided Study C	4.5
<i>Exit</i>	<i>Graduate Certificate in Ministry Studies</i>	<i>18</i>

B. Course Structure: for students with a degree in disciplines other than ministry or theology

Part-time	Unit code and title	Credit points
Semester 1	MINS8557 Reflecting on Best Practice in Ministry	4.5
	<i>Either</i> MINS8209 Interpreting the Old Testament	4.5
	<i>or</i> MINS8210 Interpreting the New Testament	
Semester 2	<i>Either</i> MINS8211 Introduction to Christian Thought	4.5
	<i>or</i> MINS8212 Jesus Christ: A Theological Introduction	
	MINS8207 Biblical Hermeneutics	4.5
<i>Exit</i>	<i>Graduate Certificate in Ministry Studies</i>	<i>18</i>

SCMOI Course Template 5—Graduate Diploma in Ministry

A. Course Structure: for students who hold a ministry or theology degree

Part-time*	Unit code and title Credit points	Credit points
Year 1	MINS8557 Reflecting on Best Practice in Ministry	4.5
	MINS8201 Guided Study A	4.5
	MINS8202 Guided Study B	4.5
	MINS8203 Guided Study C	4.5
Year 2	MINS8558 Introduction to Community Research	4.5
	MINS8559 Theology for Ministry Practice	4.5
	MINS8204 Guided Study D	4.5
	MINS8205 Guided Study E	4.5
<i>Exit</i>	<i>Graduate Diploma in Ministry</i>	36

*With the approval of the Institute Director, may be taken full-time over one year (2 semesters)

B. Course Structure: for students with a degree in disciplines other than ministry or theology

Part-time	Unit code and title Credit points	Credit points
Year 1	MINS8557 Reflecting on Best Practice in Ministry	4.5
	MINS8558 Introduction to Community Research	4.5
	<i>Either</i> MINS8209 Interpreting the Old Testament <i>or</i> MINS8210 Interpreting the New Testament	4.5
	MINS8203 Guided Study A	4.5
Year 2	MINS8559 Theology for Ministry Practice	4.5
	MINS8207 Biblical Hermeneutics	4.5
	<i>Either</i> MINS8211 Introduction to Christian Thought <i>or</i> MINS8212 Jesus Christ: A Theological Introduction	4.5
	MINS8205 Guided Study B	4.5
<i>Exit</i>	<i>Graduate Diploma in Ministry</i>	36

UNDERGRADUATE UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

A note about texts and reading

All units require students to read various materials. Reading is essential for building knowledge, engaging with ideas and for developing reflective and analytical skills.

THE REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED READING FOR A UNIT IS LISTED AT THE END OF THE RESPECTIVE UNIT GUIDE POSTED ON THE COURSE MOODLE PAGE. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF STUDENTS TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THIS INFORMATION.

Required reading in the Unit Guides means that you will need to have ready access to the titles listed and will be required to be familiar with at least some part of each of these texts.

Recommended reading in the Unit Guides refers to works that are significant references for the unit. You are not expected to read all the recommended texts listed but you will need to consult some of them in completing assignments.

Some of the required and recommended reading can be accessed online. Many of the texts listed will be found in the Adelaide Theological Library and/or SCMOI Research Library collections.

Recommended text of the Scriptures: *The Orthodox Study Bible*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2008.

SCMOI programme: Undergraduate units offered over a three-year cycle

Biblical Studies	Missiology
MINS1101 Interpreting the Old Testament MINS1201 Interpreting the New Testament MINS2218 I & 2 Corinthians MINS2111 Pentateuch MINS3002 Biblical Hermeneutics MINS3218 Gospel of John & Johannine Letters	MINS1304 Introduction to Christian Thought MINS2314 Theology of Jesus Christ, Word and Saviour MINS3335 God the Trinity MINS3336 Church, Ministry and Sacraments MINS2324 Christian Story A MINS2325 Christian Story B
Christian Education and Discipleship	Leadership
MINS1601 Spirituality for 21st Century Disciples MINS1603 Beyond Sunday MINS3602 Creative Arts in Worship MINS3605 Public Faith in a Secular World	MINS1509 Introduction to Christian Leadership MINS1510 Introduction to Formation for Ministry MINS2533 Homiletics MINS2534 Liturgy and Worship MINS3515 Leadership and Organisational Culture
Languages	Supervised Field Education and Practice Units
MINS2704 Biblical Greek Church Slavonic (in 2023)	MINS2528 Supervised Field Education 1 MINS2529 Supervised Field Education 2 MINS2801 Integrative Ministry Practice A MINS3801 Integrative Ministry Practice B

