



The Master of Arts (MA) in Ministry and Theology equips Christian leaders for greater effectiveness in ministry to churches, schools, hospitals and the wider community.

Why study a **MA IN THEOLOGY?**

You have always had a passion to develop your calling, but now more than ever, you understand how important it is to reach the hearts of people through your ministry.

You understand that by improving your effectiveness as a pastoral leader or a chaplain, you will see ripple effects in your congregation, school or hospital and benefits to the church, school or hospital communities at large.

Most of all, you know that God has called you to use every opportunity to upskill so that you can better serve Him.

IS NOW THE RIGHT TIME?

We know that adding study to your already busy ministry and family commitments can seem daunting, so when considering if now is the right time, ask yourself:

- | Do I often read books, attend conferences, seek mentorship and listen to podcasts to improve my pastoral leadership abilities?
- | Am I looking for ways to pursue professional growth?
- | Do I want to be at the cutting edge of ministry development?
- | Would I enjoy further study to advance my career?

If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions, pursuing your MA in Ministry and Theology at Avondale University can help you achieve these goals.

WHAT WILL I BE STUDYING?

Through the MA you can specialise in three areas: pastoral leadership, chaplaincy studies and theology/biblical studies. All students will study core units: Graduate Studies in Biblical Spirituality; Theology, Theory and Practice of Leadership for Ministry; and Discipleship and Disciple-Making — Meaning, Context and Application.

Avondale also offers optional exit points at:

- | **Graduate Certificate in Arts (4 units) with a specialisation in pastoral leadership or chaplaincy studies; or**
- | **Graduate Diploma in Arts (8 units) with a specialisation in pastoral leadership or chaplaincy studies.**

Students can also earn a **Graduate Certificate in Arts** or **Graduate Diploma in Arts** without a specialisation.

MA in Ministry and Theology will enable you to:

- | Explore an area of ministry you are passionate about
- | Develop skills in a specific area within your ministry
- | Invest in professional development
- | Enhance your pastoral leadership abilities
- | Lay the foundation for doctoral study.

WHAT DO OUR *students say?*

"I chose Avondale because I like the idea of pastoral leadership – I think pastoral leadership is different to other types of leadership, so I like that type of specialisation with a focus on my line of work. I chose the degree to improve my own leadership skills and help me be a better pastor.

In the class Theology of Leadership we looked at decision making and how you have to apply it back to your own organisational context. You're gleaning insights that are relevant for now. I valued that there was that opportunity to think about how this would apply to my organisational context."

Jody Eddy, conference departmental director and former church pastor.

As a student you will experience:

- | Lecturers who are available to provide feedback and help you
- | Flexibility and consideration of individual circumstances
- | Emphasis on your understanding of the course
- | Faculty committed to your development as a whole person.

MEET THE COURSE CONVENOR



Dr. Anthony MacPherson is the postgraduate course convenor in the MA Theology program. Dr. MacPherson is passionate about the renewal of the church through a rediscovery of the importance of the Bible, theology and doctrine to the life of the church. His Ph.D. examined how the Great Controversy motif helps us explore the problem of evil. Dr. MacPherson has had pastoral and school chaplaincy experience in Western Australia and Victoria. He has also served as the Head of Theology at Fulton Adventist College in Fiji.

IMPORTANT PROGRAM DETAILS

Fees

Scholarships are available from local Seventh-day Adventist Church conferences, missions and unions. Email study@avondale.edu.au or your local church administrative office directly to find out more about scholarships please.

Tuition fees for 2023 are A\$2,495* per unit of study for Australian and New Zealand domestic students, and A\$3,405 per unit of study for international students. Eligible domestic students can apply to defer their tuition fees to a FEE-HELP loan.

*This is the fee for a standard unit of study. Some units attract higher fees.

Program Intakes

There is one intake a year in February/March.

Program Duration

The Master of Arts is a twelve-unit study program that is offered as four years part-time or one and a half years full-time equivalent. An on-campus residential may be required for some units.

The requirements of the program can be met in three ways: through coursework, through a minor research project or through a major research project.

Entry Requirements

Prospective Australian or New Zealand students will need to:

- | Have completed a university degree - preferably a BMINTH, BA (Th), BA/BTch or equivalent/higher - from an accredited institution.

To specialise in **Pastoral Leadership and Theology/ Biblical Studies**, prospective students must have a minimum of two years experience in church pastoral ministry.

The application must include:

- | A written summary of ministry experience, and
- | A written recommendation from a recognised church official.

To specialise in **Chaplaincy Studies**, prospective students must have a minimum of two years experience as a chaplain.

The application must include:

- | A written summary of chaplaincy experience, and
- | A written recommendation from a recognised chaplaincy practitioner, senior school leader or principal.



Prospective international students will need to meet the university's English language requirements. **Scan or click here for more information.**

WHAT NOW?

Your MA Theology journey starts here. Get in touch with our postgraduate student advisors and we will provide you with more information and guide you through the online application process.

Book a 15-minute consultation

Email study@avondale.edu.au
Call +61 02 980 2377

