



ST ATHANASIOUS
COLLEGE



UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY

St Athanasius College Prospectus 2022



Who is SAC

Welcome to St Athanasius College (SAC).

Founded in 2001, and accredited in 2011 as a member college of the collegial University of Divinity, SAC is a Coptic Orthodox theological college that offers units in theology, biblical studies, ancient languages, missiology, philosophy, religious education, ethics, counselling, and Coptic Studies, and many of the units are taught from an Orthodox perspective.

SAC embraces all those who wish to learn about Christian heritage and Orthodox teachings as either full-time or part-time students. We offer undergraduate and postgraduate study options both on-campus and online, as well as HDR awards.

The College supports local and international students as they journey towards a deeper understanding of Orthodox Christianity and spirituality, helping them grow in their faith as they prepare for diverse fields of ministry. Christian fellowship, liturgical worship and learning are at the heart of our community. SAC provides a supportive learning environment nurturing spiritual growth and cultivating the gifts of each individual. The College equips students with the ministry

skills and confidence to serve in the priesthood and religious life, as well as prepares lay people to serve in various roles in mission and ministry such as religious educators, youth leaders, and counsellors.

Classes are delivered in both online and blended modes and face to face components take place at either our Donvale campus, located at 100 Park Road, Donvale, or at our city campus that is conveniently located at 285 La Trobe Street in Melbourne's CBD.

Residential facilities are available at our Donvale campus for full-time and part-time students to help them more fully participate in liturgy, prayer and community life.

Our College is named after St Athanasius who was the 20th patriarch of Alexandria, and is known as the great pillar of Orthodoxy and defender of the Scriptural doctrine of Christ. We follow in the footsteps of St Athanasius by preserving the Gospel truth now and for future generations.

We invite you to become part of our SAC community.



ST ATHANASIUS
COLLEGE

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It was first in the sea-side port of Alexandria that Greek philosophy met Christian thought and it can be argued that it was there that theology bore its first fruits. Theological enquiry, the search for God's truth and purity of Dogma are values dear to the heart of the Coptic Orthodox Church. St Athanasius College brings this yearning for the knowledge of God to Melbourne and the whole world. We are firm in our belief that to know God is to love God and to love God is to serve Him. With this perspective in mind, we welcome all students from all walks of life to engage with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and therein discover Him.



Our student cohort consists of high school graduates, university students, university graduates, Sunday School teachers, youth leaders, ministry workers, professionals, parents, and seminarians; basically all people who want to deepen their spiritual understanding of theology. To our students, SAC becomes the vehicle through which they engage with theological studies in its many disciplines and are spiritually formed in the warm, supportive, yet academically rigorous environment. As a member college of the University of Divinity, SAC offers and adheres to the finest academic standards and is at the forefront of delivering theological education in a variety of modes; face to face, online, intensive and mixed mode.

St Athanasius College was established in 2000 and continued to grow, becoming a member college of the University of Divinity in 2011. The continuous growth of the College and its nurturing is credit to its founder His Grace Bishop Suriel. The College is firmly established building on past hard-won achievements. The College operates out of the Diocese of Melbourne Headquarters in Donvale and expanded in 2017 with the opening of a second campus in La Trobe Street in the Melbourne CBD. This new campus, provides a state-of-the-art learning and teaching environment and a hub for specialist research studies in Orthodox Christianity. St Athanasius College offers undergraduate courses (Diploma, Advanced Diploma and Bachelor), as well as postgraduate courses (Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma, Masters by coursework) and Higher Degree Research programs (Master of Philosophy and PhD).

To accompany our coursework offering, SAC faculty is engaged in a variety of research activities both within Australia and overseas. Publication of research as well as conference participation by SAC faculty and students, contributes to and promotes the body of knowledge that can further God's Kingdom.

We welcome both returning and prospective students to St Athanasius College and invite you to journey with us in discovering the wonders of God and thereby equip yourself for His great work.

Fr Dr Daniel Ghabrial
Principal

CONTENTS

Who is SAC	2
From the Principal	5
SAC Staff	6
Campuses	8
Student Life	10
Awards	12
Fees	18
Featured New Unit	20
2022 Unit Descriptions	22
Timetable	28
2022 Key Dates	32
How to Apply	33
Contact Us	34

WHO'S TEACHING AT SAC IN 2022?



Dr Lisa Agaiby

Lisa has a Ph.D. from Macquarie University, Sydney, and the University of Göttingen, Germany. A lecturer, research co-ordinator and Academic Dean at St Athanasius College, her areas of interest include Early Egyptian Monasticism, Coptic Archaeology and Christian-Arabic Studies.

Fr Dr Gregorios Awad

Fr Gregorios has a Ph.D. from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, and a Ph.D. from Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany. He lectures in Church History, Dogmatic and Systematic Theology and Coptic Language. His areas of interest include Christian-Arabic Studies and Liturgy. Fr Gregorios is a priest in the Coptic Orthodox Church.



Fr Dr Jacob Joseph

Fr Jacob has a Ph.D. from the University of Divinity, Melbourne and lectures in Missiology. His interests include the history and theology of Orthodox Mission and his interest in mission focuses on the youth and the socially marginalised. Fr Jacob is a priest in the Malankara Archdiocese of the Syrian Orthodox Church in Australia.

Mr Abraam Mikhail

Abraam has a Master of Arts in Theological Studies from St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, New York, and is a sessional lecturer in Patristics at St Athanasius College. His areas of interest include the Alexandrian Church Fathers, Church History and Systematic Theology.



