

# the Australian New Church College



# Prospectus

L o v e   W i s d o m   U s e

[www.anccollege.org](http://www.anccollege.org)

# Prospectus for the Australian New Church College

Welcome and thank you for your interest in what the Australian New Church College has to offer. What follows is some information regarding our courses, accreditation, the method of delivery, fees, and opportunities for ministry within the New Church in Australia. If after reading the information provided you would like to take things further then please fill out the application form either on the back of this prospectus and return it to the College or go to [www.anccollege.org](http://www.anccollege.org) and complete the online application form. If you have any questions you can forward these to the College's Director of Spiritual Training via email on [dst@anccollege.org](mailto:dst@anccollege.org).

The College offers two formal programmes of spiritual education, these being the Certificate in Spiritual Christianity and the Diploma in Spiritual Christianity. The Certificate course is for anyone who wishes to consolidate their understanding of the Bible and its deeper spiritual meaning in the light of the spiritual teachings revealed, by the Lord, through His servant Emanuel Swedenborg (1688

1772). The Diploma course is also open to all but carries a strong focus on supporting the development of ministry aspirations.

The College views ministry as an expression of the Lord's own desire for the salvation of the human race and recognises that this finds its expression through different people in many different ways but will always have at its core a genuine concern for the spiritual well-being of others. For this reason, regardless of what form of expression a ministry takes, traditional, contemporary, or what is yet to emerge, or what social, cultural, or ethnic factors have a bearing on it, the College seeks to offer programmes that are well structured yet flexible enough to support a diverse range of ministry initiatives.

The course design supports students to flesh out their vision for ministry through creating opportunities to gain an experiential understanding of spiritual truths drawn from the Sacred Scriptures and the Heavenly Doctrine. It is the College's hope that this expe-

## From the Heavenly Doctrines

"That which leads to what has a useful purpose is knowing what goodness and truth are; and that which has such a purpose is the desire to realize these in actions." AC 5293

"Religious knowledge does not come to be truths residing with a person until that knowledge finds acceptance in his understanding, which happens when he firmly embraces it; and what are then truths residing with him are not made his own until he lives in conformity with them. For nothing is made a person's own other than that which is made part of his life; thus because those truths form his life, his true self is invested in them." AC 5276

"Life from the Lord flows only into a humble and submissive heart, since it is fitted to receive. And it is fitted to receive because when a heart is truly humble no self-love or love of the world stands in the way." AC 8873

"And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them... repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem" Lk 24:45-47

experiential focus on working with spiritual truths will support students to develop a foundation for an ongoing personal spiritual practice in their lives.

An important overarching learning objective woven into the course structure is that students gain spiritual literacy skills through the personal practise of self-examination and repentance. It is the view of the College that if students are to be effective in using truths from the Word in ministering the Lord's love and wisdom that they...

- a) Come into a personal appreciation of the processes of reformation and regeneration they experience in their own lives and
- b) Are able to connect this directly to their personal engagement with the Lord's Word and
- c) Are able to draw on their sense of this in support of others to live a spiritually focused life.

These qualities are considered foundational to all expressions of ministry regardless of what form the ministry takes.

The programmes of study seek to strike a balance between intellectually focused learning and the experiential learning that comes from the application of spiritual truths to life. The online learning environment encourages students to acquire knowledge of spiritual principles from the Word and



then work to have these affirmed and illustrated in their personal experience. To achieve this each course contains objectives set around three learning domains.

The learning domains that frame course objectives are as follows;

**Conceptual:** – involves acquiring a general overview of the structure of New Church teaching as

well as an understanding of the key principles that underpin a spiritual practise based on this.

**Applicational:** – encourages the use of spiritual literacy skills and knowledge to engage with spiritual processes in oneself with a view to utilising ones experience and knowledge to support others to do the same.

