

# MALYON COLLEGE ACT MASTER OF ARTS UNITS 2011

## SEMESTER 1

### CHRISTOLOGY AND CONDUCT

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#### Studies in Colossians

**Lecturer:** Dr David Denton                      **MA(Theol) Unit**  
**Intensive:** Feb 28-Mar3, Mar 7-9 (Mornings only)

Colossians is a fantastic epistle with its focus on Christ and his supremacy. He is the very image of the invisible God, and in him is all the fullness of deity in bodily form. He is Creator, Sustainer, Reconciler, & Goal of all things. He is before all things, is Firstborn from the dead, and is now exalted to the right hand of God. As a result he is Redeemer, and Head of the church. He is Son of God, the Christ, and Lord of all. The message to the Colossians is that his death, resurrection and current exaltation have achieved, and demonstrate, that he is victorious over satanic beings, and is Head over all powers. Indeed he is Head of them by reason both of creation and conquest. And herein lies the antidote to error which needs to be combated. Believers, delivered by Christ, are complete in him, and are exhorted to live and grow in him. This is applied to personal life, family, & the church.

**David Denton** has taught Biblical studies & theology for 40 years at Bible and theological colleges in South Australia and Queensland, for various degrees and a number of examining bodies. He gained a ThD from Fuller Theological Seminary in NT theology and OT theology. He then moved into Biblical & theological lecturing. His dissertation and major interest are in Pauline theology. He has had articles published in this area in several European journals.

### EFFECTIVE CHURCH PASTORAL CARE

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**Lecturer:** Dr Ian Jones                              **MA(Min) Unit**  
**Intensive:** Mar 21-25

As struggling people are provided with less family and government support, they are looking to the church to help them in their need. Pastors are unsure of how involved they should get, uncertain when to refer, and wondering how to get others involved in this caring ministry. Some are frustrated by the demands and overwhelmed by the expectations. This unit will help with these issues. It looks at the biblical foundations for pastoral care; basic pastoral care skills; ethical problems in pastoral care and counselling; significant issues encountered in pastoral care like depression and addiction, appropriate interventions and referral resources; and training and equipping lay leaders in care and counselling ministries.

**Ian Jones** has just become Professor of Psychology and Counseling at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He taught previously at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Texas, where he was Professor of Psychology and Counseling, Associate Dean for the Division of Psychology and Counseling, and Director of the Baptist Marriage and Family Counseling Center. He is co-director of the Biblical Counseling and Spiritual Formation Network in the American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC). His first Ph.D. (SWBTS) focused on historical expressions of pastoral care and counselling and his second Ph.D. (University of North Texas) was in the Sociology of Family and the Life Cycle. He also has M.Div. and MA(RE) degrees. Ian has written a number of books in the field and has taught and counselled in the USA, Mexico, Costa Rica, Malaysia, Taiwan, Korea, and Australia.

### ADVANCED PASTORAL RELATIONSHIPS

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**Lecturer - Rev Dr John Sweetman              MA(Min) Unit**  
**Intensive: Mar 14-18, and Distance**

Shepherding is fundamentally about relationships. If you don't do well at relationships, it is unlikely that you will be effective as a pastor. While most pastors pick up basic relational skills early in leadership and/or ministry, more advanced skills may take some time to acquire. This unit offers insights and reflection on some of the more complicated relational elements of pastoral leadership. It reflects theologically on the pastoral role. It deals with processing conflict in organisations - understanding the conflict, recognising its seriousness, and resolving it (if possible). It also covers team ministry - both building and leading a team and being part of an effective team. And it covers mentoring leaders as well. You will pick up many ideas and resources that will help you develop healthy and effective pastoral relationships.

**John Sweetman** is the Principal of Malyon College. He has led small and larger churches and Christian organisations and has a huge passion for developing pastors and Christian leaders. Not being a natural at relationships, he has had to learn how to effectively work with leaders and church families. His doctoral thesis focused on the development of leaders by mentoring and he is heavily involved in mentoring younger pastors, including younger pastors at his own church - City Life. He is absolutely committed to the development of healthy relationships and teams as the foundation of God's powerful work through leaders. His latest project is initiating and resourcing leadership development networks among younger Christian leaders.