Prof. Heike Behlmer

An internationally renowned scholar of Coptic Studies and a prolific author, Prof. Behlmer is the director of the Institute of Egyptology and Coptology at the University of Göttingen, Germany. Her research interests include Egyptian monasticism, Coptic Literature, Digital Coptology, Gender Studies, History of Egyptology and Coptic Studies



Dr Katherin Papadopoulos

Dr Papadopoulos has a Ph.D. from the University of Divinity, Melbourne and lectures in History and Church History. Her interests include include Late Antique memory culture, Hagiography, history of the Mediterranean East, and Patristics. She also maintains a research interest in John Chrysostom, the Pseudo-Chrysostomica, and Severian of Gabala.

Fr Prof. John Behr

Fr John is an internationally renowned patristics scholar and a prolific author. He is the Regius Chair in Humanities at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland and prior to his appointment was the Dean at St Vladimir's Seminary, New York. A sessional lecturer in Patristics at St Athanasius College, Fr John is an Eastern Orthodox priest.



Fr Michael Salib

Fr Michael is a D.Min. candidate at Fuller Theological Seminary, California and has a Master of Arts in Coptic Studies from Macquarie University, Sydney. He lectures in Mission and Ministry and his interests include the relationship between ministry, formation, education and the Eucharistic Table in Coptic tradition. Fr Michael is a priest in the Coptic Orthodox Church.



Fr Dr Daniel Ghabrial

Fr Daniel is the principal at St Athanasius College and has a Ph.D. from the University of Melbourne. He lectures in Pastoral Theology and Ministry and his areas of interest include the theology of priesthood in the Orthodox tradition and how it relates to contemporary life. Fr Daniel is a priest in the Coptic Orthodox Church.

Rev. Dr Nebojsa Tumara

Fr Nebojsa has a Ph.D. from the University of Belgrade, Serbia, and lectures in Biblical Studies, World Religions, Biblical Hebrew and Syriac languages. His interests include comparative religions, liturgy, and iconography. Fr Nebojsa is a priest in the Serbian Orthodox Church.





CAMPUSES

CITY CAMPUS

The City Campus located in Eporo Tower at 285 La Trobe Street, is located just metres away from Melbourne Central Train Station. Opened in late 2017, it has four lecture theatres, a library, a church, a dining hall, and student lounge.

DONVALE CAMPUS

The Donvale Campus located at 100 Park Road, Donvale is the main campus. It offers a library, four lecture theatres, meeting rooms, an auditorium, bookstore, chapel, student accommodation and 22 acres of beautiful grounds.



STUDENT LIFE



Located at the SAC Donvale Campus, the St Pachomius Student Wing accommodates full-time, part-time and visiting students.

Studying, sharing meals and praying together form the key elements of a rich and rewarding community life on campus.

Donvale is located 20 minutes from Melbourne CBD and is close to the Eastern Freeway, Mitcham Train Station and major shopping and recreational facilities.

Full-time SAC Student Weekly Rate: \$120
Full-time SAC Student Semester Rate: \$2,000
Full-time SAC Student Annual Rate: \$4,000
Part-time SAC Student Weekly Rate: \$250
Non-SAC Student Weekly Rate: \$250
Visitors Nightly Rate: \$50

SAC offers students flexible learning options and all of our units are offered either online, blended, or on-campus. Lecturers use mixed media tools and resources to communicate with students in the classroom and via the online platform. We integrate emerging technologies and the latest teaching tools to ensure students receive the most rewarding learning experience.

AWARDS

CERTIFICATE III IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY (VET)

30 weeks beginning each February (exact date TBA)

Introduced in 2021, the Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology (10741NAT) is offered to Year 11 and 12 Students. It is a Christian leadership program for Senior High School students that places Christian discipleship at the heart of their education. The program offers Year 11 and 12 students the opportunity to invest in their spiritual development whilst working toward their academic studies. Provided by Veta Morphus, the Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology has the added benefit of contributing to students' ATAR score. For more information, contact Fr Michael Salib at frmichael@sac.edu.au

ADMISSION CRITERIA: Open to Year 10 graduates.

FOLLOW ON STUDY: Graduates may proceed to a Diploma in Theology, or an Advanced Diploma in Theology, or to the Bachelor of Theology.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS



DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY

1 year full-time, or up to 4 years part-time

The Diploma in Theology consists of 8 undergraduate units (144 points) and introduces students to the key theological disciplines of Biblical Studies, Christian Thought and History, and provides options for electives in other areas of study.

COST: \$1,764 per undergraduate unit.

ADMISSION CRITERIA: Successful completion of Year 12 in an Australian secondary school or equivalent. It may be possible for students to receive credit into their course for prior undergraduate study in related areas.

FOLLOW ON STUDY: Graduates may proceed to an Advanced Diploma in Theology, or to the Bachelor of Theology.

ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY

2 years full-time, or up to 8 years part-time

The Advanced Diploma in Theology and Ministry consists of 16 units (288 points) and builds on the Diploma in Theology by enabling students to deepen their understanding of the theological disciplines of Biblical Studies, Christian Thought and History, and Ministry.

COST: \$1,764 per undergraduate unit.

ADMISSION CRITERIA: Successful completion of Year 12 in an Australian secondary school, or equivalent. It may be possible for students to receive credit into their course for prior undergraduate study in related areas.

FOLLOW ON STUDY: Graduates may proceed to the Bachelor of Theology.

BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY

3 years full-time, or up to 9 years part-time

The Bachelor of Theology consists of 24 units (432 points) and critically examines life and faith through study of the Bible, theological traditions, and historical contexts. The Bachelor of Theology assists students to develop knowledge across broad areas of theology, as well as depth in areas of interest. It develops research and communication skills and prepares graduates for further theological study.

COST: \$1,764 per undergraduate unit.

