

Converting to the Higher Certificate in Theology from the Diploma in Theology & Ministry

TEE College introduces the new Higher Certificate in Theology for the 2011 academic year. This is a registered programme (like the Diploma). It is possible, under certain conditions, for a student to change from the Diploma to the Higher Certificate. Students who wish to do that in the 2011 registration period will not be charged the usual transfer fees that would normally apply.

Why would someone change? Some students have struggled to cope with the Diploma (a level 6 qualification), and would find the Higher Certificate more manageable (a level 5 qualification). Some struggling students give up on the Diploma without completing it, and this would be a chance to use some of that work in order to complete a qualification. There may also be constraints of time. The Diploma is a 2-year FTE (Full Time Equivalent) which in practice takes anything from three to six years by distance-education. The Higher Certificate is a 1-year FTE qualification, and if a student is able to transfer credits they could complete it in one or two years.

Should I change? There are some important questions that only you can answer:

1. How much of my work will I 'lose'? Only certain courses correlate between the Diploma and Higher Certificate. Use the table below to work out what credit you will receive for the courses you have already passed. Perhaps you have already completed a lot of the Diploma and it might be better to persevere and complete it.
2. What does my church require? If you are training for ministry then you do need to be guided by your church's training authorities. Because this is a new qualification they might not be aware of it. The College's member churches have been responsible for creating the new Higher Certificate, but that news and the details might not have yet reached the people you are talking to. Request a Higher Certificate information brochure from the College and pass it on to them.
3. What was my purpose for studying in the first place, and will I still achieve that with the Higher Certificate? Only you know the answer to that.

What can I do with a Higher Certificate? If you want to know what ministry you would be authorised to participate in, your church will

have to answer that. If you are wondering what further academic work you can do, then there are two options:

1. Successful completion of the Higher Certificate in Theology is the entrance requirement for an Advanced Certificate in Theology, a Diploma in Theology, or similar.
2. The Higher Certificate also gives admission to a three-year Diploma. Bear in mind that the entrance requirements for the Higher Certificate and Diploma are the same, so it is a question of choosing the shorter introductory level course or the longer, more advanced in-depth course.

To obtain the Higher Certificate in Theology a student must complete the Fundamental course, all Compulsory courses, and two elective courses of the student's choice:

Course Code	Course Name	Course Status	Credits
45130	Investigating our Christian World	Fundamental	24
45111	Introduction to the Old Testament	Compulsory	12
45121	Introduction to the New Testament	Compulsory	12
45251	Introduction to Spirituality	Compulsory	12
45241	Introduction to Theology	Compulsory	12
45261	Introduction to Christian Ethics	Compulsory	12
45269	Call to Discipleship	Compulsory	12
45131	South African Church History **	Elective	12
45378	Christian Proclamation: Preaching	Elective	12
45384	Pastoral Response to HIV & Aids	Elective	12
45371	Pastoral Care	Elective	12

** Not available in 2011

Transferring credits

Use the table below to determine if you qualify to transfer completed work from the Diploma in Theology & Ministry to the new Higher Certificate in Theology - tick against those courses you have passed. That will indicate which courses are eligible to be credited.

Select eligible courses to a maximum of 60 credits. This limit is set by legislation, additional credit cannot be granted.

DipThMin Code	Passed?	Higher Certificate Course Name & (Code)	Credits	Transfer? (max 60)
6001		Call to Discipleship (45269)	12	
6002		Pastoral Care (45371)	12	
		Intro to Christian ethics (45261)	12	
6003		Intro to Spirituality (45251)	12	
		Intro to Theology (45241)	12	
6004		Intro to OT (45111)	12	
		Intro to NT (45121)	12	
6006		Pastoral response to HIV / Aids (45384)	12	
6000 + 6155		Investigating our Christian world (45130)	24	
6158		South African Church History (45131) **	12	
6372		Christian proclamation (45378)	12	

** This course is not available in 2011

Note: If you have passed other Diploma in Theology & Ministry courses that are not shown in the table above, unfortunately you are not able to transfer them. Only the courses shown are eligible for transfer. Also note that courses that were credited to you on the Diploma are not eligible for transfer (the exception being course 6000). Only coursework that you have done with this College can be considered.

If you have courses that qualify for transfer (but are limited by the 60 credit maximum) then you might consider transferring electives and registering for Intro to the Old Testament, Intro to the New Testament, or Intro to Theology as these three courses are significantly different from what you would have experienced in the Diploma.

Remember: Speak to your church authorities if your studies are related to your preparation for ministry!