



Vision

International College

Distance Education Bible College

Christian Ministry and Theology

Certificate III and IV Diploma and Advanced Diploma

Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma



Study from your place at your pace

- *On-line or correspondence*
- *No lectures to attend*
- *No distance to restrict you*
- *No time frame to restrain you*

Student Handbook 2022

Vision International College

NTIS ID: 90862

Student Handbook

Distance Education Christian Ministry and Theology Study Programs

2022

Christian Ministry and Theology

10741NAT Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology
10742NAT Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology
10743NAT Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology
10744NAT Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology
10745NAT Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry and Theology
10746NAT Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology



Vision International College

NTIS ID: 90862

The logo for Austudy Approved, featuring the text "AUSTUDY APPROVED" in blue capital letters, with a green circular graphic behind the text.



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Handbook Disclaimer

The information contained in this Student Handbook is correct at the time of publication.

Changes to legislation and/or Vision International College policy may impact on the currency of information.

Vision International College reserves the right to vary and update information without notice. You are advised to confirm that the information is correct and inquire about any updates, or changes by contacting Vision International College.

This handbook has been prepared as a resource assisting students to understand their obligations and those of Vision International College.

All students need to read, understand, be familiar with, and follow the policies and procedures outlined in this Handbook. Please carefully read through the information contained in this guide.

A copy of this document is available online from the following link:

<https://visioncolleges.edu.au/study/online-student-resources/>

All queries can be directed to:

Vision International College

PO Box 84

Macquarie Fields NSW 2564

Australia

CONTENTS

From the President and Founder	4
From The Principal	5
Part I In Brief.....	6
A Brief Overview of the Program	7
Part II The Details	14
Meet the Staff.....	15
Types of Theology	18
Statement Of Faith	21
Our Philosophy	22
Student Information.....	26
Government Assistance.....	27
Student Support.....	28
Learner Support.....	29
Student Records	31
Online Training Portal	33
Grievances.....	34
Church Affiliation	35
Part III Christian Ministry and Theology.....	36
The Vision Colleges Program	37
Why the Christian Ministry and Theology program.....	37
Suggested Study Method	39
Advanced Standing	41
Assessment Procedures	41
Articulation and Credit Transfer	46
Accredited Course Syllabi	47
Certificate III In Christian Ministry And Theology.....	48
Certificate IV In Christian Ministry And Theology.....	53
Diploma of Christian Ministry And Theology.....	57
Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry And Theology.....	61
Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry and Theology.....	65
Graduate Diploma in Christian Ministry and Theology	69
VIC “CMT” Unit Subjects.....	73
Fee Structure.....	78
Refund Policy.....	78
Price List	79
Appendix	80
Support Services	80
Privacy Statement & Student Declaration	81
How To Contact Vision International College.....	82

FROM THE PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER

Dear Reader,

May the Lord surprise you today with an unusual gift of his joy!

You hold in your hands an invitation to an enriching learning experience. This booklet will tell you about Vision International College, a charismatic College with a difference. Through our courses, you can expect to grow spiritually and become better equipped to minister the Word of God with power.

We are also a school that places significant emphasis on helping our students develop their God-given ministry potential. Our goals are certainly academic, but much more; they are spiritual and practical. We believe that our programs are both adequate and admirable for that purpose. You will find more information below about this philosophy and the principles upon which Vision operates.

Vision is different because of a combination of several features. We are

- charismatic in practice
- loving in fellowship
- conservative in doctrine
- evangelical in emphasis
- bold in faith
- distance in method

Then there is the lead name of our College: “Vision”. It expresses our aim to impart to you something of the unique gifts of anointed teachers and writers. These people are qualified for their task by the Spirit of God, who can help to create your vision of an exciting future in the service of Christ.

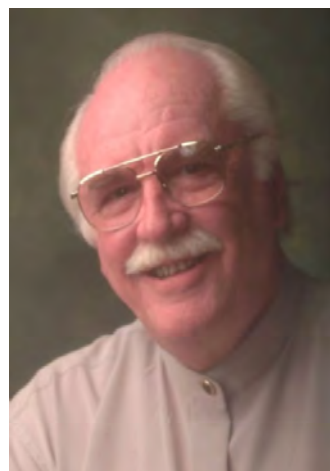
The union of those features creates a robust framework in which you can anticipate an expansion in your grasp of scripture, your relationships with other Christians, the vigour of your faith, and your service for Christ.

Since you are reading this page, I hope you are already on the verge of deciding that enrolment in Vision is part of God’s plan for your life. But in any case, I do pray that your mind, your spirit, your life will continue to be open to the Holy Spirit so that nothing will fail of the purpose Christ has for you.

If this is your first encounter with Vision, then I invite you to become one of our students, with the hope that your expectations of the College will be surpassed. If you have already done some Vision courses, I trust that you will find the will and the wisdom to complete well what you have well begun. Thus you will prove to be a good worker in the Word of God.

In the love of Christ,

Ken Chant (M.R.E, PhD)



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



I am so pleased to welcome you to Vision International College. Our resources are plentiful, our history is unique, and our ministry is dynamic and faith-building.

Vision Colleges has been at the forefront of Bible College ministry with our distance education program and our local-church-based Bible College programs since its inception in 1974 as Vision Christian College.

Our heart is to place quality Biblical and Christian ministry studies into the hands of students everywhere at an affordable price. As presented in this handbook, those goals are now enhanced by our fully accredited programs.

I firmly believe that no study is as valuable to an individual or any group of people as the study of the word of God. No other education can so affect a man or woman as does the study of the word of God.

Vision International College is accredited through the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA), the national regulator for Australia's vocational education and training sector. You can take confidence that the awards you earn are nationally and internationally recognised.

While you attend to the business of study, I want you to know that my staff and I are at your disposal. We want you to complete these studies and to complete them well. If we can assist you at any time, please feel free to call on us and allow us to help you. We will work with you as you face issues that challenge, confront, bless, and develop your skills. Be assured of our prayers for your wellbeing.

We are fully aware that distance education is a good and fruitful form of study for those who cannot or are unable to attend seminary. However, it places unique demands upon the student to seek out their resources, discover answers, and finish their course in their strength successfully.

We also realise many may feel alone and even without help. As a Vision student, you are not alone, we are here to help, as close as the phone or an email, and you are always welcome to call the office for support.

You have joined with a large body of students worldwide in both our recognised and accredited studies. Your fellow students around Australia and far-flung nations from China to Argentina, from the UK to the United States, from France to Nepal, the Philippines to Japan, and so many other countries, are your fellow students, all of you praying for the success of each other.

We look forward to a long and fruitful relationship with you, along with reports of your continued growth and effectiveness in the Kingdom of God.

Blessings upon you in Jesus' name,

Rev. Dr Denis Plant (D. Min, PhD Christian Ed, TAE40116)

Principal/CEO

PART I
IN BRIEF

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM



As I set out to write this handbook, I realized that it seemed complicated – even confusing, especially to those not accustomed to some of the terminology found within it. Of course, you need the detail, it is your right to know and to understand what you are getting into, and we encourage you to do so, but at the same time, you do not need to know everything all at once.

I have provided a general overview for ease of understanding in Part One. In Part Two, you will find specific information on the college and the courses. Learn of your rights and responsibilities as a student and our responsibility to you.

I encourage you to read Part Two to be fully informed. I hope that you will find these following few pages will satisfactorily answer most of your questions.

Who We Are

Vision Colleges is the covering umbrella for our ministry. It is comprised of

- Vision International College (VIC) is **the** accredited Vision Colleges **programme**.
- Vision Christian College (VCC) is the original non-accredited college.
- Internet Bible College is the online home of Vision Colleges.
- **Vision International University offers degrees by State Approval.**
- **The Texas University of Theology offers degrees by Religious Exemption.**

Vision Colleges are both interdenominational and independent Bible Colleges. We have been operating for more than 40 years specializing in distance education Bible College. We have no classes or “in-house intensives”. We send the college to you by sending our study materials by email, **or through the postal service, or our Online Portal.** You return your assignments in the same manner.

This document focuses on Vision International College. For information on Vision Christian College, request our booklet *Introducing Vision Christian College*.

What We Offer

Through *Vision International College*, we offer the following ASQA accredited awards in Christian Ministry and Theology –



- 10741NAT Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology
- 10742NAT Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology
- 10743NAT Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology
- 10744NAT Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology
- 10745NAT Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry and Theology
- 10746NAT Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology

These awards can be offered with a specific emphasis on counselling, missions, and chaplaincy or in the generic option, Christian Ministry and Theology. For information on an emphasis, contact our office for details.

This suite of six Christian Ministry and Theology qualifications was initially accredited in September 2002, and again in 2008, 2012 and 2018 the current version 2021.

The primary student cohort for the course includes:

- Professionals, usually Pastors
- Youth
- Ministry Workers – youth & worship
- Lay people
- Advanced ministry staff and key volunteers
- Persons entering their second career

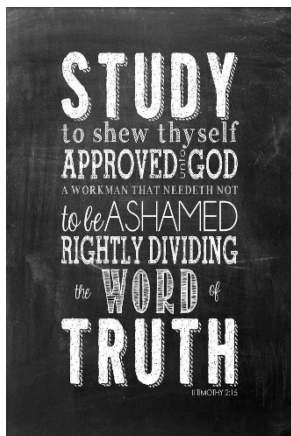
The number of Christian denominations utilising these qualifications has grown significantly and now include among many others: for a list of churches and Christian organisations that use Vision Colleges and the Christian Ministry and Theology program see Part II of this booklet

Two Streams of Study

The accredited program is built around two streams of study. These two streams are –

1. **Core Subjects: Biblical Theology**¹ studies (or “CMTTHE/CMTMIN” units as they are referred to in the syllabus);
2. **Electives: Practical Theology**² for the **Ministry Skills Development**.³

Core Subjects: Theology



No field of learning can impact a human being, body, soul, and spirit as the study of theology. No form of education is so effective in transforming human lives as the study of the Word of God.

We are committed to the concept that teaching the Word of God is the single most crucial issue in the development of individual Christians for life and ministry.

