Explanatory Note:
This version of Regulation 21 Master of Arts is available to currently enrolled students who were admitted to the Master of Arts (coursework or research) under this version of the Regulation prior to 1 September 2012. Students who wish to complete their course under this version of Regulation 21 must complete no later than 31 December 2015.

REGULATION 21 – MASTER OF ARTS – COURSEWORK AND RESEARCH

21.1 Admission and Enrolment
21.1.1 A person may apply to the Academic Board [the Board] to enrol as a candidate for the Master of Arts by Research if he or she:
21.1.1.1 Has completed the Graduate Diploma in Theology, or a postgraduate diploma in theology or in a discipline (or combination of disciplines) relevant to theology, in each case including a 12,000-word postgraduate research essay of Distinction standard; or
21.1.1.2 Has obtained the degree of Bachelor of Theology with First or Second Class (Upper Division) Honours from the College, or the degree of Bachelor of Divinity with First or Second Class (Upper Division) Honours from the College, or an equivalent qualification from a university or college recognised by the Council for the purposes of the Master of Arts.

21.1.2 Notwithstanding Regulation 21.1.1, a person seeking to undertake a Master of Arts by Research may be required to have an appropriate level of ministerial experience, where the Board determines that it is relevant to the project.

21.1.3 A person may apply to the Board to enrol as a candidate for the Master of Arts by Coursework (General stream) or the Master of Arts by Coursework (Specialised stream) with the exception of the Education and Theology specialisation, if he or she has completed the Graduate Diploma in Theology, or a postgraduate diploma in theology or in a discipline (or combination of disciplines) relevant to theology acceptable to the Board.

21.1.3A A person may apply to the Board to enrol as a candidate for the Master of Arts by Coursework (Education and Theology) if he or she has completed a 4-year Bachelor of Education degree or postgraduate teaching qualification or equivalent, has a minimum of three years’ teaching experience and at least the equivalent of the Graduate Certificate in Theology as determined by the Board.

21.1.4 A person may apply to the Board to enrol as a candidate for the Master of Arts by either Research or Coursework if he or she has obtained an exceptional level of relevant professional attainment which may be recognised by the Board for this purpose.

21.1.5 Each candidate must be attached to a Recognised Teaching Institution for the whole period of candidature. The Board may permit a candidate to attend another institution for part of the period of candidature.

21.1.6 Permission may be given to enrol in the Research program only where the Board is able to provide adequate supervision, and that it is satisfied that the candidate will have appropriate learning opportunities, including: access to appropriate learning resources, and access to adequate libraries.

21.1.7 If a candidate seeks to undertake the Master of Arts by Research using flexible delivery arrangements, the Board may only give permission for an enrolment on this basis if it is satisfied that the requirements of the degree can be completed through these arrangements, and that the provisions of Regulation 21.1.6 can also be met.
21.1.8 Each Master of Arts by Research candidate must have a Supervisor appointed by the Board. If that Supervisor is not a member of staff of the Recognised Teaching Institution to which the candidate is attached, the Board must, on the recommendation of the Research Coordinator of that institution, appoint such a member of staff as the Associate Supervisor. The Associate Supervisor is to consult regularly with the Supervisor on the progress of the candidate’s work.

21.1.9 Notwithstanding any other provision in these regulations, the Board may require any applicant to demonstrate their fitness for admission by carrying out such work and sitting for such examinations as the Board determines.

21.1.10 Unless the Board determines otherwise, the minimum length of candidature for the Master of Arts is 12 months full-time or 24 months part-time, and the maximum length of candidature is 18 months full-time, or 3 years part-time. One extension of 6 months may be granted to full-time candidates, and one extension of 12 months may be granted to part-time candidates. Any extension of time for research students is to be granted only on a certificate from the Supervisor that the work is progressing satisfactorily.

21.1.11 Each candidate is to proceed on such terms and in conformity with such procedures as are determined from time to time by the Board, in addition to those specified in this Regulation. General determinations made by the Board are to be published by the DFA(R); specific determinations applying to a particular candidate are to be communicated to him or her by the DFA(R).

21.1.12 The Board may discontinue the candidature of any person whom it deems to have made unsatisfactory progress.

21.2 **Course of Studies: Coursework**

21.2.1 Every candidate for the degree of Master of Arts by coursework must complete, at a standard determined by the Board, the equivalent of 90 points of post-graduate study as approved by the Board. Each candidate may include a research essay of no more than 12,000 words (30 points) on a topic approved by the Board, and at a standard determined by the Board.

21.2.2 A candidate for the degree of Master of Arts by coursework may be permitted to enrol under one of the specialisations approved by the Board for the Graduate Diploma in Theology. In this case at least two-thirds of the course (60 points) must be related to the area of specialisation, as approved by the Coursework Coordinator of the RTI to which the candidate is attached.

21.3 **Course of Studies: Research**

21.3.1 Every candidate for the degree of Master of Arts by Research including a Major Thesis must write a thesis of no more than 40,000 words on a topic approved by the Board, and at a standard determined by the Board.

21.3.2 Every candidate for the degree of Master of Arts by Research including a Minor Thesis must complete, at a standard determined by the Board, the equivalent of 45 points of post-graduate study as approved by the Board, and write a Thesis of not more than 25,000 words on a topic approved by the Board.

21.3.3 Candidates for the degree of Master of Arts by Research may seek approval from the Board to submit their research findings in an alternative format, *as per* the allowable methods defined under Regulation 26.2.7.

21.3.4 Every candidate for the degree of Master of Arts (both Major and Minor thesis) admitted after January 2012 must successfully complete an approved post-graduate unit in
research methodology, unless exempted by the Board. In that case, the student will be credited with 15 of the 45 points required under 21.3.2.

21.3.5 Each candidate for the Master of Arts by Major Thesis must have their project assessed by an approval panel no later than 3 months following admission for full-time candidates, or 6 months following admission for part-time candidates.

21.3.6 Each candidate for the Master of Arts by Minor Thesis must have their project assessed by an approval panel no later than 3 months after the conclusion of coursework requirements for full-time students, or 6 months after the conclusion of coursework requirements for part-time students.

21.3.7 Each Thesis proposal, once approved by the Board, must be submitted to the Human Research Ethics Committee of the College as established by Regulation 2.5.

21.3.8 The Thesis is to be examined in accordance with Regulation 26.

21.4 Award of Degree

21.4.1 Where the candidate has satisfied the examiners and completed the requirements for the Master of Arts under Regulation 21.2.1, the Board may recommend to the Council that the degree should be awarded. After the degree has been conferred, the candidate has their degree denoted as Master of Arts (Theology)’, abbreviated ‘MA (Theol)’ as a suffix to their name.

21.4.2 Where the candidate has satisfied the examiners and completed the requirements for the Master of Arts under Regulation 21.2.2, the Board may recommend to the Council that the degree should be awarded. After the degree has been conferred, the candidate is entitled to have their degree denoted as ‘Master of Arts’ followed by the approved specialisation in parentheses, abbreviated ‘MA (abbreviated specialisation)’ as a suffix to their name.

21.4.3 Where the candidate has satisfied the examiners and completed the requirements for the Master of Arts under Regulation 21.3, the Board may recommend to the Council that the degree should be awarded. After the degree has been conferred, the candidate is entitled to have their degree denoted as ‘Master of Arts’, abbreviated ‘MA’ as a suffix to their name.