



SMBC  
Sydney Missionary & Bible College

Master of Arts Ministry / Theology

Doctor of Ministry  
(Individual subjects)

2008

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## INTRODUCTION

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The information in this document provides a brief introduction to the Master of Arts (Ministry / Theology) programme at Sydney Missionary and Bible College and details of the units being offered in 2008. Enrolment details and an application form are included.

When planning the Master of Arts programme, SMBC takes into account the multicultural context of local church ministry in Australia, as well as the needs of those serving in another cultural environment in the world. Most of the units are offered in intensive format to enable those involved in full time ministry to attend. This degree is also a great opportunity to discuss issues with others in ministry.

Individual subjects in the Doctor of Ministry are also offered throughout the year. These are highlighted throughout the document.

More information about other programmes offered at SMBC is available on our website: [www.smbc.com.au](http://www.smbc.com.au)

Please contact our office if you have any further enquiries.

**Alan Thompson**  
Graduate Studies Advisor

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## ABOUT THE MASTER OF ARTS (MINISTRY / THEOLOGY)

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The Master of Arts in Theology and Master of Arts in Ministry are postgraduate coursework degrees accredited by the Australian College of Theology (ACTh). They are intended to provide graduates holding the Bachelor of Theology, Bachelor of Ministry, or Master of Divinity with the opportunity to extend and deepen previous studies in light of ongoing ministry experience.

The units offered at SMBC reflect the distinctive emphases of the College. They are Bible centred, cross culturally oriented and seek to develop students' thinking and practical skills for gospel ministry. Subject facilitators are full time or visiting faculty who come from a wide background of ministry and missionary experience.

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## ABOUT THE DOCTOR OF MINISTRY (Individual units only)

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The Australian College of Theology (ACTh) has accredited SMBC to offer individual Doctor of Ministry (DMin) units (these are indicated alongside the MA subject codes). Candidates for this degree must first enrol at a College that has been approved by the ACTh as a sponsoring College.

The Doctor of Ministry is designed to advance the ministerial practice of the student by means of reflection and research integrated with the student's experience in a ministry context. More information about the DMin is available on the ACTh website: [www.acth.org.au](http://www.acth.org.au)

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## SUMMARY OF 2008 MASTER OF ARTS UNITS (Including DMin units)

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To assist with your study planning for the year, below is a summary of the units being offered in 2008. Please note that, although application closing dates are provided for each unit, you are encouraged to apply early in order to have time to complete the necessary pre-attendance reading and assessment. Full details of each unit are on pages 7-13 of this document.

**EM / IN758 Cross-Cultural Teaching and Learning**

Lecturer: Rev Dr Bruce Dipple (applications close 30 January)

Date: 12 weeks commencing 11 February

**EM761 / IN757 Leadership Development in a Cross-Cultural Context**

Lecturer: Rev Dr David Harley

Date: 10 – 14 March (applications close 15 February)

**EM782 Understanding Islam: Making Known God's Love**

Lecturer: Rev Canon Dr David Claydon (applications close 4 April)

Date: 23 – 30 April (no lectures on 25, 26, 27 April)

**PC / TH783 Pastoral Ministry and Justification by Faith**

Lecturer Rev Rob Smith

Date: 22 – 28 May (applications close 2 May)

**TH764 Theology for Tomorrow's Church**

Lecturer Rev Dr David Parker

Date: 2 – 6 June (applications close 5 May)

**EM762 (MA) / EM862 (DMin) Local Church and Global Mission**

Lecturer: Rev Dr Bruce Dipple

Date: 24 – 30 July (applications close 4 July)

**NT / PC778 Applying the Book of Acts to Ministry Today**

Lecturers: Rev David Cook, Dr Alan Thompson, Rev David Jones,  
Rev Bryson Smith

Date: 8 – 12 September (applications close 15 August)

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## COURSE STRUCTURE

### Master of Arts (Ministry / Theology)

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The Master of Arts (Ministry / Theology) may be obtained by the completion of eight coursework subjects, or by the completion of six coursework subjects and a 15,000 word project in a relevant ministry area.

Each of the coursework subjects offered is assessed by essays or projects, and students are encouraged to make the topics of these assessments as relevant as possible to their current or future ministry.