#### From the Heavenly Doctrines

“True worship of the Lord consists in performing useful services; and such services during a person's life in the world lie in a proper fulfilment of his function by each person, whatever his own position, that is, in serving his country, its communities, and his neighbour with all his heart. They also lie in honest dealings with fellow human beings and in the diligent discharge of duties, with full regard for each person's character. These useful deeds are the principal ways of exercising charity and the principal means of worshipping the Lord.” AC 7038.

“Behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you: but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.” Lk 24:49

Devotional: – focuses on raising a student’s awareness of the way their attitudes, experiences, values, interests, and preferences, are directly impacted through their personal engagement with spiritual materials.

## THE CERTIFICATE IN SPIRITUAL CHRISTIANITY

The Certificate programme is a foundational course in New Church/ Swedenborgian thought and practise. It is designed to equip students for living a spiritual life through providing an overview of the Bible and New Church theological concepts to assist in the application of principles for the development of a spiritual practice. In addition to this the programme offers an overview of the life of Swedenborg. All courses are delivered online through the College's web portal. The Certificate programme consists of 5 courses as follows: ·

1. The Life of Swedenborg
2. Overview of New Church Doctrine I
3. Overview of New Church Doctrine 2
4. Introduction to Correspondences
5. Bible Overview

The Certificate courses also serve as prerequisites for entry into the Diploma course. The Certificate in Spiritual Christianity is awarded upon the satisfactory completion of its 5 courses which carry a minimum study commitment of 30 hours each.

## THE DIPLOMA IN SPIRITUAL CHRISTIANITY

Entry into the Diploma course is granted once the College is satisfied that a student has fulfilled the following entry requirements...

The prospective student has shown that they have met the learning objectives set out in the Certificate programme and can demonstrate to the Director of Spiritual Training that they possess the necessary attributes to competently engage with Diploma level course requirements. This is achieved through either...

- a) Having completed the Prerequisite courses to the required level of competency or
- b) Can demonstrate that through previous study (independent or formal) and/or through experience that they have met the required level of competency required for the awarding of the Certificate in Spiritual Christianity.



### From the Heavenly Doctrines

“God flows into every human being with all his divine life, that is with all his divine love and divine wisdom.” TCR 364

“The Lord withdraws no one from their hell unless they see that they are in hell and wish to be led out.” DP 251

A person's registration and acceptance into the Diploma course does not mean that they automatically recognised as a theological student or candidate for ordained/non-ordained ministry nor does it place the New Church in Australia or any of its members under any obligation related to a student's current or future employment. Theological students are people whose sense of call to ministry has been acknowledged by the College Council and by the Council of Ministers of The New Church in Australia (NCIA) who make up the College Board. Recognition as a candidate for ordination is in the hands of the College Board and can only be applied for when studies are well advanced. This will involve a screening interview with the College's Director of Spiritual Training and the NCIA President.

Note: An application can be made to the College for the assessment and possible cross crediting of previous study and experience. Any cross crediting of previous work will be at the discretion of the College Board.

The Diploma programme is made up of 8 components inclusive of the Certificate courses. These are as follows...

1. Certificate Courses (Total study load is a minimum of 150 hrs)
2. Core Courses (Total study load is a minimum of 400 hrs)
3. Logopraxis (Text Study 12 Months)

4. Dissertation (10,000 words) or Course Design
5. Practicum (where appropriate: As agreed in consultation with the DST)
6. Optional Courses (Provision for students to take additional courses offered by the College itself or by other providers in support of their ministry aspirations as agreed in consultation with the DST)
7. Seminars (Attendance as agreed in consultation with the DST)
8. Residential Intensives (Attendance as agreed in consultation with the DST)

The Core Courses are mandatory for all students who have fulfilled the prerequisite requirements for the Diploma. There are five Core Courses, these are:

1. The Lord's Love
2. Glorification/Incarnation
3. The Divine Human
4. The Nature of Self
5. The Management of States

Each Core Course requires a minimum of 80 credit hours to complete giving a total minimum of 400 hrs of study.