Our approach prefers Biblical Theology, which deals one by one with the great themes and ideas presented in scripture. It differs from “Systematic Theology⁴” because we do not attempt to force all the teachings of the Bible into a single body of doctrine. We are happy to allow the Bible to speak for itself. Our curriculum reflects honestly those places where scripture is silent or inconclusive.

We also present the significant aspects of the Christian life, the structure, governance, and mission of the Church.

Each award requires its number of subjects listed in the section Accredited Course Syllabi outlined further in this booklet.

Students complete no more than ten subjects at any level of award. A textbook is provided for each theology subject at no further cost. A student who completes the entire program from Certificate III to

¹ See “**Biblical Theology**” under the section “**Types of Theology**”.

² See “**Practical Theology**” under the section “**Types of Theology**”.

³ The units for the Electives or **Practical Ministry Skills** development are taken from the “Community Services Development Package, the “Business Services Training Package” and the “Public Sector Training Package”. These units are ideally suited to the development of practical ministry skills. It is this combination of practical skills and the study of *Biblical Theology* that makes the *Vision* program so effective and desirable.

⁴ See “**Systematic Theology**” under the section “**Types of Theology**”.

the Advanced Diploma will collect a library of books that will serve them throughout their Christian life and ministry.

Vision Colleges have nominated subjects from their curriculum to satisfy the core study units. A student may discuss alternative options and substitute a designated unit with another topic if the substitute meets the unit requirements. The decision of the Principal on the choice of a replacement is final.

The Vision Colleges program is faith-building, challenging, and both biblically and academically sound. We are conservative, evangelical, and Pentecostal.

Graduates of a course will hold a more balanced understanding of the Word of God; develop a stronger relationship with God and his people, and be effectively equipped for ministry.

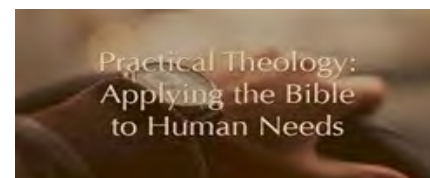
Our goal always is to satisfy the criteria set out in scripture:

Study earnestly to present yourself approved to God, a workman who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth. (2 Ti 2:15)

Electives

Practical Theology: Ministry Skills

Each award level requires several units from Community Service and related fields. These are Elective Units, and they address the “business end of ministry”. They have been selected specially to develop the practical skills required of those who desire to enter the ministry or serve their church or community service work.



We have nominated certain subjects; however, at the end of this book is a list of alternative subject options that may be more relevant to the individual student.

The practical nature of these units builds vital ministry skills into the solid spiritual foundation the student gains from the Biblical Theology studies. The combination of these skills empowers men and women of God to deliver a more effective ministry to their church or community.

These elective units are typically completed through our online training portal or met with a portfolio of evidence of competency.

By utilising the skills gained through these units and the empowering Word of God, students should be able to work maturely in a local church, on the mission field, in a para-church group, or develop their ministry and fulfil their vocation in Christ.

The student’s practical experience as a member of a local church can be used as a legitimate study credit in the form of Recognised Prior Learning.

Vision Colleges maintains a solid commitment to vocational ministry training within the local church context. Our curriculum is rooted in a Pentecostal-Charismatic heritage while remaining open-ended and adaptable to any immediate cultural or denominational context.

Australian Skills Quality Authority

Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)⁵ is Australia’s national accrediting body for Vocational education. It provides oversight for all of Australia’s Vocational Training institutions. Their role is to regulate and ensure a high quality of teaching and assessment standards so that the student and potential employers can have confidence in your skills and training.

ASQA is one of the most highly regarded accrediting bodies in the world. Your award from Vision Colleges is acceptable for business qualifications; and credit in Australian universities and colleges across the globe, in colleges throughout the Commonwealth, the USA, and many other countries.

⁵ ASQA. **The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)** is the national regulator for Australia’s vocational education and training sector. ASQA regulates courses and training providers to ensure nationally approved quality standards are met. <http://www.asqa.gov.au/about-asqa/about-asqa.html>

Jesus was the first “Vocational Training Officer” for those entering the ministry. He taught his disciples “on the job,” then thrust them into their community work to practice and further develop their skills. In the meantime, he continued teaching and nurturing them until finally releasing them into the world as qualified and established men and women of God.

We seek to do the same through a mix of theology and practical skills. We do not claim to make you a pastor or evangelist or a prophet or a missionary or apostle; such is the work of the Holy Spirit. But we can and will help to develop the skills and knowledge that He will use to release you into His plan for your life.

Who Can Join The College?

Anyone who wants to study our courses may apply to do so. We are careful not to discriminate against anyone who wishes to learn with Vision. Students under the age of 16 years are required to provide consent from their parents or guardian.



How to enrol

Fully complete the application form and submit it to Vision Colleges offices by mail, **email**, or online, with a photo for your Student ID.

If there are problems with your enrolment information, we will clarify the issues before **enrolling** you.

You may be required to complete an LL&N test before enrolment to determine if you can undertake the study requirements.

If you **seek** Advanced Standing (see the section on Advanced Standing), ensure that you include your academic transcripts or apply for the RPL Application form.

We welcome you to contact the college if you need assistance with the enrolment process; our staff are always ready and pleased to help.

Universal Student Identifier

All students undertaking an accredited course within Australia **must** have a Universal Student Identifier (USI). The purpose of the USI is to keep a record of your accredited studies in one place.

If you do not have a USI, the College can assist you in getting it, or you can go online and get your USI from their website, <https://www.usi.gov.au/>.

What is the USI?

The USI is a reference containing numbers and letters that gives you access to your records on the national database.

Your USI⁶ will give you access to an online record of the training you have done since 1 January 2015. You will also be able to produce a comprehensive transcript of your training. **The USI can be used** when applying for a job, seeking a credit transfer or demonstrating pre-requisites when undertaking further training.

The USI will make it easier for students to find and collate their VET achievements into a single authenticated transcript. It will also ensure that students' VET records are not lost. The USI is available online and at no cost to the student. This USI will stay with the student for life and be recorded with any nationally recognised VET course completed when the USI came into effect on 1 January 2015.

The USI will:

- Seamlessly link information about a student's VET achievements, regardless of where they studied
- Enable students to access secure digital transcripts of their achievements easily
- Give students access to, and more control over, their educational information

What should I Do When I Receive My Study Materials?

Upon receiving your study materials, check that the subject is as requested. If not, contact the office immediately for a replacement.

Study the material and appropriately complete the assignments and send your completed work to us⁷. We will assess it as quickly as possible and respond to you as soon as possible.

If you prefer, you can order your next subject when you submit your work or wait until you receive your results

This cycle of ordering material, studying, completing assignments, sending the assignments to us and reordering continues until the award is finalised.

What Is The Cost?

Prices are listed at the back of this book and available from Vision Colleges.

Can I Get Government Support?

Austudy, Abstudy and Youth Allowance are available to eligible Australian students for Certificate III and IV in Christian Ministry and Theology.

Vision Colleges provides supporting documentation and advice to assist a student's application for support. It is the student's responsibility to inquire from Centrelink for the appropriate application forms, terms and conditions of the support. Students are advised to access the Centrelink website to discover the possible entitlements before discussing their needs with Centrelink to maximize their benefit options.

Vision Colleges are not responsible for the decisions of Centrelink concerning Austudy, Abstudy and Youth Allowance

Are There Prerequisites For Joining?

There are no formal prerequisites for Certificate III. We do prefer students to have completed their High School Certificate or equivalent. It is not mandatory; students without it may apply.

Specific details on Certificate IV and above prerequisites

Literacy, Language and Numeracy (LL&N)

⁶ <https://www.usi.gov.au/about>

⁷ If sending assignments by mail we recommend that you send photocopies of your assignments and retain the originals in case your work is lost in the mail

LLN refers to five core skills; learning, reading, writing, oral communication and numeracy.

These five core skills are identified by the Australian Core Skills Framework (ASCF) as essential skills for individuals to participate effectively in society, including the workplace and education sector.

Students may be required to take an LL&N test at their entry-level to determine their study and learning needs and eligibility to meet the study requirements of the course <http://lln.safework.com.au/>



Student Support

By its very nature, distance education is among the most rewarding and yet challenging of all forms of learning. As a student, you **must** seek out knowledge and answers to the issues presented from your resources. For that very reason, many who begin their studies fail to complete them as they feel alone and without help. With Vision Colleges, you are not alone.

You can contact us at any time by email principal@visioncolleges.net time by telephone 02 9603 2077, we will respond to you. We will help you and guide you to the best of our ability. It is imperative that you know and understand that you can contact us and do so no matter how “small” the issue may seem to be. We are pleased to help.

Can I Apply For Advanced Standing?

Absolutely yes! Advanced standing is available to every student before and during the course and is available in two forms, Academic Transfer (AT) and Recognised Prior Learning (RPL).



Academic Transfer. (AT)

Academic credits may be offered when students provide official Academic Transcripts for subjects completed at another College.

Recognition of Prior Learning. (RPL)

A student must provide evidence that they have previously learned a subject through work or other training or experience. In which case, they may gain credits instead of completing units already learnt.

Where Do I Study?

As a distance education provider, we have no classrooms or required seminars, intensives, or such.

One of the great strengths of distance education lies in the flexibility of your study-place. Our students study in their preferred place of learning, at home, in a library, in the workplace. Where-ever you are comfortable to study, that is the place to learn.

How Long Does It Take To Study?

We have a flexible time frame to accommodate most people. We recommend that you attempt to complete one (1) subject per month. By doing so, an award can be completed in 12 months. A late marking fee is imposed if a student takes longer than two months to complete a topic.

Please note that Students in receipt of Austudy, Abstudy or Youth Allowance must complete one (1) subject per month to maintain their funding.

What about the Exams?

As a competency-based program, you must provide evidence of competency in each subject.

Assessments are provided with the study materials. The methods are flexible and allow you to demonstrate competency in what you are doing. In general terms:

1. Our assessments are designed to test your understanding of the question and the text for theology. We utilise an open-book format, thereby eliminating the need for a moderator.
2. For the practical assignments, you will either:
 - a. Complete the assignments through our online training portal or
 - b. Complete a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate your competency in the studied unit.

Can I Appeal a Result?