Scheduled Undergraduate Units 2022

(subject to staff availability and student enrollments)

Semester 1 units	Semester 2 units
MINS1101 Interpreting the Old Testament MINS1509 Introduction to Christian Leadership MINS1510 Introduction to Formation for Ministry MINS2316 Letters of St Ignatius (coded as Guided Study in Missiology) MINS2533 Homiletics MINS2801 Integrative Ministry Practice A MINS3336 Church, Ministry and Sacraments	MINS1201 Interpreting the New Testament MINS1304 Introduction to Christian Thought MINS2111 Pentateuch MINS2528 Supervised Field Education 1 MINS3218 Gospel of John & Johannine Letters MINS3515 Leadership and Organisational Culture MINS3605 Public Faith in a Secular World

Undergraduate Unit Descriptions 2022

The unit descriptions provided should be read with the ACD Unit Outlines, including the learning outcomes stipulated for each unit and required prerequisite subjects where applicable: (<https://www.acd.edu.au/units>).

MINS1101 Interpreting the OT (3 scheduled hours/week)(**Semester 1**): This unit introduces the interpretation of the Old Testament by reading it as a canonical collection of writings and by exploring the varied historical, cultural and social backgrounds. Focusing on patristic interpretation, it also introduces some modern critical methods used in the exegesis of biblical texts and explores some issues surrounding the application of the ancient writings to contemporary contexts. A series of selected topics provide an overview of the literature and specific study of representative sections of biblical material. Special attention will be given to the relationship between the Old and New Testaments, and the role of the Septuagint (LXX). Modules include the Pentateuch, the Kingdoms of David and Solomon, the Prophets, the Psalms, and a survey of the Readable (“Deuterocanonical”) books.

Texts:

Lawrence R. Farley, *The Christian Old Testament: Looking at the Hebrew Scriptures Through Christian Eyes* (Chesterton, IN: Ancient Faith Publishing, 2012).

Andrew E. Hill, and John H. Walton, *A Survey of the Old Testament* (3rd edn. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009).

Theron Mathis, *The Rest of the Bible: A Guide to the Old Testament of the Early Church* (Chesterton, IN: Ancient Faith Publishing, 2011).

Eugen J. Pentiuc, *The Old Testament in Eastern Orthodox Tradition* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2014).

Eugen J. Pentiuc, “Between Hebrew Bible and Old Testament Synchronic and Diachronic Modes of Interpretation,” *St Vladimir’s Theological Quarterly* 50 (4) (2006), 381–96.

Catherine Brown Tkacz, , *Ἀλήθεια Ἑλληνική: The Authority of the Greek Old Testament* (Etna, CA: CTOS, 2012).

MINS1201 Interpreting the NT (3 scheduled hours/week) (**Semester 2**): The unit introduces the interpretation of the New Testament by reading it as the Church’s text and by exploring the historical, cultural and social backgrounds of the New Testament writings. It orientates students to the patristic exegesis of biblical texts and explores some of the issues surrounding the application of the ancient writings to contemporary contexts. A series of incremental topics will be covered during the semester,

presenting both an overview of the literature and specific study of representative sections of biblical material. Modules include Scripture and Tradition; canon and authority; the Gospels; Acts; the Pauline Writings; James and Revelation.

Text:

Gary M Burge, Lynn H. Cohick, and Gene L. Green, *The New Testament in Antiquity: A Survey of the New Testament Within Its Cultural Context* (2nd edition; Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2020).

Though not a required text, students should note that Archbishop Averky Taushev, *Commentary on the Holy Scriptures of the New Testament* (3 vols; trans. Nicholas Kotar; Jordanville: HTSP, 2013–15), is especially useful for gaining an overall appreciation of the traditional Orthodox approach to the New Testament.