ADMISSION CRITERIA: Successful completion of Year 12 in an Australian secondary school, or a University of Divinity advanced diploma or equivalent.

FOLLOW ON STUDY: Graduates have access to a range of postgraduate courses at Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma and Masters levels.

CROSS-INSTITUTIONAL STUDY & THEOLOGY AWARDS

If you are already undertaking study at another university, did you know that you may be able study units at SAC as part of your award? Contact us about the possibility of cross-institutional study, or check with your current institution about the flexibility of choosing electives at SAC as cross-institutional study. Studying theology is a great way for one to deepen their faith and knowledge of Christian tradition and to serve in the mission of the Church. So why not consider taking up a Diploma or Bachelor in Theology alongside your current award?

For Years 11 & 12 students who have completed a Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology (10741NAT), consider continuing your learning by enrolling in any of the undergraduate awards offered by SAC. Credits may be available.

POSTGRADUATE COURSEWORK PROGRAMS



GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN THEOLOGY

1 semester full-time, or up to 3 semesters part-time

The Graduate Certificate in Theology consists of 3 units (72 points) of Postgraduate Foundational units in three Disciplines from at least two fields and is designed to allow students to develop and deepen their knowledge and skills in theological disciplines. It provides a foundation for further study and a means of engaging Christian thought and traditions.

COST: \$2,732 per post-graduate unit.

ADMISSION CRITERIA: Successful completion of an undergraduate degree, or an approved equivalent.

FOLLOW ON STUDY: Graduates may proceed to the Graduate Diploma in Theology or Master of Theological Studies.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN DIVINITY

1 semester full-time, or up to 3 semesters part-time

The Graduate Certificate in Divinity consists of 3 units (72 points) of Postgraduate Foundational units in three Disciplines from any number of fields and is designed to allow students to develop and deepen their knowledge and skills in theological disciplines. It provides a foundation for further study and a means of engaging Christian thought and traditions.

COST: \$2,732 per post-graduate unit.

ADMISSION CRITERIA: Successful completion of an undergraduate degree, or an approved equivalent.

FOLLOW ON STUDY: Graduates may proceed to the Graduate Diploma in Theology or Master of Theological Studies.

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY

1 year full-time, or up to 3 years part-time

The Graduate Diploma in Theology consists of 6 foundational and elective units (144 points) consisting of 3 units minimum (72 points) in foundational units (Level 8) in three disciplines across two fields. The remaining 3 units (72 points) are to be taken from foundational (Level 8) or elective units (Level 9). This course allows students to explore areas of interest in theology.

COST: \$2,732 per post-graduate unit.

ADMISSION CRITERIA: Successful completion of an undergraduate degree, or a Graduate Certificate in Theology or Divinity.

FOLLOW ON STUDY: Graduates may proceed to a Masters award. Graduates who have included a Minor Thesis of 16,000 words (worth 2 units) in their course and achieved a minimum grade of 75% may be eligible to apply for admission to a Higher Degree by Research.

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN DIVINITY

1 year full-time, or up to 3 years part-time

The Graduate Diploma in Divinity consists of 6 units (144 points) that may comprise of Level 8 or Level 9 units in any field or discipline. It is designed to allow students to explore multiple areas of interest in divinity and its associated disciplines, or to engage with one or two areas in depth.

COST: \$2,732 per post-graduate unit.

ADMISSION CRITERIA: Successful completion of an undergraduate degree, or a graduate certificate and either: (a) completed the equivalent of 72 points of theological study at the University of Divinity, or another higher education provider; or (b) completed 144 points of study toward a Master's award at the University of Divinity.

FOLLOW ON STUDY: Graduates may be eligible to proceed to a Masters award. Graduates who have included a Minor Thesis of 16,000 words (worth 2 units) in their course and achieved a minimum grade of 75% may be eligible to apply for admission to a Higher Degree by Research.

MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

2 years full-time, or up to 6 years part-time

The Master of Theological Studies consists of 12 units (288 points) and enables students to apply an advanced body of knowledge in theology and its associated disciplines. Students broaden their knowledge and skills and deepen their engagement with select areas of study to prepare them for professional practice and further learning.

COST: \$2,732 per post-graduate unit.

ADMISSION CRITERIA: Successful completion of an undergraduate degree.

FOLLOW ON STUDY: Graduates who have completed their Master of Theological Studies with a Distinction to High Distinction average and have completed a Minor Thesis of 16,000 words achieving a minimum grade of 75% may be eligible for admission to Higher Degrees by Research.

MASTER OF DIVINITY

3 years full-time, or up to 9 years part-time

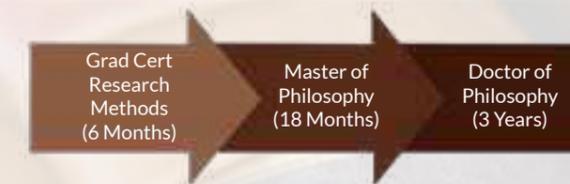
The Master of Divinity consists of 18 units (432 points) and is a first degree in theology for graduates from other disciplines. The degree offers a high level of theological study and provides an appropriate foundation for ministry formation and further study. The Master of Divinity offers a distinct emphasis on integration, research and theological reflection.

COST: \$2,732 per post-graduate unit.

ADMISSION CRITERIA: Successful completion of an undergraduate degree.

FOLLOW ON STUDY: Graduates who have completed their Master of Divinity with a Distinction to High Distinction average and have completed a Minor Thesis of 16,000 words achieving a minimum grade of 75% may be eligible for admission to Higher Degrees by Research.

HIGHER DEGREES BY RESEARCH



Research may be defined as creative work that is undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase our theoretical and/or practical knowledge and to apply knowledge in new ways.