The degree may be completed full time over two years or part time over a period of up to six years.

Transportability of credit is guaranteed by the ACTh so that students enrolled at SMBC may also complete individual subjects towards their degree at other colleges in the consortium. Similarly, students at other ACTh colleges may also complete individual subjects at SMBC. More information about ACTh courses and regulations is available from their website: [www.act.org.au](http://www.act.org.au)

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## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

### Master of Arts (Ministry / Theology)

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Candidature is available to those students who:

1. hold an Australian College of Theology accredited Bachelor of Theology, Bachelor of Ministry, Master of Divinity or equivalent  
*and*
2. have been accepted by SMBC as postgraduate students.

Provisional candidature is available in certain circumstances to those with a Licentiate in Theology (ThL) or Diploma of Theology (DipTh) and a university degree. Please contact the SMBC Academic Registrar for further details.

**Note:** It may be possible that some individual units will be made available to audit-only students. Please contact the Academic Registrar for details.

## FEES AND FEE-HELP

### 2008 FEES

Course / level	Credit points (cps)	Australian Students	Overseas Students
Master of Arts (Theology / Ministry) 700 level units	8 cps	\$1,600	\$2,520
Doctor of Ministry 800 level units	8 cps	\$1,600	\$2,520

**Notes:** i) All subjects listed in this booklet are 8 cps unless otherwise specified.  
ii) Tuition fees are set by the Australian College of Theology.

### FEE-HELP

Government assisted FEE-HELP is available to students who are Australian citizens. For information about FEE-HELP, please contact the SMBC office or visit the Australian Government website: [www.goingtouni.gov.au](http://www.goingtouni.gov.au)

Students applying for FEE-HELP need to submit (to SMBC) an *Application for FEE-HELP Assistance* form at the time of enrolment.

*Application for FEE-HELP Assistance* forms are available from the SMBC office. Phone: 02 9747 4780 or email: [applications@smbc.com.au](mailto:applications@smbc.com.au)

## VARIATION OF ENROLMENT POLICIES

Australian College of Theology (ACTh) Variation of Enrolment policies apply to all Master of Arts and Doctor of Ministry units offered at Sydney Missionary and Bible College. The ACTh Variation of Enrolment policy for *units taught in intensive mode* is as follows:

Time Period	Add/Substitute Unit(s)	Withdraw from Unit(s)
Unit Start to Administrative Date (5.00pm on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> day of Intensive Unit lectures)	No Variation of Enrolment fee applies. FEE-HELP liability and/or up-front payment applies.	No Variation of Enrolment fee applies. Full refund of any up-front payments. Unit deleted from record. No academic penalty. No FEE-HELP liability.
After Administrative Date to Census Date*	Variation of Enrolment fee applies (\$100/unit) + written agreement of unit presenter required. FEE-HELP liability and/or up-front payment applies.	Variation of Enrolment fee applies (\$300/unit) No academic penalty. No FEE-HELP liability. Full refund of any up-front payments.
After Census Date up to Withdrawal Date*	No variations allowed.	No Variation of Enrolment fee applies. No academic penalty. FEE-HELP liability. No refund of any up-front payments.
After Withdrawal Date*	No variations allowed.	No Variation of Enrolment fee applies. Academic penalty (unit graded FW – Failed Withdrawn). FEE-HELP liability. No refund of any up-front payments.
* <b>Note:</b> Census and Withdrawal dates vary for Intensive Units. You will be advised of these dates at the time of enrolment.		

The ACTh variation of enrolment policy for *semester length units* (for example, EM/IN758) is as follows:

<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Add/Substitute Unit(s)</b>	<b>Withdraw from Unit(s)</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> day of semester to last day of week 2 of semester	No Variation of Enrolment fee applies. FEE-HELP liability and/or up-front payment applies.	No Variation of Enrolment fee applies. Full refund of any up-front payments. Unit deleted from record. No academic penalty. No FEE-HELP liability.
1 <sup>st</sup> day of week 3 of semester to census date (31 March or 31 August)	Variation of Enrolment fee applies (\$100/unit) + written agreement of unit presenter required. FEE-HELP liability and/or up-front payment applies.	Variation of Enrolment fee applies (\$300/unit). No academic penalty. No FEE-HELP liability. Full refund of any up-front payments.
After Census Date up to Withdrawal Date (4 April or 5 September)	No variations allowed.	No Variation of Enrolment fee applies. No academic penalty. FEE-HELP liability. No refund of any up-front payments.
Withdrawal date to the end of semester	No variations allowed.	No Variation of Enrolment fee applies. Academic penalty (unit graded FW – Failed Withdrawn). FEE-HELP liability. No refund of any up-front payments.