## SEMESTER 2

### ELECTION: PERSPECTIVES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR MINISTRY

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**Lecturer: Rev Dr Max Davison**

**MA(Theol) Unit**

**Intensive: Aug 8-12**

Election is a topic about which some pastors are passionate, while others carefully avoid it as too controversial. To still others, it is discarded as irrelevant to ministry. It is also common for pastors to have adopted their own views on the basis of background influences in their past, without ever having examined the options in detail for themselves. Yet the concept of election pervades Scripture, and is an important integrating biblical theme fundamental to the concept of covenant. In this unit, students will explore three major frameworks for thinking about election – Calvinistic, Arminian and Corporate. Biblical foundations, historical development and recent thought will be examined, and a consideration of ministry implications will challenge the charge of irrelevancy. Attention will also be given to how the topic might be approached in the context of pastoral ministry.

**Max Davidson** taught systematic theology and biblical languages full-time from 1981 until his retirement in 2006, working in three Baptist colleges – Malyon, Vose (Perth) and Morling (Sydney). He has also served the Lord cross-culturally in Ethiopia and Zambia, and as pastor of several churches over a period of more than 40 years (including 2010). His PhD was completed at the University of Queensland. The interface between rigorous, biblically based theology and effective ministry has long been a special interest. A few years ago Max was privileged to devote a sabbatical to reading and reflecting on God's election of his people, and has found the insights gained to be personally enriching.

### DEVELOPING LEADERS IN THE CHURCH

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**Lecturer: Rev Dr Jere Phillips**

**MA(Min) Unit**

**Intensive: Jul 25-29**

Churches rise and fall, grow and divide most often due to the level of leadership within the church. The church will usually flounder unless leaders cooperate with God in developing their own leadership skills and in helping other people become more effective leaders for God. Henry Blackaby says that "Spiritual leadership is moving people on to God's agenda." This course will aid Christian leaders in developing characteristics in themselves and others that will help leaders in their church move on to God's agenda. Topics include: Personal Spiritual Formation, Comprehending God's Purpose and Call, Receiving and Extending God's Vision, Organizing People and Tasks, Developing Relational Skills, Overcoming Conflict, Multiplying Ministry through Discipleship, Maximizing Other Leaders through Supervision and Mentoring, Applying Biblical Principles of Management, Evaluating and Guiding Persons in Ministry, Developing Comprehensive Strategies, and Employing Multiple Communication Channels.

**Dr Jere Phillips** is Professor of Practical Theology and Director of Distance Education at the Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in the USA. He has over 40 years experience in ministry, including serving as a pastor and church staff member. His management experience includes five years as the Director of the Missions Department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and nearly six years as Executive Director/Minister of the West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists. He is a writer, having published over 150 articles, lessons and books. A widely-travelled leader, Phillips has trained over 5,000 ministers and denominational leaders across the world. His work has touched Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Malawi, India, Romania, Brazil, Mexico, the Philippines, and Haiti.

### MINISTERING IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

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**Lecturer: Rev (Dr) Ian Hussey**

**MA(Min) Unit**

**Intensive: Aug 15-19, and Distance**

In some ways ministry never changes. God's principles and directions as revealed in Scripture never change. But what does change is context. Sometimes we have to adapt our methods to the context and sometimes we are called to change the context by sticking to our principles and methods. This unit looks at the 21<sup>st</sup> century context, examines contemporary ideas on church, and reflects on what changes are necessary and unnecessary. It then gives guidelines on how to bring change to a church or Christian organisation. There is also a significant section on maintaining personal spiritual, emotional and physical health in a stressful and constantly changing context.

**Ian Hussey** has been appointed as Online Course Developer at Malyon College commencing in 2011. He is an experienced senior pastor who over 18 years of ministry has seen North-East Baptist grow from 40 people (mainly retirees) to a vibrant church of 450 employing five staff. Besides theological qualifications, he has a master's degree in management and is just completing a PhD on the assimilation of non-church newcomers into the local church.

### BAPTIST HISTORY AND PRINCIPLES

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**Lecturer: Rev Dr D Morcom**

**MA(Theol) & MA(Min) Unit**

**Distance only (for Ordination candidates)**

Denominational History and Principles (Baptist) is a requirement for ordination within the Baptist Union of Queensland. But that doesn't mean it has to be boring! This unit surveys the fascinating – never dull – history of the people known as Baptists, and examines the principles that make Baptists "Baptist". Many of the values for which our Baptist forebears lived – and in some cases died – can serve as Baptists' gifts to the wider Christian community. The "Baptist Principles" segment on the unit focuses on what I have come to view as THE foundational Baptist principle, the direct Lordship of Christ, and what that looks like as it is worked out in the corporate and personal lives of God's people.