Two Higher Degrees by Research (HDR) are available to suitably qualified candidates at St Athanasius College. Research degrees are undertaken under supervision of two appropriately accredited research-active supervisors, one of whom must be a faculty member of the University of Divinity. The following degrees are open to graduates of at least four years of full-time tertiary study, including at least one year of study in theology or an associated discipline.

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY

18 months full-time, or 4 years part-time

The Master of Philosophy is a Higher Degree by Research in divinity or one or more of its associated disciplines and is designed for individuals who bring a foundation within this disciplinary range. The purpose of the Master of Philosophy is to qualify individuals to apply an advanced body of knowledge in divinity or one or more of its associated disciplines in a range of contexts and to provide a pathway for possible further learning. The course of study for the Master of Philosophy by major thesis consists of the preparation of a thesis of up to 40,000 words for examination.

COST: Fees for the Master of Philosophy are charged per semester at \$9,192. The total cost of a Master of Philosophy (3 semesters full-time, or 6 semesters part-time) is \$27,576.

ADMISSION CRITERIA: The applicant must have achieved: (a) a Masters by coursework with no less than a 75% average; or (b) a Graduate Diploma with no less than a 75% average; or (c) a four year undergraduate degree with Honours with no less than a 75% average. In addition, the applicant must also have completed a research essay/Minor Thesis of min. 16,000 words graded at or above 75%. The research essay or thesis may have been completed either within one of the awards listed above or as part of another program of study.

FOLLOW ON STUDY: Graduates may be eligible for admission to the Doctor of Philosophy.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

3 years full-time, or 8 years part-time

The Doctor of Philosophy is a higher degree by research. The purpose of the Doctor of Philosophy is to qualify individuals who apply a substantial body of knowledge to research, investigate and develop new knowledge, in one or more areas of investigation, scholarship or professional practice. PhD candidates present their research in a thesis of 100,000 words that is examined by at least two external examiners.

COST: A year of study in the PhD is \$18,384 (full-time), or \$9,192 (part-time).

ADMISSION CRITERIA: The applicant must have achieved: (a) a Masters by Research with no less than a 75% average; or (b) a Masters by coursework with no less than a 75% average; or (c) a four year undergraduate degree with Honours with no less than a 75% average. In addition, the applicant must also have completed a research essay/Minor Thesis of min. 16,000 words graded at or above 75%. The research essay or thesis may have been completed either within one of the awards listed above or as part of another program of study.

NON-AWARD COURSES

AUDIT OF COURSEWORK

If you are curious to learn about some of our unit offerings, you are welcome to access our learning environment as an audit student on a not-for-credit basis. This means you can attend and participate in classroom discussions or online forums where you can listen to recorded lectures and download study materials, without the need to fulfill the assessment requirements to earn credit towards an academic award. Please note, however, that assessments cannot be submitted or marked and no feedback can be given on your work or progress. For a small fee of \$550 per unit – payable directly to St Athanasius College – this wonderful opportunity provides professional development and further learning opportunities. If you are interested in attending any of our units as an audit student, please complete the enrolment form at: <http://sac.edu.au/individual-unit-study/>

ENQUIRIES

To enquire about studying any of our Undergraduate or Postgraduate awards, or to audit a unit, please contact the SAC registrar:

Rev. Dr Peter Dobson at registrar@sac.edu.au

To enquire about studying any of our HDR awards, or for further information on Minor Thesis and Supervised Reading Units, please contact the Research Co-ordinator:

Dr Lisa Agaiby at lagaiby@sac.edu.au

Supervised Reading Units

Minor Thesis

With the approval of the Academic Dean, students may undertake specialised study--as part of their postgraduate courses--with the guidance of an appropriate, research-active supervisor in a Supervised Reading Unit (SRU).

The content, learning outcomes, bibliography and type of assessment will be proposed by the student in consultation with a supervisor (member of faculty) and finally approved by the Academic Dean. Students taking a supervised reading unit (SRU) will be required to meet with their supervisor at least once a month.

In addition to the re-enrolment procedure, an SRU Approval Template must be completed by the student and supervisor and submitted for approval to the SAC Academic Dean at least one week prior to the semester census date. Students may link this unit and its assessment tasks to an existing unit or participation or presentation in a scholarly conference during the semester in which the unit is taken.

In consultation with the supervisor, students may audit a coursework unit that may be related to an SRU to guide their reading, thinking and writing.

For more information on SRU go to: <https://divinity.edu.au/documents/supervised-reading-unit-approval-form/>

For enquires about SRU or Minor Thesis, please contact: Dr Lisa Agaiby at lagaiby@sac.edu.au

The purpose of the 16,000-word Minor Thesis is to demonstrate advanced theoretical knowledge in one or more disciplines. Students undertake their research with a suitably qualified, research-active supervisor in the chosen discipline of study.

Eligible students may apply to enrol in a 16,000-word minor thesis (worth 2 units) either as a single subject enrolment or as part of a postgraduate coursework award. Students may elect to take the Minor Thesis in a single semester or across two consecutive semesters.

Students should discuss the option of undertaking a Minor Thesis with the Research Co-ordinator during the semester prior to enrolling in the Minor Thesis. Students who have agreed on a research topic with a qualified supervisor may enrol in the Minor Thesis at the beginning of the semester.

Completion of a 16,000-word Minor Thesis Outline that has been reviewed and agreed together with the supervisor, must be sent electronically to the Academic Dean for approval at least one week prior to the census date of the semester in which the Minor Thesis commences.