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## DETAILS OF 2008 MASTER OF ARTS UNITS (Including DMin units)

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### Cross-Cultural Teaching and Learning

Semester 1 (12 weeks)

EM758 / IN758

*Applications close 30 January*

*Classes commence in the week commencing 11 February*

It would probably be more accurate for the title to be Cross-Cultural Learning and Teaching, as the unit initially considers our understanding of learning, and then goes on to consider the impact of that understanding on the way we teach, particularly the teaching of the Bible. *Cross-Cultural Teaching and Learning* focuses on ministry in cross-cultural and multicultural contexts and as such is suitable for those involved in ministry in Australia or overseas.

#### **This subject will cover:**

- Biblical material, including the Israelite family; ritual and expressive art; miracles; dreams and visions; prophets; the example of Jesus; contextualisation in Acts; and the nature of apocalyptic.
- The contributions relevant to the topic of some theorists, including Piaget, Kohlberg, Fowler, LeBar, Knowles and DeBono, and some practitioners, including Freire, Kinsler, Patterson, Bowers and McKinney.
- Elements of the concept of learning that manifest cultural variation, including cognitive style, context orientation, field dependence, thinking processes, formal/non-formal, and visual recognition.
- Possible models for developing a culturally appropriate program, including context analysis, needs assessment, outcome clarification and evaluation processes.

#### **This subject will enable you to:**

- a. Summarise the biblical imperatives and examples that speak to our understanding of the concepts of teaching and learning.
- b. Critically evaluate the relevance to teaching in a cross-cultural or multicultural context of the research by key educational theorists and practitioners.
- c. Distinguish within a specific cultural or multicultural group those cultural elements, such as cognitive style, expressive art, or context orientation, that impact the level of effectiveness of a teaching programme.
- d. Create a culturally appropriate educational structure for the effective teaching of biblical and associated material.

#### **Assessment**

Assessment tasks for this unit will total 8,000 words and include a ministry related project and essay, the topics of which will be determined by the student and lecturer early in the semester. Due dates will be advised at the commencement of the course.

**Note:** This unit may be completed for credit to the Master of Arts (Theology / Ministry), but is classified as a ministry subject. It may also be completed as an integrative subject for the Master of Arts (Christian Studies).

#### **Course Facilitator**

**Rev. Dr Bruce Dipple** LTh, DipRE (Morling/MCD), DMiss (TEDS)

*Director of SMBC School of Cross Cultural Mission, SMBC Senior Lecturer – Mission.*

Bruce is a graduate of Glasgow Bible College, Morling College and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Chicago. He was a Baptist pastor in NSW for seven years before serving with SIM in Niger, West Africa as Principal of a French-language Bible College. He then became Director of SIM for Asia and Australia, and after ten years moved to his current role at SMBC. He is a member of the International Missionary Training Network and a Mission Commission Associate of the World Evangelical Alliance.

## Leadership Development in a Cross-Cultural Context

10 – 14 March

EM761 / IN757

*Applications close 15 February*

Church leaders on every continent have expressed the need for greater numbers of leaders at all levels of the life of the church. Numerous books have been published on the topic of leadership in recent years, but the majority of them have been concerned with the role of the leader, rather than with the process of developing leaders. Drawing on the expertise of a number of practitioners, this intensive will major on the challenge of developing leaders who can respond in culturally and biblically appropriate ways to the needs of their churches.