If you are not satisfied with your results, we encourage you to contact the office. Typically we can deal with the issues at the point of inquiry, and however, if you feel a further review is required, you will be asked to make your request in writing.

What about Graduation?

Our students are invited to attend a graduation service in Sydney. However, as many students are too distant from the college, this is not always practical. In such cases, upon your request, we will send your award to you. If you would like to arrange a ceremony with your local church or someone else, then advise us in writing, and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

What Can I Do When I Graduate?

Depending on the course, graduates may find employment as Parish Workers, Religious Education Instructors, Church Workers, Missionary Workers, Pastors, Ministers, Church-Planters, Mission Support Workers, and the like, depending upon the requirements of each organisation.

Vocational Options for the Course

The table below is indicative only and is taken from a broad sweep of denominations.

Each denomination reserves the right to determine the level of qualifications required to fulfil any particular role. *Vision International College* cannot and does not guarantee or offer to any student or graduate of *Vision International College* a place of employment or a voluntary position based on their study or graduation. Such is the role of the churches, organisations, or businesses they are applying to.

Job Role	Certificate III	Certificate IV	Diploma	Advanced Diploma	Graduate Certificate	Graduate Diploma
Ministry Worker	✓	✓				
Religious Instructor	✓	✓	✓			
Minister/Pastor		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Missionary Worker		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

What Should I Do Now?

You have several options:

1. Complete the application form, post or email it to *Vision International College*.
2. Read the rest of the Handbook for more details, and then complete Vision International College's enrollment form.
3. Contact *Vision International College* for information. The phone number is 0296032077 or email us: contact@visioncolleges.net, or drop into the office for a chat: 4 Arnold St, Leumeah, NSW 2560.

I do look forward to receiving your enrolment form. In the meantime, I commend this handbook to you for further consideration.

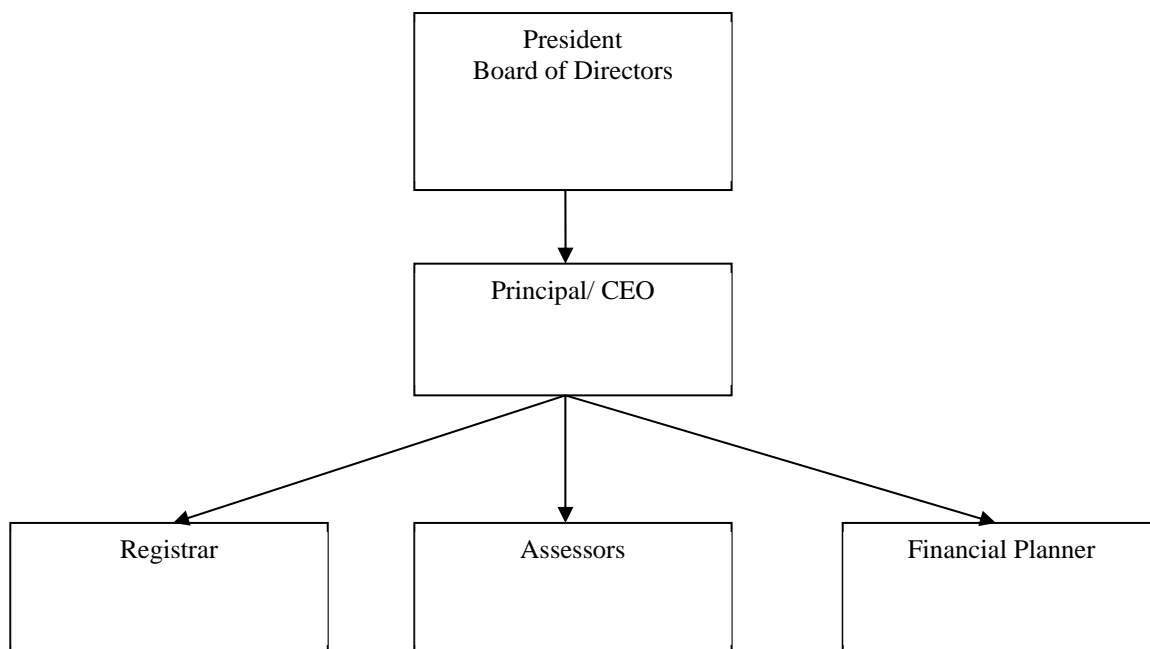
PART II

THE DETAILS

MEET THE STAFF

Administrative Structure

Vision Colleges is administered through the offices of the President, the Principal (CEO) and the Registrar and Financial Manager. They are answerable to a board of Directors.



The President

Rev. Dr Ken Chant O.A.M. (M.R.E.; Ph. D)

Rev. Dr Ken is an Australian Pentecostal pastor. He began ministry as an assistant pastor in Adelaide in 1952. Ken was ordained in Melbourne in 1954 and has been actively involved in Christian ministry for more than 60 years (ten years of which was spent with his family in the U.S.A.).

In 2014 he received the Medal of the Order of Australia in recognition of his ministry with the Bible College.

A summary of his ministry would include the following -

- He has pioneered eight churches and pastored several others, including serving for five years as the associate pastor of what was then Australia's largest Pentecostal church (the Adelaide Crusade Centre)
- For several years he was the editor of two of Australia's most successful charismatic/Pentecostal journals
- Ken has been the principal of four Bible Colleges (in Australia and the U.S.A.), has taught at Christ for the Nations (Dallas), Oral Roberts University (Tulsa), Youth With a Mission (Hawaii), and spoken at crusades, conferences, and seminars throughout Australia, and in the U.K., the U.S.A., Mexico, the Philippines, Singapore, New Zealand, the Bahamas, and Greece.
- He has the fully-earned degrees of Master of Religious Education (M.R.E.) and Doctor of Philosophy (with a theology major) (PhD), and for the past 23 years, has been devoted to a ministry of writing and teaching throughout Australia and overseas.



Ken is currently the President and Chairman of Vision Colleges for Australasia. He is also the author of more than 40 books, including many College texts. In addition, he has written copious amounts of curriculum material, lecture notes, and scores of magazine articles.

Although committed to the Pentecostal movement, Ken has always been ecumenical rather than parochial. He has often ministered in other denominational settings. Hence, the students enrolled in one or other Vision Colleges programs come from a wide array of churches and denominational backgrounds. In 2014, Ken and his wife Alison (who herself has a master's degree in Christian counselling and an honorary doctorate and is a sought-after speaker) celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They have four children and seventeen grandchildren.

Ken is also the Chairman of the Board of the *Internet Bible College* and Founder President of *Vision Christian College*.

Principal

Denis Plant Dr Min Theology, PhD Christian Ed. Cert IV TAE40116

For more than 45 years, Denis has been ministering to the Body of Christ in various ways.

He has pioneered and pastored several churches in both country and city churches in NSW and Canberra, Australia. He has started several works, including home fellowships, Bible Colleges, and ministries to orphanages and nursing homes. For 12 years, he presented his radio program “The Gospel and Music” in Sydney NSW. He is the author of the book “The Blood Covenant of God,” which is used in several Bible colleges worldwide in several denominations.

He has consistently held a strong missionary concern and was involved for several years as a representative of OMS Australia, a mission society. This involvement laid a firm foundation in his life for mission work. With Rosalind, his wife, Rosalind, he went to Papua New Guinea as a missionary, serving as the Principal of Lighthouse Bible College in Madang.

He has a strong desire and a deep personal commitment to see the word of God taught efficiently with the principle that the “word and the Spirit will do the work.” Denis has worked effectively in several Bible Colleges in Australia and Papua New Guinea, fulfilling roles from the lecturer to administrator and Principal.

He is a committed Pentecostal by experience and persuasion. He always holds a healthy respect for the platform from which he has had the privilege to minister. This respect has enabled him to minister in many churches and Christian groups regardless of persuasion or denomination.

In churches, seminars, camps, Bible Colleges, open-air crusades and services in Australia and several other countries, Denis has always presented a vibrant and challenging message to the heart of his hearers.

His deep concern to teach the body of Christ in local churches enable him to go anywhere his ministry is required. He has ministered from Nottingham in England where he was born to Australia, where he lives and throughout the UK, Fiji, France, India, Kenya, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nepal, Philippines, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, U.S.A. and Vietnam.

He is the Senior Pastor of “The Word Christian Fellowship,” a Foursquare church he pioneered in Macquarie Fields and the CEO/Principal of Vision Colleges.



Production Manager

Mr Steven Hart. He has been involved in the churches for many years, including the pioneering of The Word Christian Fellowship.

Although a baker by trade, Steven, following a severe heart attack, committed himself to the development of the Colleges by taking up the challenge of producing the study materials and the development and manufacture of our books in our premises at Minto.

Steven's role is to ensure that the books are made and updated when necessary; he seeks out the book covers and develops the brochures and promotional materials, and manages the College supplies.



Admin Staff

Jackie Mulaya

Jackie is talented in her role with us, proficient with Vettrak, the Student Records Manager and MYOB, our accounting package. Jackie looks after the student records for Vision International College. She came from Africa 10 years ago with her missionary-evangelist husband.

It is Jackie who follows up with any problems for enrolments, graduation and other student issues.

Board of Directors

Rev. Dr Ken Chant (President)

Dr. Alison Chant

Rev. Dr. Denis Plant (Principal/CEO)

Ps. Rosalind Plant

Ps. Errol Stevenson (Financial Adviser)

Steven Hart

Sharon Jones

Kristine Trott

David Trott

Elizabeth Plant

Kristian Jones

Lee Michelle

Shane Conlon

Fiona Conlon

TYPES OF THEOLOGY

There are various forms of theology, each with its own purpose and value to help our understanding of God and His word.

With *Vision Colleges* you will encounter the three major forms; ***Biblical Theology***, ***Practical Theology*** and occasionally ***Systematic Theology***. We have outlined them for you to help you to understand where they apply.

Biblical Theology



Biblical theology is the study of the doctrines of the Bible, arranged according to their chronology and historical background, in contrast to systematic theology, which categorizes doctrine according to specific topics, biblical theology shows the unfolding of God's revelation as it progressed through history. Biblical theology may seek to isolate and express the theological teachings of a specific portion of Scripture, such as the theology of the Pentateuch (first five books

of the Old Testament) or the theology contained within John's writings, etc. Or it may focus on a particular period of time, such as the theology of the unified kingdom years. Another branch of biblical theology may study a particular motif or theme in the Bible: a study of "the remnant," for example, might search out how that motif is introduced and developed throughout Scripture.