For more information on the Minor Thesis go to: <https://divinity.edu.au/study/research/minor-thesis-16000-words/>



FEES AND SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

2022 Unit Fees

Tuition fees are set each year by the University of Divinity and are standard across all the colleges of the University. Fees are charged on the basis of a “unit fee” which covers the teaching for one unit of study for one semester. This fee is all inclusive and covers tuition, library access and student facilities.

Undergraduate (Diploma/degree): \$1,764 per 18-point unit

Postgraduate: \$2,732 per 24-point unit

Audit of Coursework: \$550 per unit

Fee Payment Options

Students have a number of fee payment options depending on the course or unit in which they are enrolled.

UPFRONT PAYMENT: Students can choose to pay upfront by credit card, cheque or BPay.

ONLINE: Students can now pay their fees online via the University's payment portal:
<https://pay.divinity.edu.au/>

FEE-HELP: Australian citizens and holders of a permanent humanitarian visa may defer the payment of University of Divinity fees through the FEE-HELP loan scheme.

For more information go to: www.studyassist.gov.au

For more information about fee payment options at the University of Divinity go to:
<https://divinity.edu.au/study/fees/>

Parish Sponsorships

Coptic Parishes offer sponsorship to their parishioners who study at SAC. Sponsorships are limited. Please talk to your Parish Priest about opportunities for sponsorship. For more information go to:

<https://www.sac.edu.au/fees-and-sponsorship/>

Featured new unit in Semester 2:

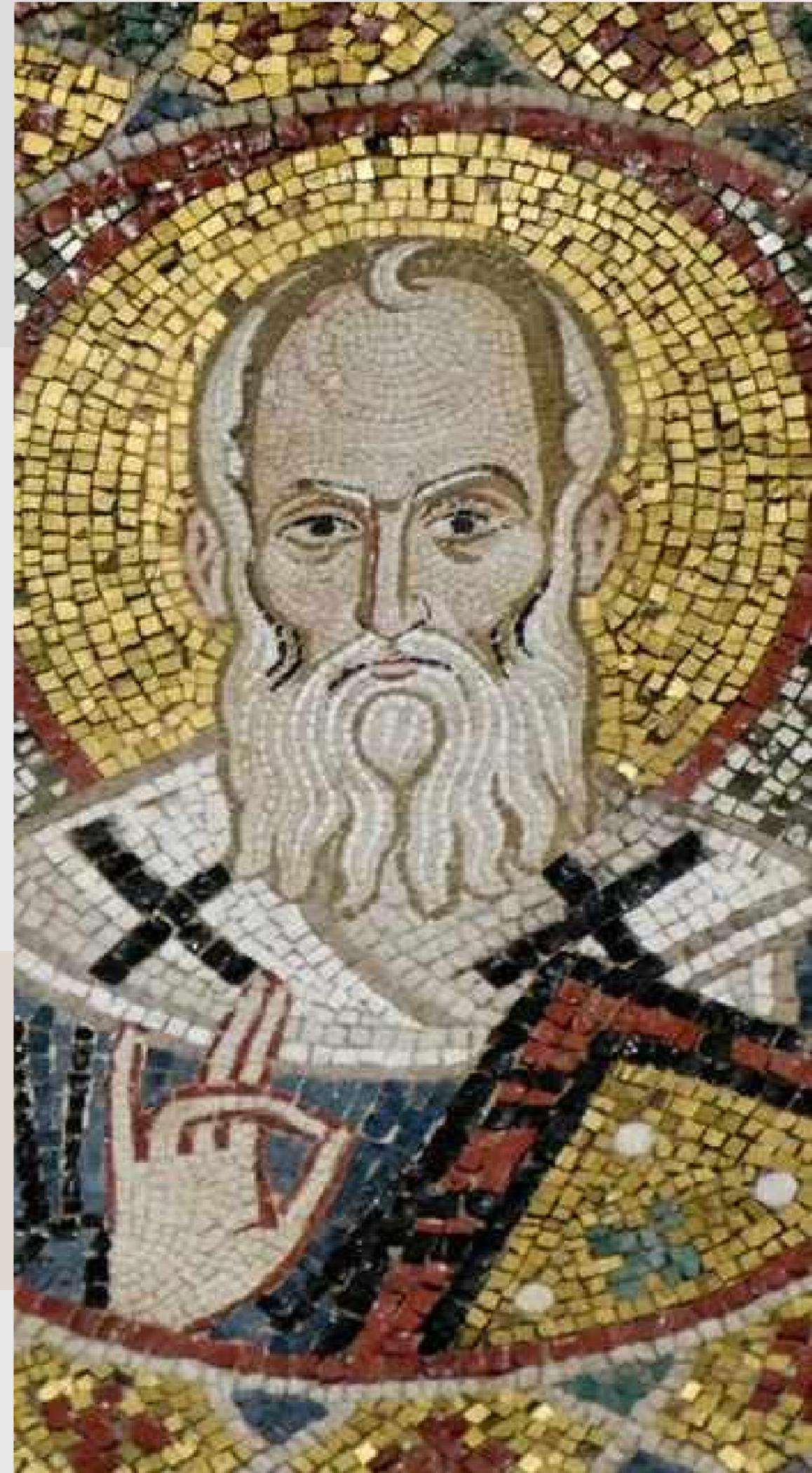
ST. GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN (Gregory of Nazianzus)

This illustrious fourth century Church Father (329–391) was one of the most prolific theologians in the history of Christianity. A bishop, theologian and poet, his theology of the Trinity and the Incarnation in particular, shaped Christian spirituality, and the depth and beauty of his writings offer practical wisdom even to the present day. Through his unique poetical autobiography and eloquent confessional works, his vivid and utterly human personality is revealed.