Text Study: This consists of intensive work with a specified text of

the Heavenly Doctrines in a small group setting using an approach called Logopraxis. The specific text a student will work with will be largely determined by the texts being used by the groups in the College's Logopraxis programme at the time.

Logopraxis is designed to pull together all the skills students experience in the 3 learning domains (Conceptual, Application and Devotional) through working with others in a small group context. Participation in a Logopraxis Life Group can either be in a face to face or online depending on a student's circumstances. The College is constantly running Logopraxis groups for anyone interested. Where students have participated in a Life Group prior to undertaking

#### From the Heavenly Doctrines

- "The heavenly person is such that he does not base his actions on his own desires but on what pleases the Lord; this is his desire. In this way he enjoys inward peace and happiness." AC 85
- "A person's knowing much counts for nothing if he does not live in accordance with what he knows." AC 1100

"This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it." Josh. 1:8

ing study towards the Diploma and their participation was for at least 12 months then they can apply to the College's Director of Spiritual Training to have this recognised thus fulfilling this requirement of the Diploma course. The Text Study component of the Diploma can be undertaken at any time before, after or during the study of other courses towards the Diploma.

**Practicum:** This component is for those students who are required engage in practical areas of use directly related to their ministry aspirations as determined in consultation with the College's Director of Spiritual Training.

**Dissertation/Course Design:** To round out their study students are given the option of writing a 10,000 word Dissertation that explores some area of applied New Church theological thought that is specifically related to their vision for ministry. Alternatively they can opt to design and write a course for use with the College under the supervision of the Director of Spiritual Training. In both cases students will be required to submit a proposal to the College Board for approval.

**Optional Courses:** This course category enables students to take courses offered by other learning institutions that the College doesn't offer but can be shown to support a student's study or min-

istry objectives. The final decision in regarding optional courses undertaken will be agreed in consultation with the College's Director of Spiritual Training.

**Seminars:** These are open to all people in the wider New Church/Swedenborgian communities. Attendance by Students studying towards the Diploma is strongly urged. Candidates seeking to enter into ministry (ordained or non-ordained) under the auspices of the New Church in Australia need to be prepared to attend a set number of Seminars over the course of their studies. The number and timing of Seminar attendance for those with ministry aspirations will be set through discussions with the College Director of Spiritual Training. Seminars have proved to be an invaluable component in supporting the growth and development of student's abilities and skills in a number of areas. They also provide opportunities for face to face contact between students and tutors. The main focus for doctrinal study is on the *Arca Coelestia* with this being supplemented with various other topics and presentations of interest.

**Residential Intensives:** Students who hold ministry aspirations and who have been accepted by the Council of Ministers and the NCIA Board as Candidates and who are looking to carry out their

ministry under the auspices of the NCIA in an ordained or non-ordained capacity will be required to attend a number of Residential Intensives. The number and frequency of Residential Intensives will be determined on an ongoing basis in consultation with the College's Director of Spiritual Training.

### From the Heavenly Doctrines

"People in whom this love is present love the Lord wholeheartedly. Yet they realize, say, and perceive that all love, thus all life, which belongs exclusively to love, and so all happiness, come from the Lord and nowhere else, and that they derive not one trace of love, life, and happiness from themselves."  
AC 32

"Everybody is withheld from evils by the Lord, and this is done with a mightier power than what a person can possibly believe."  
AC 2406.2

"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and God was the Word... In Him was life, and the life was the light of men... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory..." John 1:1,4,14

# Ministry Opportunities within the New Church in Australia

The College recognises that study towards its Diploma in Spiritual Christianity constitutes a major commitment on the part of those who undertake it. It also recognises that people who come into the programme do so for many different reasons. For some people there is a desire to build a greater awareness of what the Word and the Heavenly Doctrines teach with a view to being more informed and able to use them in their personal lives and interactions with others. Others may enter the programme with a strong sense of call to some form of ministry. What form this will take may or may not be clear for them, or it could be that they feel called to serve in the organised New Church as an ordained minister in one of its Churches. Others may seek to pursue a vision of ministry that includes ordination but is focused outside of what is typically the established form of ministry within a congregational church context. Or it could be that a person's sense of call is such that they don't feel that ordination is something necessary for fulfilling their vision for ministry.