Many credit J. P. Gabler, a German biblical scholar, with beginning the field of biblical theology. As he was being inaugurated to a professorship in 1787, Gabler called for a sharp distinction between dogmatic (systematic or doctrinal) theology and biblical theology. For Gabler, biblical theology must be strictly a historical study of what was believed and taught in the various periods of biblical history, independent of modern denominational, doctrinal, philosophical, or cultural considerations. In general, the principles that Gabler espoused were correct, and he influenced the development of biblical theology for many years to come.

However, it should be noted that there is no such thing as a study of the Bible with complete objectivity. Every interpreter brings certain presuppositions to the task. These biases have considerable influence upon the process of interpreting the Scriptures. As a result, the field of biblical theology is checkered with every imaginable opinion and variation of what the Bible teaches. Biblical theology is utterly dependent upon the hermeneutics of the theologian. The methods employed in interpreting Scripture are crucially important to biblical theology. One's biblical theology can be no better than the methods he uses to interpret Scripture.

Here is a basic difference between systematic and biblical theology: systematic theology asks, "What does the Bible as a whole say about angels?" and then examines every passage that concerns angelic beings, draws conclusions, and organizes all the information into a body of truth called "angelology." The final product is, from Genesis to Revelation, the totality of God's revealed truth on the subject.

Biblical theology asks, "How did our understanding of angels develop throughout biblical history?" and then starts with the Pentateuch's teaching about angels and traces God's progressive revelation of these beings throughout Scripture. Along the way, the biblical theologian draws conclusions about how people's thinking about angels may have changed as more and more truth was revealed. The conclusion of such a study is, of course, an understanding of what the Bible has to say about angels, but it also places that knowledge in the context of the "bigger picture" of God's whole revelation. Biblical theology helps us see the Bible as a unified whole, rather than as a collection of unrelated doctrinal points.

Recommended Resource: [A New Testament Biblical Theology: The Unfolding of the Old Testament in the New by G.K. Beale.](#)

Practical Theology



Practical theology, as its name implies, is the study of theology in a way that is intended to make it useful or applicable. Another way of saying it is that it is the study of theology so that it can be used and is relevant to everyday concerns. One seminary describes its Practical Theology Program as “being dedicated to the practical application of theological insights” and that it “generally includes the sub-

disciplines of pastoral theology, homiletics, and Christian education, among others.” Another seminary sees the purpose of practical theology as helping to prepare students to translate the knowledge learned into an effective ministry to people. Doing this involves both personal and family life as well as the administration and educational ministries in the church. They state that the goal of practical theology is to develop effective communicators of Scripture who have a *Vision* for the spiritual growth of believers while being servant leaders.

Some consider practical theology to simply be a more technical name for the doctrine of Christian life. Its emphasis is on how the teaching of Scripture should affect the way we live today in this present world. The emphasis of practical theology is not simply to contemplate or comprehend theological doctrines but to move beyond that to applying those doctrines in everyday Christian life so that we “contribute to the world becoming what God intends it to be.”

The premise behind practical theology programs is that future Christian leaders need to be equipped not only with theological knowledge but also with the necessary professional skills to minister effectively in the modern world. Often these programs use preaching, Christian education, counselling and clinical programs to provide opportunities to equip and prepare future Christian leaders.

Richard Osmer explains that the four key questions and tasks in practical theology are:

- What is going on? (descriptive-empirical task)
- Why is this going on? (interpretative task)
- What ought to be going on? (normative task)
- How might we respond? (pragmatic task)

Practical theology consists of several related sub-fields including: applied theology (such as missions, evangelism, pastoral psychology or the psychology of religion), church growth, administration, homiletics, spiritual formation, pastoral theology, spiritual direction, spiritual theology, political theology, theology of justice and peace and similar areas.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Practical_theology

Systematic Theology



“Systematic” refers to something being put into a system. Systematic theology is, therefore, the division of theology into systems that explain its various areas. For example, many books of the Bible give information about the angels. No one book gives all the information about the angels. Systematic theology takes all the information about angels from all the books of the Bible and organizes it into a system called angelology. That is what systematic

theology is all about—organizing the teachings of the Bible into categorical systems.

Examples of such are Theology Proper or Paterology is the study of God the Father. Christology is the study of God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Pneumatology is the study of God the Holy Spirit. Bibliology is the study of the Bible. Soteriology is the study of salvation. Ecclesiology is the study of the church. Eschatology is the study of the end times. Angelology is the study of angels. Christian Demonology is the study of demons from a Christian perspective. Christian Anthropology is the study of humanity. Hamartiology is the study of sin. Systematic theology is an important tool in helping us to understand and teach the Bible in an organized manner.

Recommended Resource: The Moody Handbook of Theology by Paul Enns.

With a methodological tradition that differs somewhat from biblical theology, systematic theology draws on the core sacred texts of Christianity, while simultaneously investigating the development of Christian doctrine over the course of history, particularly through philosophy, ethics, social sciences, and even natural sciences. Using biblical texts, it attempts to compare and relate all of scripture which led to the creation of a systematized statement on what the whole Bible says about particular issues.

Within Christianity, different traditions (both intellectual and ecclesial) approach systematic theology in different ways impacting a) the method employed to develop the system, b) the understanding of theology's task, c) the doctrines included in the system, and d) the order those doctrines appear. Even with such diversity, it is generally the case that works that one can describe as systematic theologies to begin with revelation and conclude with eschatology.

Since it is focused on truth, systematic theology is also framed to interact with and address the contemporary world. There are numerous authors who explored this area such as the case of Charles Gore, Jon Walvoord, Lindsay Dewar, and Charles Moule, among others. The framework developed by these theologians involved a review of postbiblical history of a doctrine after first treating the biblical materials.[4] This process concludes with applications to contemporary issues.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Systematic_theology

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We Believe:



1. That there is only one God, who has revealed himself in Three Persons as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
2. In the absolute lordship and deity of Christ, including his pre-existence, his virgin birth, his sinless life, his atoning death, his bodily resurrection, and his eventual return to Earth in glory and power to establish his eternal kingdom.
3. In the full spiritual authority, the reliability, and the divine inspiration of the Bible, and its inerrancy in all that it actually affirms.
4. That nothing can replace the importance of the local church in the program of God.
5. That the great task of the church is worldwide evangelism.
6. That entrance into the church is through the “new birth”, which is brought about by genuine repentance of sin, confession of faith in Christ as the only Saviour, and surrender to him as Lord.
7. That membership in the church is signified by joyful participation in its worship, fellowship, sacraments, witness, and by acceptance of its discipline.
8. In Holy Spirit baptism as an experience discrete from and usually subsequent to the new birth, and normally attested by glossolalia. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is an essential component of effective Christian life and witness.
9. In the presence and use of the charismata in the local church and in Christian ministry.
10. That the universal church cannot fulfil its mission apart from the five ascension-gift ministries that Christ has sent into the world: apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. We accept that it is part of our responsibility to help people to recognise their calling, gift, or ministry, and to assist in equipping them to fulfil that call.
11. In the reality of Satan, and the kingdom of darkness over which he reigns. We believe also in the absolute triumph of Christ over the devil and all his works.
12. That victorious Christian life is built upon a proper understanding and exercise of the spiritual authority conveyed to the believer by the gift of righteousness.
13. In the resurrection of the dead at Christ's return, in the certainty of God's judgment, and in the inescapable result of that judgment foretold in the scriptures for the just and the unjust.

- They recognised that the scriptures could be understood fully only by revelation (Luke 24:45; Ephesians 1:15 ff.)
 - They believed that knowledge of God is the same as meeting God (Romans 1:19-21).
 - Their attitude is summed up in 2 Timothy 3:15-17.

.... you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfected, thoroughly furnished to every good work. (2Ti 3:15-17)
 - All teaching must aim for an intelligent, believing response to the word of God, leading to a life of obedience to the will of God and of conformity to the character of Christ.
6. We practise “open-book” assessments, typically multiple-choice exams, not primarily as a matter of practical necessity but because of their connection with the philosophy outlined above. The combination of “open-book” with multiple-choice assessment achieves the double aim of obliging students to work through their textbooks several times and learn to think analytically and discern shades of doctrinal meaning.
 7. We look to the local church to provide a “field” experience through each student’s active participation in the church's worship, work, and witness. No other place is closer to the “front-line” of spiritual warfare than the local church, in its proclamation of the evangel, as it intermingles with society and combats the world's rebellion against God.

Biblical Philosophy.

As previously stated, there are various forms of theology, each with its purpose and value to help our understanding of God and His word.

Most denominational Bible colleges prefer systematic theology to support their theological position. As a non-denominational College, Vision Colleges uses biblical theology as our preferred theological approach.

Biblical Theology is the study of the doctrines of the Bible, arranged according to their chronology and historical background showing the unfolding of God’s revelation as it progresses through history, thus allowing for the application of those principles of the word in the current cultural climate.

As a study option, Biblical Theology presents a more flexible approach as its focus is on the Word of God itself and what it says. It does not attempt to force a specific and often limited interpretation of a doctrinal position as does Systematic Theology.

This discipline tends to produce a less rigid or legalistic view of the word of God in the student that is more conducive to continuing personal development and tends to be more acceptable across denominational groups

Vision Colleges also used Practical Theology and occasionally Systematic Theology when appropriate and relevant throughout our courses.

Our Teaching Commitment:

- the absolute lordship of Christ
- evangelism as the supreme task of the church
- charismatic renewal as the great need of the church
- The importance of the local church in the program of God

Within that broad framework, we aim to be impartial. Where there are significant differences between the views held by various Christians, we try to present the major alternatives. Thus, our curriculum is effective for anyone who shares our general philosophy and accepts the authority of the Bible.

We are a conservative, evangelical and Pentecostal college, working within the mainstream of Christian belief and practice.

We affirm the divine inspiration and authority of the Bible. We endorse those formulations of the faith that have been received by all the major branches of the church across the centuries. Our theme could be summarised as;

- The Word of Christ preached;
- The Name of Christ believed;
- The Power of Christ experienced;
- The Love of Christ shared;
- The Coming of Christ expected; and
- The Splendour of Christ exalted.