### **This subject will consider:**

- Biblical material: selection and preparation; divine activity; Moses, Nehemiah, Jesus, Peter, Timothy; characteristics of a leader; fruit and gifts of the Spirit; servant role.
- Western leadership styles; cultural assumptions; traditional patterns of leadership in various cultures; questions of selection, training, credibility, authority, acceptance, age and tenure.
- Identifying leadership styles; discipleship, mentoring, apprentice, schooling, nepotism, tribalism; principles of servanthood.
- Needs assessment; projection criteria; identifying the right people culturally and biblically; formal and non-formal options; social structures and expectations; designing, implementing and evaluating a training process.

### **Assessment**

1. Pre-attendance: Completion of two 750 word critical reviews from the prescribed reading (15% - due first day of class).
2. Post-attendance: Completion of a 3,000 word project that relates to the context of the student (40% - due 2 May 2008).
3. Post-attendance: Completion of a 3,500 word essay on a topic from the course (45% - due 13 June 2008).

**Note:** Topics for task two and three to be decided by the student and the lecturer during the week of lectures.

**Note:** This unit may be completed for credit to the Master of Arts (Theology / Ministry), but is classified as a ministry subject. It may also be completed as an integrative subject for the Master of Arts (Christian Studies).

### **Course Facilitators**

#### **Rev. Dr David Harley**

*Visiting Lecturer at SMBC – Mission*

David studied theology and education at Cambridge and Bristol University before completing his Doctor of Missiology at Columbia International University. He is an ordained pastor in the Church of England and has served as a missionary to Ethiopia; lecturer and Principal of All Nations Christian College in the UK; and International Director of OMF, based in Singapore. David's particular area of interest in teaching and research is the effective training of missionaries and he has written two books on this subject.

#### **Rosemary Harley MA (Columbia), MTh (UNISA)**

Rosemary is a missionary, author, lecturer, and researcher on the role of women in mission.

#### **Rev Dr Bruce Dipple LTh, DipRE (Morling/MCD), DMiss (TEDS)**

Bruce is a former pastor, missionary and mission executive, and currently Director of the School of Cross Cultural Mission and Senior Lecturer in Mission at SMBC. (see page 11 for further details)

#### **Dr Richard Hibbert D.Min (Columbia)**

Richard is a church planter and trainer of church planters and part-time lecturer in mission at SMBC.

**Understanding Islam: Making Known God's Love**  
**23 – 30 April (no lectures on 25, 26, 27 April)**  
**EM782**  
*Applications close 4 April 2008*

This subject is designed to enable you to understand Islam better and minister in Islamic contexts more effectively, both in Australia and overseas.

**This subject will enable you to:**

- a. Critically evaluate Islamic attitudes to Christian doctrine and to the history of the Christian community vis-à-vis the Islamic community and to know how to respond to Islamic perceptions of Christian doctrine;
- b. Demonstrate a capacity to develop your own apologetic for reaching Muslims with the gospel and so enhance your dialogical skills in relating to Muslim peoples;
- c. Develop an awareness of key Islamic texts in the Qur'an and the Hadiths with a view to being able to understand the theological logic of the Islamic goals;
- d. Generate a range of options for follow-up and church engagement of Muslim background believers in various contexts.

More information on the content of the course can be obtained from the SMBC Office or the SMBC Graduate Studies Advisor. Contact details are at the rear of this booklet.

**Assessment**

1. Pre-attendance: 1,500 word critical reflection paper based on prescribed pre-reading reading (20% - due first day of class).
2. Post-attendance: a 2,000 word ministry related project. Topic to be selected from a list supplied by the lecturer (30% - due 13 June 2008).
3. Post attendance: a 4,500 word essay on a topic related to the course and agreed by the lecturer and student (50% - due 8 August 2008).

**Note:** This unit may be completed for credit to the Master of Arts (Theology / Ministry), but is classified as a ministry subject.

**Course Facilitator**

**Rev. Canon Dr David Claydon** *B.Ec., Dip.Ed., MACE, B.D., D.Min. NBTS*  
*Visiting Lecturer at SMBC – Mission*

David Claydon is moderator of the Australian College of Theology's Undergraduate Department of Evangelism and Mission and a Canon of St Andrew's Cathedral Sydney and of All Saints' Cathedral Cairo. He has served as International Director of the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelisation and his ministries over the years with Scripture Union and the Church Missionary Society have taken him around the world and given him insight into cross-cultural ministry.