The training the College offers is able to cater for all this variety because its emphasis is not on training people for a particular model of ministry but is on giving people the tools needed to personally engage with Word and the Heavenly Doctrines as the basis for their own work of regeneration. A person's willingness to engage in their own inner work of self-examination and repentance is viewed by the College as the only real basis for effective ministry regardless of what form that ministry may take. The churches affiliated with The New Church in Australia (NCIA) are independent locally run incorporated societies. Traditionally these communities have looked to securing a full time minister whose primary responsibilities have included pastoral care, teaching of doctrine, leading Sunday services and preaching,

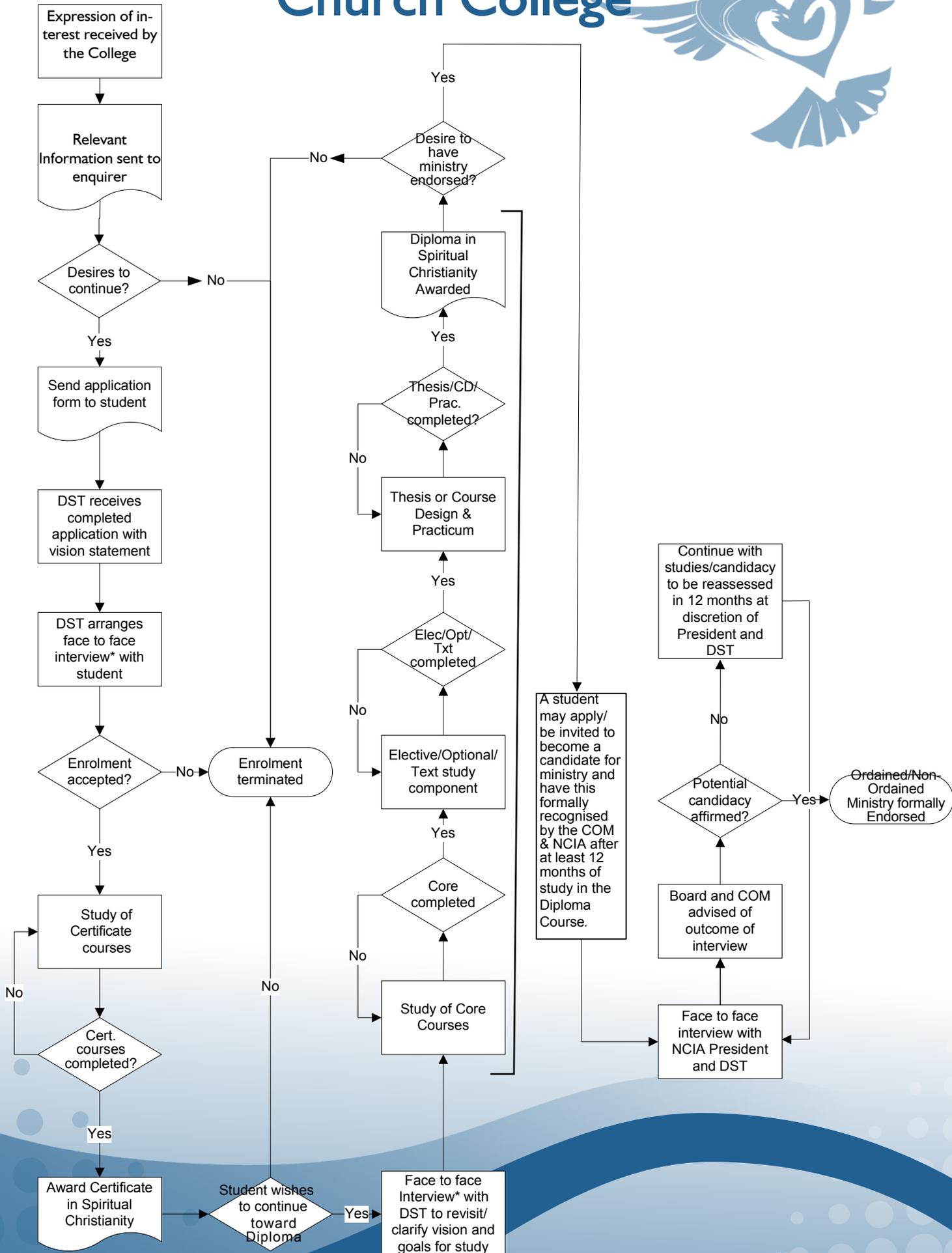
amongst other locally focused initiatives.