MINS1304 Introduction to Christian Thought (3 scheduled hours/week) (**Semester 2**): This unit introduces students to the study of Christian faith and to key doctrines. It outlines the content and method of Christian theology and explores the roles of history, Scripture and Tradition in theological discourse. It emphasises the Orthodox approach to theology, building on the patristic explanation of the core doctrines presented in the Nicene Creed, with a module also on the Theotokos Mary, and with attention given to western perspectives past and present.

Texts:

Alfeyev. Metropolitan Hilarion, *Orthodox Christianity. Vol.2: Doctrine and Teaching of the Orthodox Church*. Yonkers: SVS Press, 2012

Saint John of Damascus, *Writings* (Fathers of the Church 37; ed. F.C. Chase; Washington: Catholic University of America Press, 1999).

Saint John Maximovitch, *The Orthodox Veneration of the Mother of God* (Trans. Seraphim Rose; Platina: St Herman Press, 1994).

Alistair E. McGrath (ed.), *The Christian Theology Reader* (5th Edition; Malden & Oxford: Wiley Blackwell, 2017).

Michael Pomazansky, *Orthodox Dogmatic Theology: A Concise Exposition* (3rd edn; trans. Seraphim Rose; Platina: St Herman Press, 2009).

New Hieromartyr Hilarion Troitsky, , *Christianity or the Church?* (Jordanville: HTP, 1997).

MINS1509 Introduction to Christian Leadership (3 scheduled hours/week) (**Semester 1**): The Introduction to Leadership unit is designed to assist in the formation of effective Christian leaders for contemporary ministry and mission contexts. Students will explore the nature and dynamic of leadership, especially in relation to Christian ministry and mission, the value of effective leadership as integral to the mission and ministry of the church. Topics covered may include: Defining leadership. Theology and leadership. Leadership as influence. Models of Christian leadership (leader as servant, shepherd, change-agent, manager) Leadership styles. Leadership qualities.

Texts:

Archbishop Chrysostomos, of Etna, *Themes in Orthodox Patristic Psychology* (Etna, CA: Center for Traditionalist Orthodox Studies, 2010). (From Book 1, The Spiritual Theoria of Humility)

Peter M. Danilchick, *Thy Will Be Done: Strategic Leadership, Planning, and Management for Christians* (Yonkers, NY: St Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2016). (Preface, Introduction, Chapter 2)

Alasdair MacIntyre, *After Virtue* (Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 1981). (Chapter 1, Chapter 2, Chapter 14, and Chapter 15).

MINS1510 Introduction to Formation for Ministry (2 scheduled hours/week, 1 research hour) (**Semester 1**): This unit is designed to introduce and orientate students to the nature of Christian formation and Orthodox approaches to ministry, both in ecclesial and community contexts. It allows students to analyse their learning styles and articulate personal learning plans. The students will undertake a self-assessment of their own learning style; formulate personal learning goals and

strategies in response; develop a baseline description of understanding their identity in relation to taking on a professional role in ministry, and in relation to their faith and life; create a statement of vocation, develop a commitment to ethical guidelines for ministry practice. This unit provides an overview of selected practices of Christian formation, both individual and communal, and allow students to identify ways in which this might apply to their own formation. It will provide students with the opportunity to articulate a vocational statement and design a starting point for understanding their role, identify, faith and life in ministry contexts.

Text:

Richard M. Gula, *Just Ministry: Professional Ethics for Pastoral Ministers* (Mahwah, NJ; Paulist Press, 2010).

MINS2111 Pentateuch (2 scheduled hours /week) (**Semester 2**): This unit provides an overview of the content and major themes of the first five books of the Bible. It includes a detailed exegetical study of selected texts from the Pentateuch, an exploration of the composition of these books, the history of interpretation, with an emphasis on patristic interpretation, as well as some recent interpretive approaches taken to the text. A range of methodological approaches will be applied to the text, and issues surrounding the application of the text to contemporary mission and ministry contexts will be explored. The modules will include detailed examination of Genesis and Exodus, and may include Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.

