Bachelor of Ministry, Bachelor of Theology and Related Programs
Master of Divinity and Related Programs

PC449/D & PC649/D
Guided Spiritual Formation A,B,C,D
DISTANCE
Unit Guide

2016

Malyon College
is an approved institution of the
Australian College of Theology

PC449/D & PC649/D are offered by Malyon College as part of the Bachelor of Ministry and Bachelor of Theology Programs authorized for distance and contact delivery by the college, which is an accredited award of the Australian College of Theology (ACT).
At Malyon we recognise that the world is changing. These are times of great challenge and opportunity. Our commitment is to raising up a generation of influential Christians who have a strong biblical base, skills in leadership and ministry, and a heart for God.

We have been training Christian leaders for over 100 years, and we’ve learnt a few things about theological training. Our graduates are serving all over the world as pastors, cross-cultural workers, workplace leaders, chaplains, church leaders and theological faculty.

Malyon offers full-time and part-time study options through lecture, intensive and distance modes. We have excellent resources for students including a large library, wireless internet and 24 hour access to the campus. All our awards are accredited through the Australian College of Theology.

**The Australian College of Theology**

The ACT was established under the auspices of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia in 1891. The ACT is a company limited by guarantee governed by a nine-member Board of Directors. The Anglican Primate of Australia presides as the chairman of meetings of the company which consists of 54 persons (in 2010). The ACT is an Australasian provider of state accredited higher education courses leading to awards in theology and other disciplines related to Christian ministry. The ACT operates as an ecumenical consortium of some 2,500 students enrolled in 19 Bible and theological colleges approved to teach the awards of the ACT. These awards range from two-year diplomas, three-year undergraduate and coursework masters degrees to masters and doctoral research degrees.

The ACT has a centrally devised and managed curriculum and a quality assurance process that are applied across the whole network of affiliated colleges. The day-to-day educational system is managed by the Dean from the ACT office in Sydney. Academic governance is the responsibility of the Academic Board which oversees all academic activities of the College. The standing committees of the Academic Board share this responsibility by monitoring the quality of delivery and resourcing, developing policy, and reviewing the course structure for research, coursework and diploma courses. The membership of the Academic Board and its committees is comprised mostly of faculty members of affiliated colleges. A number of senior university academics are represented to help ensure that ACT practice (especially in the outcome of the consideration of research examiner’s reports and general academic policy) remains comparable with the standards of and best practice in the university sector.

As a HEP under the Higher Education Support Act, the College was required to undergo a quality audit conducted by the Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA). The AUQA Audit Report was publicly released on the AUQA website in February 2007.

In 2010 the company consists of 54 members composed in the following way:

1. the Anglican Primate of Australian and the Dean of the ACT,
2. the principals of 10 Anglican Theological Colleges,
3. 21 persons elected by the House of Bishops of the General Synod,
4. the principals of 11 affiliated colleges approved to deliver the research degrees of the ACT,
5. 5 graduates holding an ACT research degree,
6. 5 graduates holding any other degree of the ACT.
**UNIT DETAILS**

**Unit Description**

GSF is designed to integrate the various disciplines of the student’s course that contribute to their spiritual formation. The focus of GSF is to be reflection, self-evaluation and growth planning in relation to personal spiritual growth through college activities or ministry experience.

While individual colleges will structure this unit in their own way, the program should include such elements as:

1. intentional participation in local Christian community
2. written reflection on a student’s unfolding spiritual journey
3. regular contact with an individual mentor
4. participation in a group reflective process

**Credit Points**

This unit is valued at 1 credit point.

(Standard subjects within the ACT curriculum are worth 4 credit points and are usually completed within 1 semester. GSF is offered in 1 credit point units over 4 semesters.)

**Co- and Pre-Requisites**

None

**Exclusions**

None

**Unit Content**

This unit is designed for students who, for a variety of reasons are unable to participate in the ‘in class’ Guided Spiritual Formation Groups which meet on campus. Accordingly, this
Unit is designed to be used in off-campus mode. There are no lectures to attend, and the student is expected to take responsibility for ensuring that the requirements of the unit are met. You are enrolling in this unit as an “off-campus unit”.

It is important that students understand the difference between GSF and every other ACT subject. Standard subjects within the ACT curriculum are worth 4 credit points and are usually completed within 1 semester. GSF is offered in 1 credit point units over 4 semesters. This Moodle Unit applies to all 4 units of GSF. You will take 4 semesters to work progressively through it. This means that you would enroll in PC449/649A in your first semester of GSF and complete the section of the Moodle unit that pertains to PC449/649A. In your second semester of GSF you would complete the section of the Moodle unit that pertains to PC449/649B and so on through the Unit.