David currently heads up the *Islamic Awareness Taskforce* that is assisting Australian politicians, at their request, to better understand the Islamic agenda and the theological drive behind Islamists and their actions. He has taught courses at various theological schools in Asia and the USA and is author of several books including *Connecting Across Cultures: Sharing the Gospel Across Cultural and Religious Boundaries*.

## Pastoral Ministry and Justification by Faith

22 – 28 May

PC / TH783

*Applications close 2 May*

### **This subject will consider:**

- Key biblical texts and the relationship between such themes as: justification and salvation history, justification and the atonement, the nature of righteousness, the nature of faith, the nature of obedience, the place of the law, the role of works in the final judgement.
- The historical development of the doctrine of justification from Augustine to the present time, including contemporary issues such as the Lordship-Salvation controversy and the rise of the New Perspective(s) on Paul (generally) and justification (specifically).
- The pastoral outworking of the doctrine of justification by faith and its impact on various aspects of the Christian life (including prayer, holiness, worship and assurance) and the Christian ministry (including the practice of evangelism, the exercise of authority, and the nature of counselling).
- Various strategies for communicating the doctrine of justification by faith and its implications in the context of the ministries of the local church.

### **This subject will enable you to:**

- a. Explain the key exegetical and theological issues associated with the doctrine of justification by faith.
- b. Compare and contrast the presentation of the doctrine of justification in a number of key classic authors (for example, Augustine and Calvin) and also contemporary authors (for example, N.T. Wright and M.A. Seifrid).
- c. Demonstrate the significance of the doctrine of justification for both Christian living (e.g. its impact on prayer and assurance) and Christian ministry (for example, its application to evangelism and counselling).
- d. Devise a strategy for communicating the doctrine of justification in the context of the local church.

### **Assessment**

1. Pre-attendance: Complete required pre-reading assignment and a 1,000 paper (15% - due on first day of class).
2. Post-attendance: a 3,000 word ministry related project (35% - due 11 July 2008).
3. Post attendance: a 4,000 word essay (50% - due 29 August 2007).

**Note:** Topics for task 2 and 3 to be decided by the student and the lecturer during the week of lectures.

**Note:** This unit may be completed for credit towards the MA(Theol) or MA (Min) but this must be specified during the intensive week.

### **Course Facilitator**

**Rev. Rob Smith** Dip.A (Moore), B.Th (Moore/ACT), M.Th (Moore/ACT)

*Part-time SMBC Lecturer in Theology and Music Ministry.*

Rob has spent nearly 14 years in Anglican pastoral ministry in Sydney. He also works for the Anglican Diocese of Sydney, helping manage ordination and training processes. Rob's Masters thesis was on 'Justification and the New Perspective on Paul'. He has also had a long career in popular music and writes and records Christian congregational songs.

## Theology for Tomorrow's Church

2 – 6 June

TH764

*Applications close 5 May*

### **This subject considers:**

- Contemporary assumptions and values informing the life and ministry of churches and trends being followed. Recourse will be made to contemporary literature and conferences.
- Theological principles involved in selected relevant examples. Reference will be made to leading critiques such as those of David Wells, trends in conferences such as Amsterdam 2000, and official church reports.
- Key biblical passages and historical theological concepts and confessional / denominational positions.
- Approaches that allow the church to implement fresh initiatives that reflect the essence of the Christian gospel in the light of contemporary social and cultural awareness.

### **This subject will enable you to:**

- a. Summarise contemporary understandings about the nature of the Church, its life and mission.
- b. Critique the theological and biblical principles guiding these assumptions.
- c. Develop approaches for guiding the church towards an effective and contemporary life and ministry based on theological and biblical principles.

### **Assessment**

1. Pre-attendance: 500 pages pre-reading and a 1,500 word book analysis on an aspect of the course. (25% - due on the first day of class).
2. Pre-attendance: a 2,000 word theological exegesis of a set passage and class presentation (presentation to be given during the intensive week). (25% – due during the unit)
3. Post-attendance: 4,500 word essay developing the synthesis as described in the unit (50% - due 17 October 2008). Topic to be decided by student and lecturer during the intensive week.