MINS2316 Letters of St Ignatius (Guided Study in Missiology) (2 scheduler hours / week) (**Semester 1**): This unit provides a close study of the life and writings of St. Ignatius of Antioch from an Orthodox perspective. Special attention will be given to the context of St. Ignatius's life, a hostile Roman Empire, and what lessons we can draw from his context for contemporary Orthodox missiology in a "post-Christian" society. In addition, we will consider St. Ignatius's exegesis of scripture, his letters as evidence of early Christian ecclesiology, and what lessons his life and corpus can provide for professional practice in holy orders.

Texts:

M. W. Holmes, M.W. (ed.), *The Apostolic Fathers: Greek Texts and English Translations* (3rd edn; Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2007).

J. J. O'Keefe, and R.R. Reno, *Sanctified Vision: An Introduction to Early Christian Interpretation of the Bible* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005).

W. R. Schoedel, *Ignatius of Antioch: A Commentary on the Letters of Ignatius of Antioch* (Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 1985).

MINS2528 Supervised Field Education (SFE) 1 (8 supervised hours/week; 4 hours personal study/week) (**Semester 2**) Prerequisite: MINS1509 or MINS1510. Note: SFE units are linked to Integrative Ministry Practice units.

SFE units require the development of a learning contract with a goal and learning objectives related to practical ministry experiences. The framework of the placement and learning contract is set up at an initial meeting of the student and the SFE co-ordinator. The goals and objectives of the learning contract shall be related to the ministry development needs of the students and the pastoral needs of the placement.

The placement is supervised by an accredited supervisor who will enable the student to reflect pastorally, personally and theologically on developing experience in ministry in relation to the learning contract, with the development of self-awareness and character formation for ministry as an overarching goal. An initial meeting of the student and SFE coordinator will set up framework including learning contract for unit and setting up a placement. As well as a fortnightly or weekly face-to-face reflection with the supervisor, there will be a monthly group reflection.

MINS2533 Homiletics (2 scheduled hours/week) (**Semester 1**): Students will be involved in an integrated learning process reflecting on the theology of preaching, preparing and delivering sermons. The approach taken will be to examine exemplary examples of preaching, including patristic and Orthodox models, deducing principles that can be adapted performatively by students. A combination of lecture, workshop, exercises and small group formats will be used to encourage dialogue with the lecturer, readings and experiences of others. Students will be encouraged to view the lecture material critically, relating it to their own context and to share their views.

Text:

James Kenneth Hamrick, *Orthodox Preaching as the Oral Icon of Christ* (The Netherlands: Orthodox Logos Publishing, 2013).

MINS2801 Integrative Ministry Practice A (2 scheduled hours/week) (**Semester 1**): Note: Students undertaking this unit are required in Semester 2 to complete MINS2528 Supervised Field Education. Developing skilled and reflective ministry practitioners is a key component of the Bachelor of Ministry. This unit builds competence and soul in the integration of ministry practice. The course will provide theoretical frameworks and tools, so as to facilitate considered reflection via key learning moments and peer reflection. It will also serve to enhance a desirable integration across the four streams that create the structure of the Bachelor of Ministry.

Each year a pertinent theme for ministry and mission will be chosen. The Coordinator and guest lecturers will present a range of perspectives on the nature, practice and theology of hope from the disciplines of Biblical studies, Missiology, Leadership Christian Discipleship and Chaplaincy. The nominated theme could include engagement with the common lectionary, a contemporary topic or case study and it will be used to create common ground and a conversation partner.

A set of readings will be offered that will be specific to the topic. Students will be expected to read widely and be prepared to converse in class around their integrations of thought and praxis, employing the two chosen Methods of Theological Reflection.

MINS3218 Gospel of John & Johannine Letters (2 scheduled hours/week) (**Semester 2**): This unit first examines the Gospel of St John the Evangelist, exploring its historical context and its setting in Jewish and Graeco-Roman cultural backgrounds. It offers comparisons with the witness of the Synoptic Gospels, deals with literary and socio-rhetorical questions that arise from exegesis of the text, and reflects on the theology and profound 'spiritual' or 'mystical' symbolism of the Gospel. Throughout, we are keen to explore connections between this writing and contemporary issues. The unit also introduces the Johannine epistles and sets out their relationship with the Gospel. Special attention is given to the patristic interpretation of the text and comparison is made with a range of contemporary critical approaches. A detailed exegesis of selected passages will be undertaken with reference to the Greek text (but no assessment based on the Greek text).