**Unit Outcomes**

(a) The candidate has been deepened in their own intimacy with God, and is committed to their future ministry effectiveness being fed by repeated times of personal spiritual renewal.
(b) The candidate has developed their philosophy of ministry so that its broad outline has begun to take shape.
(c) The candidate has engaged, in the course of their theological education, in regular reflection on their own personhood and vocation in the light of the truths, skills and commitments gained through that formal education.
(d) The candidate has experienced a model of growth through personal accountability, mentoring, reading and reflection, and through this the candidate has been supported and equipped to minister to others.

**Workload Requirement**

The total hours spent in these activities should not be less than 150. It is strongly recommended that work in this area be spread throughout a candidate’s course.
Assessment Requirements

GSF Distance is graded on pass/fail basis.

The student shall complete the following assessment requirements:

1. A completed and signed Semester Plan (for Modules A, B, C & D)
2. Submission of 6 completed GSF on-line Journal submissions (for Modules A, B, C & D)
3. A completed and signed GSF Record & Final Statement form (for Modules A, B, C & D)

Required Resources

The required resources will be indicated on each of the Learning Guides which are attached to each section (A, B, C & D)

UNIT LECTURERS AND PREPARERS

Rev Dr Peter Francis DipT, BEd, MDiv, Grad Theol, MA (Theol), DMin

Peter Francis is Vice Principal, Field Education Director and a lecturer at Malyon College. Peter is married to Wendy who is the Queensland Director of the Australian Christian Lobby. Together they have three married children and ten grandchildren. After a 10 year career as a high school teacher, Peter entered into Pastoral ministry at Cleveland Baptist, having earned his Master of Divinity through Trinity Theological College (USA). Over the past 26 years Peter has pastored at Cleveland Baptist, Beenleigh Baptist and the City Tabernacle Baptist Church, as well as being involved in numerous short term missions in places such as PNG, Bangladesh, Thailand, Cambodia and South America. He has also given two years’ service as a Regional Consultant with Queensland Baptists and has served on various mission boards such as the Far East Broadcasting Company and Global Interaction. Peter’s theological studies include a Master of Divinity, a Graduate in Theology, a Master of Arts in Theology and a Doctor of Ministry.

Contact details: ☎ (07) 3354 5656  🌐 peter.francis@malyon.edu.au

GSF Distance Coordinator – Anne Klose
Anne’s professional background is in counselling psychology and she practised personal and relationship counselling and taught in adult education settings for 15 years. She then commenced work with theological students in the area of spiritual formation, and undertook her own theological studies, culminating with a PhD in Practical Theology (Baptist Ecclesiology) at the University of Queensland. She has served in lay ministry in the areas of preaching, training, eldership, mentoring and worship. She was appointed as a part-time faculty member at Malyon College in 2014, and is a member of the Gateway Baptist Church. She is married to Peter and they have two married sons, two wonderful daughters in law and a growing number of grandchildren.

Contact details: ☎ (07) 3354 5656 ✉ anne.klose@malyon.edu.au

**UNIT CONTRIBUTION TO GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES**

*Developing Christians of Influence*

“Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding.”

(Jeremiah 3:15)

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<tr>
<th>Graduate Attribute 1: Personal Maturity – ‘Shepherds with God’s heart’</th>
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<th>2.</th>
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<td>a. grows a deepening relationship with Jesus</td>
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<td>b. is secure in God’s call with a desire and ability to learn and grow</td>
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<td>c. is self-aware and maintains self-care</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>d. seeks and builds healthy relationships</td>
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<td>e. is committed to living with integrity and prayerful dependence on God</td>
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<tr>
<th>Graduate Attribute 2: Theological Maturity – ‘Knowledge and understanding of God’s heart’</th>
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<td>a. knows and trusts the Bible</td>
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<td>b. understands the context of diverse theological ideas</td>
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<td>c. forms a personal theology which is both biblical and thoughtful</td>
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<td>d. reflects theologically and applies the Bible to real life</td>
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<td>e. is committed to helping others know God’s grace and truth and live God’s way</td>
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<th>Graduate Attribute 3: Ministry Maturity – ‘Knowledgeable and wise shepherds’</th>
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<td>b.</td>
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<td>d.</td>
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<td>e.</td>
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a. is able to have a godly influence over others

b. possesses skills needed for chosen ministry path

c. understands cultures and contexts and is able to minister in a range of contexts

d. is able to work with and lead a team

e. is committed to serving, evangelising and mentoring others

Note: Graduates who have not completed the curricular and non-curricular ministry aspects of Malyon’s courses will tend to be most developed in Graduate Attribute 2.

References

The list below provides the learner with references that relate to the unit material and topics under consideration.


**ACT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**Key Policies**

Students should take note of the following ACT policies:

1. Unit Moderation Policy.
3. Academic Appeals Policy.

**Accessing Documents**

These and other policy documents are publically available in the following handbooks, through links on ACT’s home page (www.actheology.edu.au):

1. Undergraduate Handbook.
5. Distance Education Handbook.

*These should be read in conjunction with the ‘Recent Updates’ link found on the ACT website.*