The training offered towards the Diploma is well able to prepare suitable candidates to work in the area of church based pastoral ministries. To enter this area of ministry students will have completed the Diploma in Spiritual Christianity or equivalent, have completed the necessary agreed practicum requirements and have received New Church ordination. Churches affiliated to the NCIA are independent entities and as such reserve the right to accept or decline an expression of interest from a minister to serve in them. Prospective students of the College should be aware that ordination is not a guarantee of employment within a local Church or the wider body of the NCIA.

In cases where a person's vision for ministry falls outside the Societal framework and where there exists a desire to have that ministry formally recognised and practised under the auspices of the NCIA a person can seek ordination, or recognition as a nonordained minister, once their vision for ministry has gained formal endorsement from the Council of Ministers and the approval of the NCIA Board.

All formal recognition of a ministry vision to be performed under the auspices of the NCIA must have the approval of the COM and NCIA Board. The COM and Board reserves the right to decline any application for ordination or non-ordination endorsement. All those who serve in New Church ministry, where that ministry is formally recognised by the NCIA, whether ordained or non-ordained, employed or serving in a voluntary capacity, are required to sign a license agreement.

# Study Path with the Australian New Church College



\*Note: Where a face to face interview in person is not possible then an interview will be conducted online e.g. Skype.

# THE AUSTRALIAN NEW CHURCH COLLEGE

## APPLICATION FORM FOR STUDY WITH THE AUSTRALIAN NEW CHURCH COLLEGE



*Please complete and return to:*

*If you prefer you can print out the forms complete them and then scan them as a pdf before returning them as an email attachment to....*

***dst@anccollege.org***

*Director of Spiritual Training  
Australian New Church College  
PO Box 349  
Park Holme, 5043  
SA; Australia*

(If you need more space for your answers, please continue with them on a separate sheet)

### PERSONAL DETAILS

SURNAME: \_\_\_\_\_

GIVEN NAMES: \_\_\_\_\_

KNOWN AS: \_\_\_\_\_

D.O.B.     \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ (HM)                      \_\_\_\_\_ (MOB)

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

#### From the Heavenly Doctrines

“You are created so that you can be more and more closely united to the Lord. You are united not by knowledge alone, nor by intelligence alone, nor even by wisdom alone, but by living according to these. The more closely you are united to the Lord, the wiser and happier you become.” DP 32, 34, 37

### COURSE OF STUDY DETAILS

Please indicate by ticking the appropriate option that describes your intention behind studying with the College

*My intention at this stage is...*

- a) to only work through the prerequisite courses towards the Certificate in Spiritual Christianity.*
- b) to complete the prerequisite courses with a view to continuing study towards the Diploma in Spiritual Christianity.*
- c) to apply to be accepted into the Diploma in Spiritual Christianity*

Applicants who tick b above will be approached by the College to arrange an interview with the College's Director of Spiritual Training. It is preferable that this be a face to face interview, however where this is not possible an alternative to a face to face interview will be arranged. Those who tick c will be required to attend a face to face interview with the College's Director of Spiritual Training.