Texts:

Saint Justin Popovich, *Commentary on the Epistles of St John the Theologian* (Alhambra: Sebastian Press, 2009).

Archbishop Dmitri Royster, *The Holy Gospel According to Saint John: A Pastoral Commentary*. (Yonkers, NY: SVS Press, 2011).

Bryan A. Stewart, and Michael A. Thomas, *John: Interpreted by Early Christian and Medieval Commentators* (The Church's Bible; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2018).

MINS3336 Church, Ministry and Sacraments (2 scheduled hours/week) (**Semester 1**): This unit is an introduction to the theological study of the nature and mission of the Christian Church, Christian ministries lay and ordained, and to the celebration of the Christian sacraments. Content may include Church in the New Testament, Historical Development, Church and Sacraments in the patristic writers, Orthodox developments in doctrine and practice of ministry, Doctrine of ministry today, what is a sacrament, Sacraments of Eucharist, Baptism, Chrismation, Ordination, Confession, Marriage, Anointing.

Texts:

Gregory Afonsky, *Christ and the Church* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2001).
Hilarion Alfeyev, *Orthodox Christianity – Volume 5: Sacraments and Other Rites* (Yonkers, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2020)

MINS3515 Leadership and Organisational Culture (2 scheduled hours/week) (**Semester 2**): Leaders need to understand how culture functions within organisations and larger social systems. The development and management of culture is a critical component of leadership in the Church because culture exerts constant social influence on group members, either for good or for bad ends.

This unit provides an overview of culture, defining its essential elements, and also discusses the nature of culture in Non-Profit Organisations. Particular attention is paid to the following topics: Embedding and Transmitting Culture, Change Leadership and Culture, and Identity Construction and Culture.

In addition, we will look at elements of culture that function within religious healing contexts to promote health and wellbeing in individuals and organisations. We will also examine how several Church Fathers worked to embed and transmit culture. In examining culture in the patristic record, we pay attention to the Ante-Nicene Fathers Polycarp and Ignatius.

MINS3605 Public Faith in a Secular World (2 scheduled hours/week) (**Semester 2**): This unit explores the philosophical and historical basis of Secularism. It provides an historical overview of the relationship between church, state and society in the Australian context. It covers the principles underlying the practice of classic apologetics, as well as the ways in which these may be adapted appropriately for discourse within contemporary Western society. It will also explore strategies for understanding and appropriately engaging in the public square for the sake of Christian mission.

Texts:

Tom Frame, *Losing My Religion: Unbelief in Australia* (Sydney: UNSW Press, 2009).
David Bentley Hart, *Atheist Delusions: The Christian Revolution and Its Fashionable Enemies* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009).
Meredith Lake, *The Bible in Australia: A Cultural History* (2nd edn; Randwick: New South Books, 2020).
Father Seraphim Rose, *Nihilism: The Root of Revolution in the Modern Age* (Platina: St Herman Press, 2001).

POSTGRADUATE UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

SCMOI programme: Postgraduate units delivered over a two-year cycle

Biblical Studies	Missiology & Ministry
MINS8209 Interpreting the Old Testament MINS8210 Interpreting the New Testament MINS8207 Biblical Hermeneutics	MINS8559 Theology for Ministry Practice MINS8211 Introduction to Christian Thought MINS8212 Jesus Christ: A Theological Introduction MINS8557 Reflecting on Best Practice in Ministry
Guided Reading and Research Education	
MINS8201 Guided Study A – MINS8205 Guided Study E MINS8558 Introduction to Community Research	

Guided Study, up to five units from MINS8201 Guided Study A to MINS8205 Guided Study E

(All Guided Study units require 9 – 12 private study hours/week, plus supervision)

Guided Studies are an opportunity for students to pursue individualised study in areas of professional interest or, in the case of those coming from a discipline other than theology and ministry, to upskill in their knowledge and understanding of theological and biblical studies.

The focus is on being able to articulate, analyse, synthesise and critically evaluate key aspects or themes in theology, ministry theory and/or practice, assess the implications of these aspects or themes for current ministry practice in Australia, and identify and evaluate the potential of these aspects or themes for innovation in leadership in ministry contexts today.

