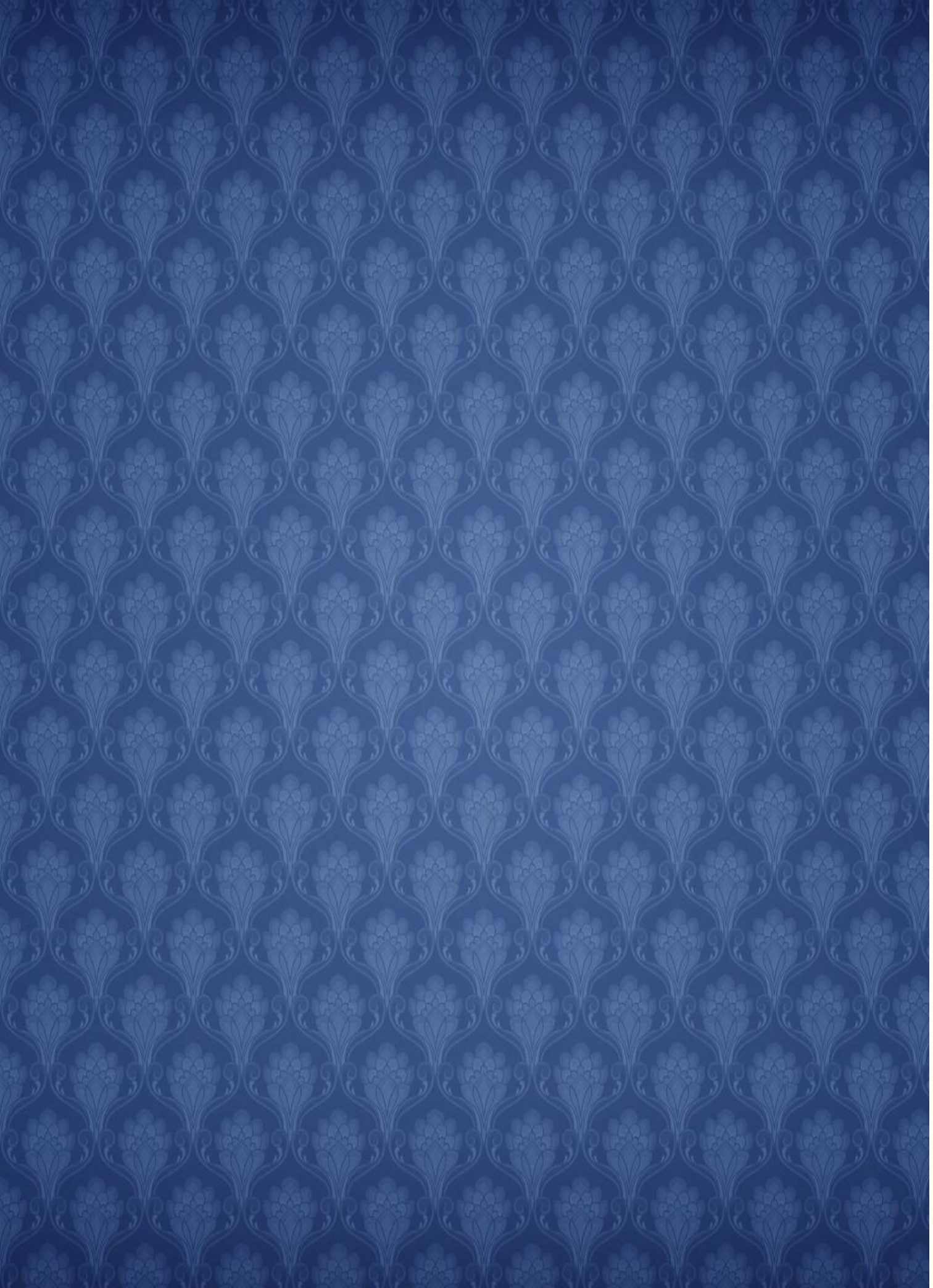


COLLEGE OF TRANSFIGURATION, NPC



DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY (DipTh)

The Diploma in Theology is the bedrock standard for qualification for the ordained ministry of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa. As such it is offered as a basic qualification for any prospective candidates for the ordained ministry. Those who are not intending to offer for the ordained ministry of the Anglican Church, or are not being considered for such ministry, may undertake the learning programme to enhance the quality of lay ministry in the church, to develop an informed lay leadership, and to increase participation of lay people in the life and work of the church. Although primarily designed to meet the requirements of the Anglican Church, the course is broad and inclusive enough to satisfy theological approaches of the Catholic and other Protestant Churches. However, the ethos of the College is Anglican in both life and worship.

Organised thematically, the programme seeks to achieve the Vision and Mission of the College, and to satisfy the requirements for the preparation of men and women for the ordained ministry of the Anglican Church. This is done within a residential setting that promotes community life, spiritual formation, the nurturing of Christian piety and a disciplined life, after the manner of Christ. All of this is shaped through the rhythm of daily prayer, meditation and worship, work and study, and community outreach. The result is an integrated and holistic educational and formative experience based on a rigorous academic programme that promotes independent thinking, criticality and cognitive depth.

Purpose

The purpose of the Diploma in Theology is to equip students to become agents of transformation in both church and society. Pursuit of this qualification will give students the opportunity to develop a broad theological knowledge and understanding and to integrate such knowledge with the foundational skills required to minister and lead in today's complex world.

Enquirers, discoverers and the curious will find the course of value in their Christian pilgrimage, since it tests the extent of one's faith and, based on the principles of contextualisation, it engages and is applied into the life situations that confront ministers of the church.

Rationale

This Diploma is part of the church's process of discernment of the vocations to ministry. The spiritual formation and nurture undertaken in the context of a living community tests one's character and discipline, as well as the academic competence and intellectual capacity of the students.

Students registering for the Diploma in Theology must be able to:

Comprehend written and spoken English

Listen and respond to spoken English

Articulate his or her ideas through both verbal and writing skills in English

Engage in independent study

Additionally, students must be open enough to function effectively in a multi-racial and multicultural environment, and preferably, must either be committed Anglicans or be open to learning in an Anglican setting.

Recognition of prior learning

The College of the Transfiguration recognises that learning occurs in various contexts, formal, informal, and non-formal. In line with this principle candidates may be enrolled in a course of study on the strength of the recognition of their prior learning. Such admission may be granted after due assessment of such prior learning, and with the approval of the Academic Board.

Credit transfers

Credit transfers from previous learning will be granted where such learning is relevant in terms of the competencies set out in the exit-level outcomes of this qualification and has been achieved at an accredited and registered institution. Credit shall only be granted where a course or module has been passed with 50% or its equivalent. No more than 50% of such credits, however, will be recognised towards a qualification of the College of the Transfiguration, Grahamstown.

Access to the qualification

In order to register for this programme students require one of the following criteria:

National Senior Certificate as certified by Umalusi, the Council for Quality Assurance in General and Further Education Training, with an achievement rating of 3 (40-49%) or better in four recognised NSC 20-credit subjects. Applicants with different qualifications may only be admitted if they are judged equivalent by the designated equivalence setting bodies.

A tertiary qualification at any registered and accredited higher education institution in South Africa. A tertiary qualification at a foreign institution accredited by a recognised accrediting body or by the institution's national government

Students who do not meet any one of these requirements may apply for exemption or for recognition of prior learning. Each application will be considered on its merits. Amongst other criteria the College of the Transfiguration will consider the student's suitability for the programme, literacy level, previous working experience and accumulated knowledge and skills. Those from disadvantaged and/or previously disadvantaged communities will be given special consideration.

Duration

Duration of the programme is three years