Use Of Christian Ministry and Theology

The primary student cohort for the course includes:

- Professionals, usually Pastors
- Youth
- Ministry Workers – youth & worship
- Lay people
- Advanced ministry staff and key volunteers
- Persons entering their second career

Christian denominations represented by Christian organisations leading the development of the 2019 qualifications include:

- C3 Churches
- Catholic
- Baptist
- Anglican
- Uniting

Specific organisations represented include:

- Ignite Network
- Keystone College of Business & Technology
- Nungalinya College
- The Training Collaborative
- United Education and Training (UNET)
- Vision College
- Workforce Council

Denominations represented in the student cohort include:

- Roman Catholic
- Christian Outreach Centre
- Salvation Army
- Baptist

- Presbyterian
- Seventh-Day Adventist
- Uniting
- Methodist
- Greek Orthodox
- Australian Christian Churches
- Full Gospel
- The Salvation Army
- Pentecostal
- Churches of Christ
- Lutheran
- Christian Missionary Alliance
- Anglican
- Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches, and
- Non-denominational

STUDENT INFORMATION

Vision International College (Vision) is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO). We offer Christian Ministry and Theology studies by Distance Education.

Admission Policy

Vision Colleges is open to anyone who desires to study our courses. We are careful not to discriminate against anyone who wishes to study with *Vision Colleges* who meets our admission requirements.

No applicant to *Vision Colleges* will be disadvantaged in any way by virtue of their race, gender, age, religion, social or educational background, or disability.



Admission Requirements

It is recommended but not required that applicants should have attained proficiency in the year 10 English or its equivalent.

1. 10741NAT Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology.

Prerequisite: None. English proficiency at high school equivalence is recommended but not required. There are no formal academic requirements.

2. 10742NAT Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology.

Prerequisite: None: English proficiency at high school equivalence is recommended but not required. Ability to demonstrate some sound knowledge of the word of God and or some verifiable ministry experience with pastoral recommendation preferred.

3. 10743NAT Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology.

Prerequisite: Certificate IV in Christian Ministries or Theology or similar.

4. 10744NAT Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology.

Prerequisite: Diploma of Christian Ministries or Theology or similar Diploma or equivalent.

5. 10745NAT Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry and Theology.

Prerequisite: Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology, or equivalent or Bachelors of Theology or similar field.

6. 10746NAT Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology.

Prerequisite: Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry and Theology, or equivalent.

Students may be required to complete an LL&N test before enrolment to determine eligibility or support needs.

Students under 16 need to secure signed permission from their parents or legal guardian before enrolling in the course.

In the case of physical disabilities, the conditions for completion of assessment tasks or field studies may be varied at the Principal's discretion and in accordance with the College's *Access and Equity Policy*.

Entrants who can provide satisfactory evidence of competence in any specified unit of competence will be able to claim credit through *Recognition of Prior Learning* or *Academic Transfer*.

Access and Equity

All students will be recruited ethically and responsibly consistent with the requirements of the curriculum. Our *Access and Equity Policy* ensures that student selection decisions comply with equal opportunity legislation.

Appropriately qualified staff will assess the extent to which the applicant is likely to achieve the stated competency standards and outcomes of the course, based upon their qualifications and experience.

Enrolment Procedure

To enrol in Vision Colleges, complete the application form, attach the required fees or payment details, and send them to the College office. They will be checked for completeness, and once satisfied, we will complete your enrolment process.

- A student may be required to complete an LL&N test at any award level before acceptance.
- Students must sign off the privacy statement⁸ on the enrolment form.

Once the enrolment process is completed, Vision Colleges will send the “First Subject Pack”. This will contain a welcome letter, the first subject⁹, assessments, a Student Study Helps and Hints booklet, our Student Handbook, promotional material, and a receipt.

GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

Financial Assistance

Australian students of Certificate III and Certificate IV may be eligible for Youth Allowance, Austudy or Abstudy from Centrelink.

Vision Colleges will support the student’s application for support, but the final decision rests with Centrelink.

The Christian ministry and theology product does not attract Vet Fee Help or Study Assist,

It is the student's responsibility you inquire with Centrelink for support options. There is no single “one glove fits all” policy. Centrelink is the best resource for support options.

Study Allowances

There are three forms of Study allowance available to Australians at the Certificate III and IV Christian Ministry and Theology options Austudy, Abstudy and Youth Allowance.

Youth Allowance

Youth Allowance provides financial assistance for people aged 16 to 24 years studying full-time, undertaking a full-time Australian Apprenticeship, training, looking for work or sick.

Eligibility basics

- 16 to 21 years old and looking for full-time work or undertaking approved activities
- 18 to 24 years old and studying full-time
- 16 or 17 years old and have completed year 12 or equivalent, or undertaking full-time secondary study and need to live away from home to study, or are considered independent for Youth Allowance, or
- 16 to 24 years old and undertaking a full-time Australian Apprenticeship

For further details, go to this link:

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/youth-allowance>

⁸ See the Privacy Statement & Student Declaration example in Appendix III

⁹ The “First Subject” will be determined by the course the student is enrolled in.

Austudy

Financial help to full-time students and Australian Apprentices aged 25 years or more.

Eligibility basics

- aged 25 years or more
- studying full-time in an approved course at an approved educational institution or
- undertaking a full-time Australian Apprenticeship or traineeship

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/austudy>

Abstudy

Abstudy is available to help with the costs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians studying or undertaking an Australian Apprenticeship.

Eligibility Basics

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.
- Enrolled in an approved course or undertaking an Australian Apprenticeship.
- Are not receiving any other government assistance to study or do an apprenticeship or traineeship.

As the name implies, these payments are directed towards Aboriginal or Torres Strait islanders.

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/abstudy>

NOTE: When a student is accepted for Austudy/Youth Allowance/Abstudy, to maintain eligibility, the student must complete all course requirements at the rate of one (1) subject per month.

There are other additional allowances for students, and information on the allowances is available from the following link

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/themes/students-and-trainees>

Pension Education Supplement's

This supplement assists students who are receiving an Australian Pension with the ongoing costs of full-time or part-time study in a secondary or tertiary course.

Eligibility basics

- studying in a secondary or tertiary course
- already receiving a pension or payment
- studying full time in an approved course,

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/pensioner-education-supplement>

STUDENT SUPPORT

Personal Support

We realize that distance education, by its very nature, is among the most rewarding and yet challenging of all forms of learning. Students are required to seek out knowledge and resources to complete assignments without the encouragement of a classroom or student body. For that very reason, some who begin may fail to complete their studies as they feel alone and without help.

With Vision Colleges, you are not alone.

Our staff members are always available to you at any time by telephone, or we are available by email and through Skype IBC_Principal.

If we cannot respond immediately, leave a message seeking help and we will respond as swiftly as we are able.

Contact details are on the last page of this booklet.

Students are encouraged to visit the office. While we prefer that an appointment is made to ensure we are available, students can just “drop in” for a chat, advice or help. We will help you to the best of our ability. It is imperative that you are aware that you can contact us and that no issue is too big or small, and we are always pleased to help.

Documentary Support

The Vision Colleges Student Handbook is provided to every student on enrolment to ensure that they are fully aware of the rights and responsibilities of both the student and the colleges.

Also, students are provided with a copy of our Student Study Helps and Hints upon enrollment to meet the assessment requirements.

Instructions are provided with each assignment to ensure that the student knows what is required of them.

We also offer Online Resources¹⁰ to our student body from our internet site.

Mentor Support

While it is neither a requirement nor a regular part of our processes, we encourage all students to find a local mentor to assist them and provide encouragement throughout the course.

As much of our student body is widely scattered throughout Australia and overseas, Vision Colleges can't offer mentors to the student body. For this reason, the student is responsible for seeking out their mentor. Typically the student's pastor or his delegate takes this role and has a guiding hand in developing the student's ministry. The mentor can be anyone the student is comfortable learning with, and it is required that the mentor has experience in the field of mentorship.

In cases where the student cannot find a Mentor, *Vision Colleges*, Principal may act for them upon request

LEARNER SUPPORT

Learner Support Policy



Language, Literacy and Numeracy (LLN) are core skills required within Vocational Education and Training (VET). The skills are identified as learning, reading, writing, oral communication and numeracy. These five core skills have been identified by the Australian Core Skills Framework (ASCF) as the essential skills for individuals to hold to participate effectively in society, including the workplace and education sector.

VIC students must have the LL&N skills sufficient to successfully participate in training and assessment in the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector. It is also essential that students have an adequate LL&N skill set at the completion of their training and assessment to work successfully in the chosen vocation.

Introduction

Vision Colleges may provide enrolling students with Language Literacy, and Numeracy (LL&N) tests to determine their eligibility to enter into a course of study. The LL&N test helps identify the learning needs to assist a student's ongoing education with Vision Colleges.

¹⁰ <https://internetbiblecollege.info/study-options/student-resources.html>

As a distance education provider, *Vision Colleges* cannot directly offer Literacy, Language and Numeracy skills development to those who do not meet the course requirements. For those in need of L.L.&N. skills development, we refer them to their local TAFE or other private provider see the list¹¹.

Learner Support Procedures

Vision Colleges is committed to assisting students in their study needs towards a successful outcome by providing support through our mentoring system, telephone, email or skype *ibc_principal* (*Vision Colleges*), or referral to specialist agencies.

Before Enrolment

- Students who are identified as needing Learner Support during the enrolment process will be advised by *Vision Colleges* staff of the support options available to them.
- *Vision Colleges* management is advised of all LL&N test results that identify significant Learner Support needs of enrolling students.
- Students who need significant Learner Support may be enrolled at *Vision Colleges* with a reduced¹² study load.
- *Vision Colleges* retains the right to defer prospective students from enrolling in a course until they have sufficiently addressed their LL&N learner needs to satisfy the LL&N Test.

Post Enrolment

- Following enrollment, *Vision Colleges* staff will be available by phone, email, or personal appointment to provide support.
- Students are encouraged to seek out a mentor to meet their study needs.
- We suggest the student's pastor or his delegate as a first choice for mentorship.