With the approval of the course coordinator, students study and are assessed in selected areas of interest for professional development, under the guidance of an appropriate supervisor. Students may read an agreed select bibliography as individual study or as part of a group, build their study around interviewing experts, attending a conference, or conducting a field trip, complete an approved postgraduate unit, or undertake an agreed project set within the student's ministry context.

MINS8209 Interpreting the Old Testament (3 scheduled hours/week)

This unit introduces the fundamentals of Old Testament study, including an introduction to contemporary interpretation of the Old Testament, by reading it as a canonical collection of different kinds of literature and by exploring the historical, cultural and social backgrounds of the Hebrew Scriptures. Special attention will be paid to the Greek Old Testament (LXX) and the influence of this version on the New Testament writers and in shaping the patristic understanding of the Scriptures.

Students will develop skills in the exegesis of biblical texts and explore some of the issues surrounding the application of the ancient writings to contemporary ministry contexts. A series of incremental themes will be covered during the semester, presenting both an overview of the literature and specific study of representative sections of biblical material.

MINS8210 Interpreting the New Testament (3 scheduled hours/week)

This unit introduces the fundamentals of New Testament study, including an introduction to patristic and contemporary interpretation of the New Testament by reading it as a collection of different kinds of literature and by exploring the historical, cultural and social backgrounds of the New Testament writings. Students will develop skills in the exegesis of biblical texts and explore some of the issues surrounding the application of the ancient writings to contemporary ministry contexts. A series of incremental themes are covered, including: the Gospels and Pauline corpus; Christian approaches to the Judaic heritage in Hebrews and James; and issues of canon and authority.

MINS8211 Introduction to Christian Thought (3 scheduled hours/week)

This unit introduces students to the study of theology. It outlines the content and method of Christian theology and explores the roles of Scripture and tradition in theological discourse through historical developments and in the present day.

MINS8212 Jesus Christ: A Theological Introduction (2 scheduled hours/week)

This unit combines biblical, historical, doctrinal and contemporary approaches to Jesus Christ and to salvation in Christ. It will include critical discussion of the theology of salvation in Christ in biblical, patristic, medieval, reformation and modern theologies. It provides opportunities for students to survey biblical, patristic and contemporary approaches to Jesus Christ. It will introduce students to the 'quest for the historical Jesus', the biblical foundation for Christology and developments up to and beyond the council of Chalcedon and examines Eastern and Western approaches to salvation. It addresses the meaning of Christ as viewed through the heuristic lens of contemporary thought and movements, asking students to reflect on the Orthodox witness to Christ in the contemporary context.

MINS8557 Reflecting on Best Practice in Ministry (2 scheduled hours/week)

This unit introduces students to models of ministry practice. Examples will be studied from scripture, tradition, historical and contemporary local and global contexts in the interests of discovering elements of best practice for integrative ministry and innovative leadership in the Australian context. Attention will also be paid to the impact of intentional reflection on ministry practice.

MINS8558 Introduction to Community Research (2 scheduled hours/week)

This unit will underscore the importance of the community in Ministry Practice research. Students will be introduced to current research across the field of Ministry Practice research – both research that

is written and research that is orally presented by invited researchers. Students develop an ability to critically compare and contrast, analyse and evaluate the work of others, as well as to critically reflect on the impact of the work of those others on their own thinking in regard to research. Throughout, the implications for mission and ministry today of the wider socio-political, economic and cultural context of Australia will help inform the critique.

MINS8559 Theology for Ministry Practice (2 scheduled hours/week)

This unit enables students to demonstrate an advanced knowledge and awareness of personal ministry practice by drawing upon personal experience and recent developments in their ministry context, articulate a theology for ministry, and creatively apply recent developments in literature to personal practice in ministry.

Prayer for Theology and Ministry Students



*Thou didst come to Thy disciples
and gave them peace, O Saviour,
so also come to us and save us!
Thy Holy Spirit made
Thine illiterate disciples into teachers,
O Christ our God,
and by the gift of tongues
He destroyed idolatry
by His Almighty power.*

Troparion, Tone 6