**Note:** This unit may be completed for credit to the Master of Arts (Theology / Ministry), but is classified as a theology subject.

### **Course Facilitator**

**Rev. Dr David Parker** DipLS, DipRE, LTh (Morling/MCD), MA (University of Queensland), BD (London), PhD (University of Queensland)

*Visiting Lecturer at SMBC – Theology*

David is editor of the *Evangelical Review of Theology*, Executive Director of the World Evangelical Alliance Theological Commission and Archivist for the Baptist Archives, Queensland. He is a consultant theologian based in Brisbane who has many years experience as a Baptist pastor in Queensland and is an adjunct lecturer in New Testament, Theology and Ethics at Malyon College. He lectures post-graduate courses on Ministering in a Postmodern Age and Theology for Tomorrow's Church throughout Australia.

**Local Church and Global Mission**  
**24 – 30 July**  
**EM762 (MA) / EM862 (DMin)**  
*Applications close 4 July*

We live in a globalised world where the Christian church has to again consider its role and ministry. This unit seeks to consider that role and to explore ways that it can be translated into the life of a local church. It also looks at some of the points of tension, such as the relationship of churches and agencies, and the balance needed between local and global mission activity. The material would be relevant for those involved in local churches and mission agencies, as well as those involved in or considering cross-cultural ministry in one form or another.

**This subject will consider:**

- Israel and the nations, the alien and the foreigner; and the concepts of centripetal and centrifugal mission.
- The ministry and teaching of Jesus with regard to the outsider; early church practice; and relevant aspects of the doctrine of the church.
- Historical developments from mission bands to monasteries, and from religious orders to mission agencies; illustrative practices of some churches and mission agencies today.
- Theological, religious, economic and political issues impacting world mission. New and different approaches to ministry and how they are perceived by local churches.
- How local churches of all sizes can become involved in the mission task through selection, training, sending and supporting.
- Resources and ideas that can be implemented in the local church in order to develop a global perspective in the life and ministry of the church and its people. Planning, implementing and evaluating an awareness and education program in a local church.

**Assessment**

1. Pre-attendance: Completion of required pre-course reading and associated reviews. (15% - due on the first day of class).
2. Post-attendance: Completion of a 3,000 word project that relates to the ministry context of the student (40% - due 12 September 2008).
3. Post-attendance: Completion of a 3,500 word essay on a topic from the course (45% - due 7 November 2008).

**Note:** Topics for task 2 and 3 to be decided by the student and the lecturer during the intensive week.

**Note:** This unit may be completed for credit to the Master of Arts (Theology / Ministry), but is classified as a ministry subject. It may also be completed as a Doctor of Ministry unit.

**Course Facilitator**

**Rev. Dr Bruce Dipple** LTh, DipRE (Morling/MCD), DMiss (Trinity Evangelical Divinity School) *Director of SMBC School of Cross Cultural Mission, SMBC Senior Lecturer – Mission.*

Bruce is a graduate of Glasgow Bible College, Morling College and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Chicago. He was a Baptist pastor in NSW for seven years before serving with SIM in Niger, West Africa as Principal of a French-language Bible College. He then became Director of SIM for Asia and Australia, and after ten years moved to his current role at SMBC. As part of his role at SMBC, he conducts training seminars in local churches to assist in the development of their global mission program.

## Applying the Book of Acts to Ministry Today

8 – 12 September

NT / PC778

*Applications close 15 August*

This unit will wrap around and incorporate an SMBC School of Preaching Conference on the book of Acts. Included in the Preaching Conference will be sermons from Acts, sessions on preaching the various sections of Acts and electives on preaching narrative, application and ministry.

### **This subject will consider:**

- The history of interpreting the book of Acts and the influence of past approaches on the interpretation of Acts today.
- The main principles of interpreting narrative, with special reference to the content and overall structure of Acts.
- An examination of the main theological emphases of Acts such as the kingdom of God, the reign of the Lord Jesus, the role of the Holy Spirit and the fulfilment of God's plan, and how these emphases relate to the interpretation of the book.
- The application of Lukan theology to issues of ministry and preaching today.