## EDUCATION DETAILS

ENGLISH: (circle)      1st language      2nd language

FIRST LANGUAGE (where Eng is considered 2<sup>nd</sup> language): \_\_\_\_\_



List all tertiary studies which you have undertaken or are currently undertaking

Year Commenced	Year Completed	Institution	Course	Qualification

Note: Copies of transcripts or proof of the award of any degrees will be required before consideration can be given to awarding any credits towards the Diploma in Spiritual Christianity with the Australian New Church College.

Secondary School	Year Commenced	Year Completed	Level Achieved

### TECHNOLOGY/COMPUTER SKILLS (circle the relevant answers)

Do you have access to a computer? ..... Yes    No  
 Do you have access to the Internet? ..... Yes    No  
 Indicate your level of keyboard skills ..... 60+    50    40    30    20    (words/minute)  
 What operating system do you use? ..... Windows    Mac    Other  
 Have you ever done any online study using a computer before? ..... Yes    No

### FACE TO FACE INTERVIEW: DIPLOMA IN SPIRITUAL CHRISTIANITY

Applicants for the Diploma in Spiritual Christianity are required to attend a face to face interview with the Director of Spiritual Training. Please indicate below suitable dates for when you would be available to attend an interview. Travel costs to the interview are to be met by the applicant.

Preferred interview dates: 1. \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ am pm (circle)  
 2. \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ am pm (circle)  
 3. \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ am pm (circle)

Note: You will be contacted by the Director of Spiritual Training to finalise details for the interview date and time

## RESPONSES

Applicants are asked to complete a short response to each of the following questions/statements and attach it to their application...



- What is your sense of the Lord?
- Describe your sense of the New Church
- Where do you see the place of the Word/Heavenly Doctrines in your life?
- What does it mean for you to live a spiritual life?
- What do you hope to achieve through studying with the College?

## COURSE FEES AND COSTS

Course fees are reviewed periodically and the current fees can be found on the next page of the prospectus or on the College's website at [www.anccollege.org](http://www.anccollege.org) Costs to attend seminars (Seminar fees, travel, accommodation) are to be met by students. Course fees and Seminars are heavily subsidised by the College already however, should a student find they are struggling to meet the costs of their studies they can approach the Director of Spiritual Training to have their fees waived in full or in part. The DST will then put their case to the College Board for consideration. Fee waiver in full or in part remains at the discretion of the College Board.

## IN CLOSING

Thanks for taking the time to explore what the Australian New Church College has to offer through its programmes. It is our hope that this might be the start of an exciting journey on the way to developing a deeper understanding of the Word so that you might be better equipped to live life more consciously in the light of the spiritual principles found in the Bible and expounded in the Heavenly Doctrine.

May the Lord bless you and keep you...

If you have any questions you can contact the Director of Spiritual Training on

[dst@anccollege.org](mailto:dst@anccollege.org)

"Lift up your eyes, and behold the fields for they are white ready for harvest, and he that reaps receives reward and gathers fruit for eternal life, that he that sows and he that reaps may rejoice together" (John 4:35, 36).

These things are said of a new church from the Lord. That it is at hand is signified by the fields being white ready for harvest; those of that church who are in the spiritual affection for truth, and thus in heaven, are meant by, he that reaps receives reward, and gathers fruit for eternal life; and the Lord Himself, from whom the affection for truth, and heaven are derived, is meant by he that sows may rejoice together [with him that reaps.] AE 694

# The Australian New Church College

## Fee Schedule



Course Name	Type	Fee
Administration Fee		150
Life of Swedenborg	Certificate	300
Heavenly Doctrine I	Certificate	300
Heavenly Doctrine II	Certificate	300
Intro to Correspondences	Certificate	300
Overview of the Bible	Certificate	300
The Lord's Love	Diploma	500
Incarnation/Glorification	Diploma	500
The Divine Human	Diploma	500
The Nature of Self	Diploma	500
The Management of States	Diploma	500
Optionals (offered in-house)	Diploma	400
Dissertation/Course Design	Diploma	700