This unit will introduce us to St Gregory and take us on a journey to the very heart of the fourth century; one of the most dynamic and fascinating of ancient centuries and in some ways most relevant to our own.

This unit will be taught online (synchronous and asynchronous) by Dr Katherin Papadopoulos and Mr Abraam Mikhail. It will consist of a **compulsory 2-day intensive face-to-face component (equivalent to 4 weeks) with Fr Prof. John Behr**. These classes will take place at SAC's city campus at 285 La Trobe Street Melbourne on **30 and 31 August**.

* Please refer to the timetable at sac.edu.au/timetable-2022/ for more information or email info@sac.edu.au



Description of Units offered in 2022

SEMESTER 1 UNITS

Advanced Hebrew

This unit focuses on phonology, morphology and syntax of the Classical Biblical Hebrew. Prose and poetic texts from different literary genres (narratives, laws, psalms, wisdom literature) will be studied with an aim of understanding their grammar. The development of Hebrew language will be addressed through the comparative reading and translation of archaic Biblical poems, classical and late Biblical texts. The students will be introduced to electronic and library tools that will help them to engage in textual criticism of the Hebrew Bible.

Coptic Art and Iconography I

Students undertaking this unit will gain an appreciation of Coptic history and the theological meaning behind the icon. Emphasis will be placed on the "writing" of icons as an important method of translating the invisible divine into the visible image. Students will study the important role of Coptic art in Coptic culture and its role in liturgical life. Finally, students will learn iconographic techniques such as preparation, design, colouring and gilding in the writing of an icon. They will explore the meaning, theology and symbols that are all grounded in the Holy Bible.

Coptic Language: Bohairic II

Following on from AL1200A Coptic Language Bohairic I, this unit will enable students to read and understand, after the completion of two semesters, texts in Bohairic Coptic. Building upon basic skills acquired in the previous unit of study, this unit presents further grammatical material and vocabulary necessary to be able to read and translate from Bohairic Coptic to English and vice versa.

Lives and Times of the Desert Fathers

This unit will engage students in the study of the pioneers and centres of the early monastic movement in Egypt and their impact on the spread of the movement throughout the Late Roman Empire. It will consider the various theological viewpoints that became prominent in Late Antique Egypt and its impact in Egyptian monastic circles.

History of Orthodox Missiology

This unit will examine the historical development of Orthodox Missiology by situating it in the key Orthodox mission movements from the Eastern and Oriental Orthodox traditions. The unit will cover matters such as: origin and development, and mission tasks in the social, cultural and diaspora milieus of Orthodox mission; the lives, ministries and methods of the most significant Orthodox missionaries; and the biblical, theological, liturgical and historical perspectives of the Orthodox witness that informed the Orthodox mission activities in various historical contexts. The unit will critically look into several historical approaches that took shape in engaging Orthodox evangelisation.

Holy Images, Holy Relics and Sacred Space in the Orthodox Tradition

Holy images and the relics of saints are an essential component of liturgical life and worship in Christian Orthodoxy, representing at the same time one of the most important elements of the different hierotopic projects. By investigating the form, purpose and nature of holy icons and sacred relics, this unit will critically evaluate the cult related to them in both Coptic and Byzantine Orthodox traditions. The leading idea of this unit is that the creation of sacred space in Orthodoxy represents one of the most creative expressions of its theology. At the same time, the unit will ask how the visual and sensory context in Orthodox worship communicates meaning.

Introduction to Biblical Hebrew

This unit introduces students to Biblical Hebrew as a basis for enhanced study of the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible) and for further study of Biblical Hebrew. Its primary focus is foundational Hebrew vocabulary, grammar and syntax. Translation of selected biblical texts into English is an important component of the unit.

Introduction to the Old Testament

This unit offers an Introduction to the literature of the Old Testament, and a study of the history and geography of biblical Israel. The topics covered include: manuscripts of the Holy Bible, development of the Old Testament Canon and translation. Students will be introduced to the study of the Old Testament and its different genres, comparing modern and patristic methodologies of interpreting the Old Testament. Students will study an overview of all books of the Old Testament.

Jesus Christ at the Margins

This unit seeks to critically examine Jesus Christ's engagement with the people who were categorised as being at the social margins. Through a survey of 'Jesus Christ and margins' in biblical and patristic works, the unit will determine how this has been appropriated by contemporary theologians to articulate a contextual Christology. By tracing this perspective from the Gospels, ante-Nicaean and post-Nicaean teachers and modern theologians, this unit seeks to understand the missional significance of conceiving Christology through the life of vulnerable communities.

Ministry to Teens and Youth

This unit will explore the nature and role of teenage and youth ministry in the Orthodox Church. Students will reflect on the aims of ministry to teenagers and youth and develop a strong philosophy of teenage and youth ministry in 21st century Australia. The unit will also explore the key skills and leadership qualities needed for this ministry.

Pillars of Orthodoxy: The Alexandrian Fathers

This unit will introduce students to the literary works of the early Fathers of Alexandria: Didymus the Blind, Clement, Origen, Cyril and Athanasius, in order to understand the historical and theological contexts in which the Fathers were engaged, against wider social, cultural and political forces operative at the time. Primary texts will be examined to explore the development of Alexandrian theology and the controversies in which the Fathers were engaged.

SEMESTER TWO UNITS

Coptic Language: Sahidic I

There are various Coptic dialects; the first and oldest being the Upper Egyptian dialect known as Sahidic. It was this dialect that the Biblical texts were translated to in the 3rd century, and early Egyptian monastic texts and Coptic martyrologies were first composed. This unit will study vocabulary and grammar of Sahidic Coptic, as well as explore some of the various sources of Sahidic.

