

Fellowship and Licentiate Diplomas

Contact

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The highest qualifications awarded by the Guild are the Fellowship diploma (FGCM) and the Licentiate (LGCM).

The Fellowship course is in two Parts. If you pass Part 1 and then go on to pass Part 2 you will be awarded the Fellowship diploma. A pass in Part 1 only will qualify you for LGCM.

Both FGCM and LGCM are intended for members of any denomination within the Christian Church. People commonly enter after successful completion of the ACertCM or ACertPW course, but an exemption may be granted at the discretion of the Fellowship Director and the Fellowship Secretary (notably, but not exclusively, to applicants with degrees in Music and/or Theology). For further information, see 'Programme of Study and Assessment', section 9.

Both courses provide opportunities for those involved in the practice and study of church music, liturgy and worship to develop their skills and knowledge to a postgraduate standard.

If you enrol, you will be able to study liturgical and pastoral aspects of the Church and its music, to extend your knowledge and understanding of church music in its historical and liturgical contexts, and to learn, develop, and enhance skills relevant to church music in general and to your own working circumstances in particular.

For Part 1 you offer four modules, selected from three groups:

Group A: Christian liturgy and worship

Group B: Studies in church music

Group C: Composition and arrangement

You must choose at least one module from Group A, and at least one from Section B. Section C is optional.

Part 2, which provides opportunities for study in greater detail and depth, has three groups of modules:

Group D: Studies in music and worship

Group E: Composition

Group F: Practical studies

The only restriction is that you must choose at least one module, and no more than three modules, from Group F.

Now see Programme of Study and Assessment for further information on the structure of the modular course.

Course details provides detailed information about the modular course (including essay titles and reading lists) and about the 'dissertation-only' option.

Brief study guide has advice on methods of study and other topics including the concept of originality and questions of presentation.

The diploma of FGCM by examination is now also available to candidates who, without submission of any other written or practical assignments, write successfully a very substantial dissertation on an approved subject relating both to church music and to the liturgy. Such a dissertation will impose considerably greater demands on candidates than those made for the existing Group D2 dissertation from Part Two.

The new pathway is an alternative to the existing arrangements, not a replacement. A candidate will be admitted only if he or she is considered likely to achieve a satisfactory outcome. It is unlikely that an applicant will be accepted if he or she does not already hold a university degree in music and/or theology (or a qualification of equivalent standing).

A topic, together with a brief outline of the expected content, must be proposed by the potential candidate and approved (with or without modification) by the Chairman of the Academic Board in consultation with colleague(s) from the Academic Board. Applicants must assure the Guild that a dissertation on their proposed topic has not already contributed to any other qualification awarded to them.

The dissertation will be of about 45,000 words, including all appendices and footnotes. It must not be less than 40,000 words, nor more than 50,000.

The candidate may accept teaching or take advice during the preparation of the dissertation, provided that the nature of any help received is acknowledged in the completed work.

Candidates should refer to the online Brief study guide before beginning work and during their periods of study.