Pre Assessment

- *Vision Colleges* Training staff review the specific support requirements of students with learner support needs before each assessment event.
- A reasonable adjustment is necessary for a student with learner support needs. A learner support report must be provided to the *Vision Colleges assessor*, detailing the planned adjustments before the assessment event.
- Reasonable adjustment applied to any assessment must be recorded and maintained on a student's enrolment records.

Learner Support Review

Vision Colleges Management will monitor its ongoing Learner Support measures within its Continuous Improvement Systems, and each Internal Audit conducted. Monitoring will include a post-course survey of students receiving Learner Support assistance at VIC.

Changes to the programme

At the time of publication, the information contained in this booklet is accurate and up to date whenever possible *Vision International Colleges* will advise students of pending changes initiated by VIC.

Note the program is also subject to change without notice due to issues beyond our control from the various authorities.

¹¹ Refer to the Appendix Support Agencies List

¹² A reduced study load means that a student's work will be spread over a longer period of time and various alternative options may be offered to assist the student to successfully complete their work. It is not intended that the student should graduate by doing less work but by being allowed to complete the work over a longer period of time or through alternative assessment options.

Alternative Programme

For those who find the demands of an accredited program too time consuming or difficult to complete, we recommend our non-accredited sister program with *Vision Christian College* as an alternative study option.

It is less demanding, less costly, and has fewer time constraints. For many students, it provides an alternative pathway into Certificate IV. Please note *Vision Christian College* does not attract Austudy or Abstudy, government funding and the program is not accredited

STUDENT RECORDS

Student records are maintained in a secure Student Management System. Students may contact the Vision during office hours to request a copy of their records.

Upon request and sufficient notice, *Vision Colleges* administrative staff shall provide students with access to their student records for progress information.

Student Body

Vision Colleges exists for those members of the Christian community and others who desire to study the Word of God, Christian life and ministry for ministry development and personal development and who:

- prefer a self-paced distance-based education.
- unable to undertake full-time studies at a campus, or
- those for whom work or family commitments prevent access to campus.
- for those who find campus requirements challenging to comply with
- for those who find campus study too costly
- those who, for a multitude of other reasons, are unable to access other study options

The primary student cohort for the course includes:

- Professionals, usually Pastors
- Youth
- Ministry Workers – youth & worship
- Lay people
- Advanced ministry staff and essential volunteers
- Persons entering their second career

Students are enabled to study at their own pace, in their own time and environment in the full knowledge that they do not have to leave their home or preferred church or ministry. They will not have to use vital leave entitlements to attend required intensives and the such like.

There are four categories of students acknowledged by *Vision Colleges* –

Full-Time Students

A student enrolled in the program intending to complete one subject per month is considered a full-time student.

Also, students who are in receipt of Austudy, Abstudy, Youth Allowance, or any other form of government subsidy must complete one subject per month to maintain eligibility as a condition of their funding.

For Centrelink funding, a full-time student undertakes 20 hours of study per week.

Part-Time Students

Students who enrol but complete their studies at a slower pace than one subject per month or cannot complete a course in a single year are considered part-time students. While it may take longer for them to graduate, such students are treated the same manner as any full-time student. Credits for each competency completed will contribute to their award.

Casual Students

Studies are open to those who desire to take one or more subjects but do not want to complete an award. A statement of attainment will be awarded upon completing competency or competencies.

Course Emphasis

A student may specialize in a specific field of studies such as Counselling, Missions, Chaplaincy or others while satisfying a particular award level.

Duration Of The Program

There are six award levels in the *Vision Colleges* training program, ranging from Certificate III to Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology. Each award can be completed within 12 months.

Any student who takes more than three months to complete a subject will face a late marking fee.

Students may choose to complete as many awards as required to satisfy their personal, professional or study requirements.

Study Method

Students typically complete their subjects as listed in the award; however, the program can be tailored to meet the student's study needs. The student should discuss their needs with their mentor or Principal of *Vision Colleges* to tailor the learning program to meet their study needs.

Upon receipt of study materials, check the subject is as requested. If there is a discrepancy, contact the office as soon as possible to resolve the issue.

Theology Units:

We recommend that students read the material three times,

1. first, as a “scan read” to become familiar with the material,
2. the second time to study the material in-depth,
3. the third time to complete the open book assessments as supplied with the subject.

Elective Units:

There are two options to complete the elective units

1. Through our “Online Training Portal”. The portal provides the student with a comprehensive and interactive learning and training program. Various assignments are presented to teach and determine competency in the units required. Detailed instructions and access are provided to students by VIC as they enter into the subject.

A preview of the Vision Colleges Training Portal is available as the [Student User Guide](#)

<https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>

2. If a student is unable to access the internet or is uncomfortable with online learning, the unit is available in hard copy as a workbook with written assignments

Once the assessment tasks are completed, they should be forwarded to the College. If sent by mail, we suggest that you submit clean photocopies in case your original is lost in the mail, or you can email the assessments to exams@visioncolleges.net.

ONLINE TRAINING PORTAL



Vision International College
Christian Ministry and Theology
Online Training Portal

The Online Training Portal was added in 2014, enabling students undertaking the elective units from Certificate III to the Graduate Diploma to complete the course online if they prefer to do so.

When students are ready to commence the unit, they nominate to complete the assignments online or by hard copy. If the student chooses the online option, the College will enrol the student into the online portal and provide them with their login details.

The online portal offers the student a comprehensive and interactive Student User Guide to help even a novice become familiar with the learning program. The student can refer to the User Guide as often as needed rather than master the program in one session.

<https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>

There is a comprehensive teaching section for each subject with interactive sessions to keep the student's attention on the subject and aid the learning process.

After working through the teaching section, the student moves on to the assignments. At any time, the student can return to the teaching section to review and revise as required.

As the student works through the assignments and responds to the questions, they must save their work. By doing so, they can return to where they left off as often as needed.

As the student submits a set of questions for marking, the question section is locked until the assessor has finished marking the work. The student may access and continue learning. When the assessor has completed marking the work, the student is advised. The portal is unlocked, allowing the student to resume answering the questions.

We **STRONGLY** suggest that the student submits **not more than two questions at a time**, allowing the assessor to guide the student in their responses and resolve errors before they become repetitive.

This process of study, completing assignments, submitting and assessing continues until the assessor marks the entire work as competent.

We encourage our students to use the online system; it is a very professional and effective online learning portal that can be accessed anywhere in the world. Currently, we have students from most states of Australia, South Africa and the USA who avail themselves of this option.

Code Of Practice

As a Registered Training Organisation, *Vision Colleges* operates within the principles and standards of the Australian Recognition Framework, including a commitment to recognise training qualifications issued by other Registered Training Organisations.

Social Justice

Principles of social justice are addressed appropriately in all aspects of the implementation of this training program.

We will endeavour to follow those principles as far as it is reasonable and acceptable to do so within the constitutions of the participating denominations or faith groups.

Resources

Our flexible delivery methods make it possible for students to learn in their preferred place of learning. Resources may include but are not limited to the following options

1. Prepared notes
2. Recommended texts
3. Training videos

4. Computer software
5. Internet access
6. Experienced mentors
7. Email
8. Telephone access
9. Facsimile service
10. Seminars

No Semester or Term Dates

As a distance learning provider, we do not have semesters or terms. Students can access the courses at any time.

Vision Colleges does not apply semester or term restrictions to a student.

However, an additional late marking fee shall apply if a student takes three calendar months to complete a subject.

Class Attendance

As a distance education provider, we send the material to the student. There are no classrooms or intensives to attend.

The College's distance education program can be complemented from time to time by enrichment classes at a "Resource Centre¹³".

Attendance at a Resource Centre is recommended but voluntary. A student can access and use resources such as books, CD's, DVD's, tapes, magazines, and videos. Study material can be discussed, and help sought from experienced pastors or mentors.

Those tutorials (run from local churches) are not permanent. They exist where there are sufficient numbers of people to be enrolled in a *Vision Christian College* non-accredited program.

GRIEVANCES

Grievance Policy

Vision Colleges is committed to maintaining an atmosphere of unity and mutual respect among students and between students and staff consistent with the values of a Christian College of external studies.

Definition of Grievance

Any expression of dissatisfaction, disadvantage, distress, or unfair treatment made to a *Vision Colleges* staff member that requires a formal response has been deemed a grievance.

Grievance Procedure

In the first instance, Students are encouraged to contact the staff member or person concerned in the dispute. If that is not possible, the next step is to approach the Principal.

A *Grievance Report Form* will be completed and sent to the office, and a formal meeting set up to resolve the issue.

If a resolution is found, a record shall be made, and the student informed in writing of the outcome.

¹³ A Resource Centre is set up in a local church as a local church bible college *Vision Christian College* material. As *Vision International College* and *Vision Christian College* often use the same subjects a student with *Vision International College* is welcomed and encouraged to attend and utilize the student resources available at a Resource Centre. A *Vision Christian College* Resource Centre is not a formal part of the *Vision International College* program.

If the matter is not resolved satisfactorily, the student should approach the President, with a request that the case is referred to the *Vision Colleges* Board for resolution. The President will respond to the student within 14 days, giving the board meeting date for the grievance and inviting the student to attend if the student desires.

Suppose the student feels that the matter is still not satisfactorily resolved. In that case, the student will be referred to the appropriate government body or department.

CHURCH AFFILIATION

Church Life Policies

Vision Colleges is committed to the principles of the local church ministry.

We encourage our students to be active members of a local church wherever possible of their own choice, where they will be encouraged to exercise and develop the skills they will learn through their *Vision Colleges* course

As an independent and interdenominational College, we hold no allegiance with any particular church or denomination and support all students in their church.

Active Membership

All students and staff members are encouraged to be active members within the life of their local church to attend their regular services and other appropriate church programs. Students are encouraged to be available for service within their local church more than is expected of an ordinary member of the local church. This service may also count towards RPL credit for the practical experience units.

We recognise that not all students who enter distance education can be involved in a local church. The nature of distance education is that some students are in remote areas where regular church attendance is not possible. It is, in part, for this reason that while we encourage church attendance, it is not a requirement.

In the case of students of other faiths enrolling into *Vision Colleges*, we leave the matter of church attendance or their place of worship to their conscience.