St Gregory the Theologian

In this unit, students will undertake a detailed study of the life and afterlife of Gregory of Nazianzus, also known as Gregory the Theologian. Students will consider Gregory's theological, ecclesiastical, and literary contributions in their historical context and study his impact and legacy from his death to the present day. Students will engage in close reading of primary texts, covering the wide range of St Gregory's interests and the key genres in which he wrote—epistolary, poetry, and homiletic—and examine conciliar, hagiographical, and liturgical texts, documents, icons, and other sources to explore his impact and legacy.

Jesus Christ in the Asian Context

This unit seeks to critically examine the Christological developments in the Asian context. Primarily, it aims to demonstrate 'who is Jesus Christ' for the people in the multi-faceted context of Asia and will analyse the Asian social realities, namely religious, ethnic, cultural, gender and economic phenomena to recognise 'Christ's social face' that emerged in this context. It will also evaluate the earliest traits of Christological presence in Asia.

Orthodox Mission Theology

This unit examines the theological development of an Orthodox perspective on Christian witness or mission. It studies an Orthodox theology of mission from a range of biblical, theological and liturgical perspectives. Through the works of Orthodox mission theologians, the unit demonstrates the relevance of the Orthodox mission theology to today's global and local contexts. Students are required to critically engage with an Orthodox theology of mission in the light of contemporary social, religious, political and ecological challenges. The unit also examines the salient features of mission theology in other Christian traditions to encourage a more comprehensive understanding of Christian mission.

Pastoral Ministry and Priesthood

This unit is divided into two main sections. Firstly, it will discuss a theoretical analysis of priesthood, ministry and pastoral care in the Orthodox tradition and contemporary life. Secondly, the unit will study practical applications of the Church's vision and experience to issues of priestly and pastoral life and service in the Church today. The unit will examine questions such as: How does the unique priesthood of Christ relate to the priesthood of all Church members and to the specific priesthood of the presbyter/bishop? How do we understand the Church to be both hierarchical and conciliar? How are we to understand the role of women?

Seeking Christ in Scriptures: Scripture and Its Exegesis in the Orthodox Tradition

Following the words of Jesus in John 5:39 that the Scriptures speak about Him, this unit will explore the place of Scripture in the Orthodox tradition. Since the Orthodox tradition has always been patristic, this unit will focus on the principles of patristic hermeneutics, exploring a range of homiletic, ascetic, liturgical and iconographic exegeses of the Holy Scriptures. The focus of this unit will be the following question: What is the position of Scripture in the Orthodox tradition? Is there an Orthodox exegesis of Scripture? What is the place of the Scriptures in the spiritual life of a believer?

Wisdom Literature

The unit will examine many different aspects of the ancient Israel wisdom, focusing on four canonical books of the Old Testament: the Book of Job, Wisdom Psalms, the Book of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes; with reference to the Deuterocanonical books: the Wisdom of Solomon, Ben Sirach (Book of Ecclesiasticus). Wisdom literature will be explored through the questions: What is wisdom? What are its foundations? Who is a wise person? Specific biblical and extra-biblical texts will be studied from a theological, historical critical and literary perspectives. Modern reception of Wisdom literature will be investigated, particularly the manner in which modern theologians respond to the question of innocent suffering in the modern world.

Saints and Sinners: Women in Late Antiquity

This unit will enable students to address historical issues involved in women's roles, position and status in Late Antiquity and attitudes towards them. By reading selected primary sources, this unit will engage with some of the most powerful and influential women of Late Antiquity and analyse the roles these women played in religious and theological debates, the home, and social and economic life.

SEMESTER 1

All classes will be offered in ONLINE (synchronous and asynchronous) mode, with the exception of **Coptic Art & Iconography I** and **Ministry to Teens & Youth**.

NEW UNITS

IN SEMESTER 1

- JESUS CHRIST AT THE MARGINS
- HOLY IMAGES, HOLY RELICS AND SACRED SPACE IN THE ORTHODOX TRADITION
- PILLARS OF ORTHODOXY:
● THE ALEXANDRIAN FATHERS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
M	T	W	T	F	S
<p>Holy Images, Holy Relics and Sacred Space in the Orthodox Tradition</p> <p>(DL3460A / DL9460A)</p> <p>Fr Dr Nebojsa Tumara</p> <p>6:30pm - 9:30pm</p> <hr/> <p>History of Orthodox Missiology</p> <p>(CH1800A / DM1800A / DM8800A / CH8800A)</p> <p>Fr Dr Jacob Joseph</p> <p>6:30pm - 9:30pm</p>	<p>Introduction to the Old Testament</p> <p>(BA1100A / BA8100A)</p> <p>Fr Dr Nebojsa Tumara</p> <p>6:30pm - 9:30pm</p> <hr/> <p>Coptic Language: Bohairic II</p> <p>(AL2200A / AL9200A)</p> <p>Fr Dr Gregorios Awad</p> <p>6:30pm - 9:30pm</p>	<p>Jesus Christ at the Margins</p> <p>(DM3720A / CT3720A / DM9720A / CT9720A)</p> <p>Fr Dr Jacob Joseph</p> <p>6:30pm - 9:30pm</p> <hr/> <p>Advanced Biblical Hebrew</p> <p>(AL2600A / AL9600A)</p> <p>Fr Dr Nebojsa Tumara</p> <p>6:30pm - 9:30pm</p>	<p>Pillars of Orthodoxy: The Alexandrian Fathers</p> <p>(CH2530A / CT2530A / CH8530A / CT8530A)</p> <p>Mr Abraam Mikhail</p> <p>6:30pm - 9:30pm</p> <hr/> <p>Introduction to Biblical Hebrew</p> <p>(AL1600A / AL8600A)</p> <p>Fr Dr Nebojsa Tumara</p> <p>6:30pm - 9:30pm</p>	<p>The Lives and Times of the Desert Fathers</p> <p>(CH3500A / CH9500A) Dr Katherin Papadopoulos / Dr Lisa Agaiby</p> <p>6:30pm - 9:30pm</p>	<p>Ministry to Teens and Youth *Face-to-face component at City campus</p> <p>(DA1110A / DA8110A)</p> <p>Fr Michael Salib</p> <p>9:00am - 3:00pm</p>

SEMESTER 2

All classes will be offered in ONLINE (synchronous and asynchronous) mode.