### **This subject will enable you to:**

- a. Evaluate past and current approaches to determining the theology of Acts;
- b. Demonstrate an awareness of the methodological issues involved in deriving theology from the narrative of Acts as well as gain a better understanding of the content and structure of the book of Acts;
- c. Recognise the main theological themes in the book of Acts and relate these theological emphases to issues arising from the interpretation of Acts;
- d. Relate twenty-first century ministry issues to the framework of Lukan theology in the book of Acts leading to a better understanding of how to apply the book of Acts to ministry and preaching.

### **Assessment**

1. Pre-attendance: Following enrolment you will be advised of a pre-course reading assignment and a 1,000 word paper to prepare (15% - due on first day of class).
2. Post-attendance: A 3,000 word ministry related project (35% - due 10 October 2008).
3. Post attendance: A 4,000 word essay (50% - due 7 November 2008). Exact topics to be decided during the lecture week in consultation with the facilitators.

### **Course Facilitators**

**Dr Alan Thompson** BTh, MDiv(Hons), PhD

Alan is New Testament lecturer and Graduate Studies Advisor at SMBC. Prior to joining the SMBC faculty Alan completed theological studies, including a PhD (on the book of Acts), at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Chicago. During this time he was PhD Theological Studies Programme Scholar for Dr Willem Van Gemenen and Graduate Assistant for Dr D A Carson.

**Rev. David Cook** BTh, DipDM, ThL, MA

David is Principal of SMBC and Director of the SMBC School of Preaching. He has served as a Presbyterian minister in country NSW and the inner western suburbs of Sydney and is a regular speaker at conferences in Australia and overseas. He recently wrote a commentary on the book of Acts, published by Christian Focus Publishing

**Rev. David Jones** is a visiting lecturer of the SMBC School of Preaching and senior minister of Cornerstone Presbyterian Church in Hobart. He has over 30 years of ministry experience.

**Rev. Bryson Smith** is a visiting lecturer of the SMBC School of preaching and the minister of Dubbo Presbyterian Church (NSW). He is an occasional convention speaker and has written numerous Bible Study guides and Christian songs.

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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### ***Can I do an MA while still in ministry?***

Yes, SMBC offers most of the MA units in an intensive mode, with lecture input occurring in a period of five to ten days. Each coursework subject is assessed by essays or projects which are generally due two or three months after the unit has been held. This means that an MA unit could be incorporated into a week of ministerial study leave or during time at home from the mission field.

### ***How long will it take me?***

These degrees may be obtained by the completion of eight coursework subjects, or by the completion of six coursework subjects and a 15,000 word project in a relevant ministry area. The degree may be completed full time over two years or part time over a period up to six years. Suspension of candidature may be granted for reasons such as overseas missionary service or a move to a new parish.

### ***What's the difference between an MA (Ministry) and an MA (Theology)?***

The main difference is the amount of MA units required in a particular field. Six of the eight subjects need to be registered as either ministry subjects (EM – Evangelism/ Mission, PC – Pastoral Care) or theology subjects (TH – Theology, OT, NT, etc.). SMBC offers many subjects which are listed as both ministry and theology units to provide students with broader options.

### ***What subjects are available at SMBC?***

SMBC offers different subjects each year. Details of subjects being offered in 2008 are contained in this booklet.

Some of the other subjects that have been offered at SMBC in recent years are: Developing Trainers to Train Others; Old Testament Foundations for Mission; Building Character – The Preacher and Preaching; Ethics for Today; Contextualisation of Theology and Ministry Practice; and Preaching Old Testament Narrative.

Details of 2009 subjects will be available in the second half of 2008. Please check the College website for details: [www.smbc.com.au](http://www.smbc.com.au)

### ***How much does it cost?***

Fees are set by the Australian College of Theology and reviewed annually. Government assisted FEE-HELP is available to Australian citizens. Details about fees and FEE-HELP are on page 7 of this booklet.

### ***How can I enrol?***

Information about how to enrol and an MA Application Form 2008 can be found on pages 15-17.