PART III

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

THE VISION COLLEGES PROGRAM

WHY THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY PROGRAM

The Christian Ministry and Theology program is ideally suited to Vision International college's ministry. These qualifications were developed through broad consultation with various denominations and independent churches and bible colleges throughout Australia. They are and have been subject to ongoing feedback and review to maintain relevance.

This suite of six Christian Ministry and Theology qualifications was first accredited in September 2002 and again in 2008, 2012 and 2018.

Over time, the number and variety of Christian denominations utilising these qualifications have grown significantly. Each review has increased the number of denominations directly participating in the review committee. This continuity over many years, alongside increased variety in the review committees, has meant the courses remain up to date and relevant to current needs within a wide range of Christian Communities.

Christian denominations leading the development of the 2018 qualifications were:

- Christian Community Churches Australia
- Queensland Baptist Churches
- Wesleyan Methodist Churches
- Australian Christian Churches (ACC)
- Universal Education and Training (representing a range of churches and denominations)
- Roman Catholic Church
- Churches of Christ in Australia
- Lutheran Church of Australia
- Vision International College
- Uniting Aboriginal & Islander Christian Congress (Uniting Church in Australia).

Vision Colleges believes that the flexible framework of the Christian Ministry and Theology program combined with the excellent world-class studies of *Vision Colleges* provide the perfect study option to develop the ministry skills of our student body in such a way as to be highly desirable by the majority of Christian denominations throughout Australia

Benefits Of The Program

- Combines practical ministry and theological training in one course.
- Flexible enough to be delivered to a wide variety of church groups and Christian ministry contexts.
- Flexibility of elective choice or theology subject is significant.
- The courses can be customised to suit the needs of the setting and adaptable to different interpretations of the Bible and different Christian beliefs.
- The courses provide pathways into Christian Ministry and Theology for those not interested in or ready for higher education qualifications.
- The stepped progression of qualifications and core competencies is helpful to support the increasing depth of knowledge and skill requirements at higher levels of responsibility.

- Combining theological learning with practical ministry skills effectively balances participants and supports career pathways.
- Certificate III focuses on the personal formation that is helpful at this level, particularly for younger participants.
- Competency outcomes of individual units are appropriate and consistent with AQF levels.

Two Streams Of Study

The accredited program utilises two streams of study. Those two streams are –

1. **Core Subjects: Biblical Theology** studies (or “CMTTHE/CMTMIN” units as they are referred to in the syllabus); and
2. **Electives: Practical Theology**. Ministry Skills Development these units are the “business end” of ministry and are taken from the “Community Services” training and other allied training programs and incorporate practical theology.

This combination of *Community Services and Business Development* skills combined with the study and application of *Biblical Theology* and *Practica Theology* makes the Vision Colleges program compelling and unique.

We do not owe allegiance to any particular denomination as an independent college. As such, we enjoy acceptance by most denominations and independent churches.

We present the significant aspects of the Christian life, the structure, governance, and mission of the Church generally.

Students completing awards from Certificate III to Graduate Diploma will find themselves increasingly equipped with a balanced understanding of the Word of God, development of their personal growth, a stronger relationship with God, and fit for ministry both presently and long into the future. Our goal is to satisfy the criteria set out in scripture –

Study earnestly to present yourself approved to God, a workman who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth. (2 Ti 2:15)

Biblical Theology

The Vision Colleges Biblical Theology program is faith-building, challenging, and sound both biblically and academically. It is conservative, evangelical, and charismatic.

Our approach embraces Biblical Theology¹⁴, which deals with the great ideas presented in scripture. Subjects are offered to the student by topic. The student enjoys a higher level of flexibility of the subjects, which allows us to tailor a course to suit a particular ministry/student need without compromising the integrity of the course.

This approach also adds to the sense of a genuinely non-denominational Bible College to our ministry.

Elective Units: Practical Theology

These Elective Units or Practical Theology Units are taken from the *Community Service* and related fields. They are selected primarily to develop the practical skills required for those who desire to enter the ministry or to serve the church in some capacity.

Each of the awards requires a number of these units.

The practical nature of these units builds vital practical ministry skills onto the strong spiritual foundation gained from the Theology studies.

These units are used for religious and secular qualifications in various fields of employment. This acceptance adds to the attraction of the Vision Colleges awards as they address many administrative,

¹⁴ For definitions on the types of theology utilised by *Vision* see our section “Types of Theology”

legal, social and community responsibilities while developing a sense of professional excellence in the student.

By developing a Practical Theology within each unit, a robust Christian emphasis is applied to them, making them ideal for ministry training.

Units have been selected by Vision to satisfy the course; however, alternative options are available, allowing students to tailor the course to meet their needs. The full range of options are at the end of this book

Furthermore, our *practical experience units* allow the value of a student's work as a local church member to be used as legitimate RPL credit. Their experience can be used as a part of the student's assessment in *Recognised Prior Learning*.

Competency-Based Vocational Training

Competency-based vocational training perfectly complements our local church and community commitment to training. Distant education students affirm competency by collecting and submitting a portfolio of evidence of practical work and assignments to Vision Colleges. The student is not required to memorize and repeat information but rather demonstrate that they are competent in essential skills for vocational ministry.

We believe that this practical training is best accomplished in the local church context. Who better to help train Christians for ministry than those familiar men and women on the "coal face" of ministry – their pastors.

Five Values of Competency-Based Vocational Ministry Training

Vision Colleges affirms the following values for vocational ministry training.

Christ

All teaching will be centred in Christ — seeking to bring students into a Christ-like life and mindset.

Community

Training will be carried out and proven in the context of community life (relationships). The student's ministerial vocation will be expressed and worked out in their daily life in various communities: family, church, society, and the broader community of the world.

Character

Building strong character will be the goal of all training, not just an accumulation of knowledge. The indwelling life of Christ expressed and worked out in the community will develop godly character.

Calling

A divine calling will be observed, developed, and proven within the immediate context of the community.

Competency

Competency in a particular area of life and ministry is developed and nurtured in a loving community environment demonstrated by practical, hands-on training in the immediate context of the local church and community.

SUGGESTED STUDY METHOD

Distance education students study in their preferred place of study and necessity self-paced. There are many advantages to distance education and many pitfalls; chief among them is the need to maintain a consistent study regime.

Typically, the student must complete one subject per month determined by the award being undertaken. A maximum of ten subjects shall be completed. With a bit of discipline, a student can comfortably complete one unit per month and have time for a vacation in any given year.

For each award level, the student must complete a maximum of 6 Theology units and 2-4 Elective units determined by the award. These Elective Units are strengthened and Christianised with the application of Practical Theology.

Month	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
Unit 1	Theology											
Unit 2		Elective										
Unit 3			Theology									
Unit 4				Theology								
Unit 5					Elective							
Unit 6						Theology						
Unit 7							Theology					
Unit 8								Elective				
Unit 9									Theology			
Unit 10										Elective		

Key Theology = CMTTHE/CMTMIN Studies
 Elective = Community-Based project with an associated theological subject.

The table above offers a guide for completing a course. We recommend that students should be completing a “Theology” unit followed by an “Elective” subject, then by 2 “Theology” units, followed by an Elective unit until the course is completed.

Subjects should be ordered monthly, even if the student has not completed their previous subject. This process will help pace the student, balance their study regime and establish a study pattern early in the program.

Vision Colleges does not have school terms. The “First Month” is when the student enrolls in the course.

Study Materials

Vision Colleges has nominated subjects to satisfy the requirements of the Theology Units. A textbook, assignment materials and instructions are provided for each unit.

For the Elective Units or “**Ministry Skills**”, the student can choose to undertake their studies by hardcopy or through our online training portal. They will receive a workbook or instructions to access the Vision Training Portal.

Students completing the Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma program will be required to purchase additional materials due to the higher level of research needed for the course.

The student may discuss with the Principal or the Registrar the option of substituting subjects provided that the substitute subject satisfies the requirements of the unit. The decision of the Principal on the choice of a substitute is final.

Ordering A Subject

Students can order and pay for their entire course if they prefer to do so. We encourage students to order and pay for their subjects as they go.

As each student learns at their own pace, they are responsible for ordering their subjects as required.

Subjects must be paid for when they are ordered unless special arrangements are made with the Registrar and endorsed by the Principal. A student may order by phone, mail, or email. or through our website

Fees can be paid in cash, by cheque, money order, or credit card. Vision Colleges can make arrangements for a regular payment plan or Direct Deposit.

First Subject

When a student enrolls into *Vision Colleges*, the first subject in the chosen award level is sent by overnight express unless the student requests an alternative subject.

Subsequent Subject

Students are encouraged to contact the college directly when ready to order their next subject and provide payment details. They can do so by:

1. Telephone 02 9603 2077
2. By email to registrar@visioncolleges.net
3. From the appropriate pages on our website:
<https://visioncolleges.edu.au/study/accredited/>
4. Unless otherwise requested, the “next” subject in the curriculum will be sent to the student.

We recommend that remote students who receive hard copy material order their “next” subject two weeks into their current subject to minimise waiting time.

ADVANCED STANDING

Vision Colleges is committed to the idea that students should not have to undertake learning that has already been accomplished. We fully embrace advanced standing principles in the form of academic credits and RPL.

Vision Colleges is committed to assisting candidates in whatever way possible throughout their application for advanced standing.

Academic Credit

1. **Academic Credit.**

If the student has completed subjects at another college, they should present their academic transcript for assessment. The college will assess the transcript and advise the student of the level of advanced standing available.

Recognised Prior Learning

2. **Recognised Prior Learning (RPL)**

If students can demonstrate prior competence in a unit, they should request an application form from the Registrar. Complete the forms and submit their evidence. The college will assess the evidence and advise the student of the level of RPL available

For more detailed information on RPL or Credit Transfer, contact the Registrar of the College.

Vision Colleges is committed to assisting candidates in whatever way possible throughout their application.

ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

Assessment Options

Competency-based training allows for diverse methods of assessment processes. *Vision Colleges* acknowledges and accepts these principles. We offer the following as standard options for students to ensure that they can address all the study and training program issues.

Any student may request an alternative assessment method and discuss this with the assessor. The decision of the assessor is final on the process of the evaluation.