* The unit on *St Gregory the Theologian* contains a compulsory 2-day face to face intensive component (Melbourne City campus).

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
M	T	W	T	F
Pastoral Ministry and Priesthood	Orthodox Mission Theology	Wisdom Literature	Coptic Language: Sahidic I	Saints and Sinners: Women in Late Antiquity
(DP2500A / DP8500A)	(CT1810A / DM1810A / CT8810A / DM8810A)	(BA3510A / BA9510A)	(AL1300A / AL8500A)	(AH3150A / AH9150A)
Fr Dr Daniel Ghabrial	Fr Dr Jacob Joseph	Fr Dr Nebojsa Tumara	Prof. Heike Behlmer	Dr Katherin Papadopoulos / Dr Lisa Agaiby
6:30pm - 9:30pm	6:30pm - 9:30pm	6:30pm - 9:30pm	6:30pm - 9:30pm	6:30pm - 9:30pm
Seeking Christ in Scriptures: Scripture and its Exegesis in the Orthodox Tradition	St Gregory the Theologian	Jesus Christ in the Asian Context		
(BS3000A / BS9000A)	(CT3520A / CH3520A / CT9520A / CH9520A)	(CT3710A / DM3710A / CT9710A / DM9710A)		
Fr Dr Nebojsa Tumara	Fr. Prof. John Behr / Dr Katherin Papadopoulos / Mr Abraam Mikhail	Fr Dr Jacob Joseph		
6:30pm - 9:30pm	6:30pm - 9:30pm	6:30pm - 9:30pm		

NEW UNITS

IN SEMESTER 2

- COPTIC LANGUAGE: SAHIDIC I
- JESUS CHRIST IN THE ASIAN CONTEXT
- PASTORAL MINISTRY AND PRIESTHOOD
- ST GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN

2022 KEY DATES

Key Event / Activity

Semester 1 Classes

College Opens
Final Date for New Admissions
Final Date for Re-enrolment
Census Date
University of Divinity Graduation
Non-teaching Period (Easter)
Final Date: New Admissions for Semester 2, 2022 International/
Domestic HDR students
Study Week
Examination Week
Results Published

Semester 2 Classes

Final Date for New Admissions
Final Date for Re-enrolment
Census Date
Non-teaching period
Study Week
Examination Week
Final Date: New Admissions for Semester 2, 2023 International/
Domestic HDR students
Results published

University Holidays 2022

New Year 2022
Australia Day
Good Friday and Easter
ANZAC Day
Queen's Birthday
Christmas

Calendar Date

February 21 - May 27

January 4
February 11
February 11
March 15
March 25
April 11 - April 22

April 15
May 30 - June 3
June 6 - 10
July 8

July 25 - October 28

July 15
July 25
August 16
September 19 - 30
October 31 - November 4
November 7 - 11

November 15
December 9

January 3
January 26
April 15 - 19
April 25
June 13
December 26

HOW TO APPLY

1. DECIDE ON WHAT INTERESTS YOU

What are your areas of interest? Are you aiming to complete a particular academic qualification? Would you like to study full-time, part-time, face-to-face, or online? Check out our timetable and unit descriptions, as well as the awards we offer to decide a possible starting point for your studies.

2. TALK TO US

We would love to meet you in person and discuss options for your study, but if it's not practical to come in, we'd be happy to have a conversation with you over the phone. To organise a time, contact Rev. Dr Peter Dobson for undergraduate study options, or Dr Lisa Agaiby for postgraduate and HDR options. Together we can look at study options you may be interested in and decide on a suitable starting point and pathway to your circumstances and interests.

3. SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FORM

- Complete an Application for Admission form
- Complete an application form for FEE-HELP or authorise payment of fees. Provide the following necessary supporting documents:
 - Proof of citizenship in your current name (e.g. birth certificate, Passport)
 - Academic transcripts (Year 12 transcript if applying for the Dip.Theol.)
 - IELTS results if you are an overseas student

4. YOU'RE READY TO GO!

- Application for Admission approved by SAC's Academic Dean and processed by the Registrar
- Receive enrolment confirmation and welcome emails
- Receive access to the online Learning Management System (ARK)
- Receive an admission letter from the University of Divinity
- Enjoy the journey of learning!



ST ATHANASIUS
COLLEGE



UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY

CONTACT US

www.sac.edu.au

Email: enquiries@sac.edu.au

Facebook: [fb.com/SACtheology/](https://www.facebook.com/SACtheology/)

Principal: Fr Dr Daniel Ghabrial

Academic Dean/Research Co-ordinator: Dr Lisa Agaiby

Registrar: Rev. Dr Peter Dobson

Librarian: Mrs Deborah Decru

VET Program: Fr Michael Salib

frdaniel@sac.edu.au

lagaiby@sac.edu.au

pdobson@sac.edu.au

ddecru@sac.edu.au

frmichael@sac.edu.au

Donvale Campus: 100 Park Rd, Donvale VIC, 3111

City Campus: 285 La Trobe St, Melbourne VIC, 3000