### ***Where can I find more information about the MA programme?***

Contact Dr Alan Thompson, Graduate Studies Advisor or Mark Tough, Academic Registrar at SMBC on (02) 9747 4780 or by email: [applications@smbc.com.au](mailto:applications@smbc.com.au)

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## ENROLMENT DETAILS

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It is recommended that new students arrange an appointment with Dr Alan Thompson (SMBC Graduate Studies Advisor) prior to lodging an application for enrolment.

Students need to complete the relevant SMBC application form on pages 16-17 as well as an *ACTh Application for Enrolment* form. New students also need to complete an *ACTh Application for a New MA Student* form.

ACTh forms and additional SMBC application forms are available to download from the downloads section of the SMBC website: [www.smbc.com.au](http://www.smbc.com.au)

Please send completed forms, supporting documents and payment of tuition fees or FEE-HELP form to:

**The Academic Registrar**  
**Sydney Missionary and Bible College**  
**PO Box 83**  
**CROYDON NSW 2132**

*Application for FEE-HELP Assistance* forms are available from the College office. Phone: 02 9747 4780 or email: [applications@smbc.com.au](mailto:applications@smbc.com.au)

### **Application Deadlines**

Application deadlines vary from subject to subject. Please note carefully the deadline for subjects you wish to take. Deadlines can be found on page 4 of this booklet.

**Note:** All units are subject to minimum enrolment requirements. Early enrolment is recommended.

### **Subject Venue and Times**

Subject times are from 8.30am to 12.50pm with the exception of semester length subjects. Venues will be allocated closer to the time of the subjects.

Morning tea and lunch are included for intensive units. There are no lectures on Saturdays, Sundays or Public Holidays.

### **Privacy Policy**

We collect personal information to process your application. This information will be used in connection with this activity and to provide you with College information. You may have access to the personal information we hold.

## MA APPLICATION FORM 2008

Rev/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms                      Date of Application .....

SURNAME ..... FIRST NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

..... P/code .....

TELEPHONE ..... MOBILE .....

EMAIL ..... DATE OF BIRTH .....

CHURCH ATTENDING .....

OCCUPATION .....

Complete the following questions:

1. Are you a new student?       Yes                       No

*If you answered 'no', proceed to question 4.*

*If you answered 'yes', please complete all questions and arrange interview with SMBC Graduate Studies Co-ordinator.*

2. Complete the table below detailing certificates, degrees, or other qualifications completed since leaving school. Please attach certified copy of transcript(s).

Qualification	Institution	Date Completed
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....

3. Which course do you wish to enrol in?      **Overseas Students**

Master of Arts in Theology - \$1,600 per unit       \$2,520 per unit

Master of Arts in Ministry - \$1,600 per unit       \$2,520 per unit

Doctor of Ministry (unit) - \$1,600 per unit       \$2,520 per unit

4. What subject(s) do you wish to enrol in?

*Cross-Cultural Teaching and Learning (EM/IN758) Semester length (12 weeks) – Rev Dr Bruce Dipple*

*Leadership Development in a Cross-Cultural Context (EM761/IN757) 10-14 March – Rev Dr David Harley*

*Understanding Islam: Making Known God's Love (EM782) 23-30 April – Rev Canon Dr David Claydon*

*Pastoral Ministry and Justification by Faith (PC/TH783) 22-28 May – Rev Rob Smith*

*Theology for Tomorrow's Church (TH764) 2-6 June – Rev Dr David Parker*

*Local Church and Global Mission (EM762, MA or EM862, DMin) 24-30 July – Rev Dr Bruce Dipple*

*Applying the Book of Acts to Ministry Today (NT/PC778) 8-12 September – Rev David Cook and Dr Alan Thompson. (In conjunction with the SMBC School of Preaching Conference on the book of Acts with Rev David Jones and Rev Bryson Smith.)*

**payment details over**

5. Continuing students: please complete the following details:

Name of Sponsoring College .....

ACTh Student Number .....

6. If you wish to audit, please tick here:  Audit fee \$475

**Note:** for multiple enrolments, please download additional application forms (one form per subject) from our website: [www.smbc.com.au](http://www.smbc.com.au)

**PAYMENT**

Cheque (payable to SMBC)

FEE-HELP Assistance Form enclosed

Visa     MasterCard    \$ .....

Card Number: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_    Signature: .....