Pre-requisites/Co-requisites

1. There are no pre-requisites listed for any competency.
2. There are no co-requisites, i.e., competencies that must be taught concurrently.

In conducting competency-based training, *Vision Colleges* follows the National Assessment Principles.

Assessment Codes

Competency-based assessment will apply, and coding will be.

1. S Satisfactory, or
2. NYS Not Yet Satisfactory

Theology Units

1. Multiple Choice Questionnaires.
2. Student Study Guide.
3. Essays.

Elective Units

1. A set workbook of assignments in the workbook accompanied a portfolio of evidence pieces.
2. A series of exercises as presented in the Training Portal

Suggested Assessment Strategies.

1. Practical demonstration and simulations.
2. Questioning and discussion.
3. Written responses.
4. Portfolio of evidence.

Assessment Methods

1. Written plays.
2. A written for and against essay.
3. Case Studies.
4. Tests – short answer and multiple choice.
5. Written reports.
6. Projects.
7. Essays.
8. Consideration of third party reports (such as Congregational Support Team or pastoral supervisor).
9. Other exercises appropriate to the unit of competency.

Assessment Adjustments

In accordance with the College Access and Equity policy, adjustments can be made to the assessment process to ensure that equitable judgments are made. Adjustments may include:

- Provision of personal support services such as an interpreter, a carer or a scribe where appropriate or available.
- Use of adaptive technology such as a word processor voice or video recorder.

- Design shorter assessment sessions to allow for fatigue, medical condition or certain medications.
- Use larger print versions of any papers or notes for those who may need them.

When the assessor is aware that adjustments of these types are required, they will be noted in the student's records.

Assessment Procedure

Assignments are assessed in the *Vision Colleges* office in Minto, N.S.W. or with a local *Vision Colleges* assessor. Arrangements may be made to evaluate the student at their location.

Upon receipt of assignments, the work is to be saved in the student's folder

- Electronic work is saved "as is" directly into the student folder
- Hardcopy is scanned and saved directly into the student folder

The work is forwarded to the assessor for assessment

- As the work is assessed, comments are made within the documents to advise and guide the student.
- An informal copy of results is recorded in a spreadsheet template as "*SUBJECT_Name* answer template."
- Upon the successful completion of their work, the student/subject cover sheet is signed by the assessor
- forwarded to the Registrar for entry into the student database
- the student is advised of successful completion of the unit

If the work is not yet satisfactory:

- notations are made in the "*SUBJECT_Name* answer template."
- The student is sent advice of unsuccessful completion of the unit and advised of work to be completed.

Final Subject

Upon completing the final subject, the Registrar shall produce the transcript and award and send them to the student.

Assessment Appeal

Vision Colleges offers students every opportunity to respond if they feel that the assessment process has been unfair or if they feel disadvantaged.

Appeal Procedure

Students are free to initially discuss any issues of appeal with the Assessor to resolve any problems.

If the student feels the need to take this further, a formal appeal can be lodged with the Registrar. Appeal Forms are available from the Registrar. Appeals are to be submitted within 14 days of the student receiving the assessment results.

The Registrar will discuss the appeal with the Assessor to resolve the issue. The Registrar shall advise the student that a review process has been set in motion. Such advice must be made within seven days of the appeal being lodged.

The Assessor will undertake a re-evaluation of the assessment process with the Registrar, taking the student's comments into account.

If the Assessor and Registrar feel that the assessment decision should remain, the Registrar shall advise the student.

If changes to the assessment process are required, they shall be made and recorded. The student’s results shall be re-assessed with the new criteria. The student advised of the outcome.

No charge or fee of any kind is applied to any appeal of the assessment.

Plagiarism

We encourage students to research and seek answers to their assignments from the textbook and other sources. Sources must be correctly quoted.

The work of others appropriately sourced is a legitimate form of research and study. However, we view plagiarism as a serious offence and is not condoned by the college in any way, shape or form.

According to the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary¹⁵, to "plagiarize" means:

1. To steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own.
2. To use (another's production) without crediting the source.
3. To commit literary theft.
4. To present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.

Plagiarism is an act of fraud. It involves stealing someone else's work and claiming it as your own.

Any student engaging in plagiarism may be expelled from the college, and all academic standing will be forfeit, at least for the plagiarism subject. Anyone who participates in plagiarism risks legal action from the original author.

Course Grading Policies

“Competency¹⁶” is the standard required for a student to complete a subject.

Competency typically requires the completion of at least two assessments dependent on the subject being undertaken.

Multiple-choice Assessment

1. Multiple choice pass mark is 70% (when the questionnaire is greater than 50 questions.)
2. Multiple choice plus essay pass mark is 70% (when a questionnaire is less than 50 questions.)
The final result is a combination of the Multiple Choice result and the result of the essay.
3. The percentage value of the essay is the balance between the total number of questions and 100.
A spreadsheet uses a formula to determine the final mark and avoid miscalculation.

1. Student Study Guide

Element	Possible Total
Formatting.....	10
Scripture References	10
Supporting References	10
Chapter Summary	10
Chapter Reflections.....	10
Depth of Answer	25
Relevance of Answers.....	25
Total Possible Result.....	100

2. Assignment Report

Element	Possible Total
Formatting.....	10
Scripture Reference	10

¹⁵ <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/plagiarize>

¹⁶ Having suitable or sufficient skill, knowledge, experience, etc., for some purpose; properly qualified: He is perfectly **competent** to manage the bank branch. Adequate but not exceptional.

Supporting Evidence30
 Content Relevance50
Total Possible Result100

3. Other written report, (essay, discussion paper, etc)

Element	Possible Total
Formatting	10
Length	10
Scripture Reference	15
Supporting references	15
Content Relevance	50
Total Possible Result	100

Vision Colleges has more than 45 years of experience in a worldwide ministry reaching 155 nations with a widely diverse student body of more than 150,000 students per annum.

This student body demonstrates that a 70% pass mark in a Vision Colleges theology subject is satisfactory and verifiable through the many churches and denominations accepting our graduates into formal ministry.

Therefore, for assessment, 70% = 100% competence. This 30% margin also allows for the recognition of excellence in the student.

Quality Management Focus

Vision Colleges is committed to providing a quality service. We focus on continuous improvement, including feedback from our students and staff for possible inclusion in our development.

Client Service

We have sound management principles to ensure effective client service. In particular, our client service standards ensure a timely issue of student assessment results and qualifications.

Our quality focus includes *the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Policy, a fair and equitable Refund Policy, a Grievance and Appeal Policy, Access and Equity Policy, and Student Welfare and Guidance* options.

Our information ensures that charges are made known to students before enrolment; all course content and assessment procedures are explained, and vocational outcomes are outlined.

Assessment Standards

Vision Colleges has personnel with appropriate qualifications and experience to assess the student competency relevant to the training.

Graduation Ceremony/Celebration Service

We recognise the value of a graduation ceremony for students and the level of self-esteem that a graduation service provides.

However, as a distance education provider, certain factors make it difficult to hold a formal graduation service for some students. Our student body is scattered and in remote places, and we do not have an official start or finish date. Hence, we offer the following options to those students who graduate:

1. We send the award to your pastor (or other designated person) who will formally present the award during a church service, which may or may not be a formal Graduation Service, but will provide an opportunity for the recognition of the student’s achievements or,
2. Upon invitation, our staff will come to your church to present the award either in a regular church service or at a Graduation Service, or,
3. We send the award, transcript and congratulatory letter by mail.

ARTICULATION AND CREDIT TRANSFER

Articulation/Credit Transfer Details

Graduates who have received one of our awards may receive credit towards higher qualifications offered by a variety of RTO's and Higher Education Providers. Graduates will need to negotiate this on an individual basis.

Credit Transfer of units completed from a National Training Package will be available, provided that it is allowed within the stated rules of the Training Package.

Graduates with the Graduate Diploma may apply to the University of South Africa to enter into their distance education Masters of Theology studies.

Training/Education/Career Pathways

A learner can progress from entry-level training to a professional-level Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma with Vision Colleges.

There is a formal arrangement with the Texas University of Theology and Vision International University to articulate into the Bachelors' Completion from the Christian Ministry and Theology diploma.

There is a formal arrangement with Tabor College allowing graduates of *Vision Colleges* with the Advanced Diploma have a clear pathway to the Bachelor of Ministry degree at Tabor College.

ACCREDITED COURSE SYLLABI

Certificate III & IV, Diploma, & Advanced Diploma Graduate Certificate & Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry & Theology



Christian Ministry and Theology
 10741NAT Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology
 10742NAT Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology
 10743NAT Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology
 10744NAT Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology
 10745NAT Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry and Theology
 10746NAT Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology



Vision International College

NTIS ID: 90862

Award Outlines

A student must complete the required units for each award. *Vision Colleges* subjects have been selected to satisfy the study requirements for each theology unit from Certificate III to the Advanced Diploma. These subjects provide students with a bonus library of at least 30 reference books which will serve them throughout their Christian ministry, assuming they complete the entire program.

The elective units selected from the Community Service and allied courses are Christianised through Practical Theology.

Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma students will be required to source and purchase additional study material and books in addition to the content provided by Vision.

The student may discuss with the Principal or Registrar the option of substituting subject provided that the substitute meets the requirements of the study unit. The decision of the Principal on the choice of an alternative is final.

An outline description of the Vision Colleges subjects can be found under Theology Units further in this book.

Strength of the Christian Ministry and Theology Program

- The combination of both ministry and theological training in one course.
- The courses are flexible enough to be delivered in many church groups and Christian ministry contexts.
- Flexibility of elective choice is essential.
- The courses can be customised to suit the needs of the setting and adapted to different interpretations of the Bible and different Christian beliefs.
- The courses provide Christian Ministry and Theology pathways for those not interested in or not ready for higher education qualifications.
- The stepped progression of qualifications and core competencies is helpful to support the increasing depth of knowledge and skill requirements at higher levels of responsibility.
- Combining theological learning with practical ministry skills effectively balances participants and supports career pathways.
- Certificate III focuses on the personal formation that is helpful at this level, particularly for younger participants.

- Competency outcomes of individual units are appropriate and consistent with AQF levels.

Employability Skills

Employability skills are those skills identified by a particular industry as necessary to perform the required tasks that a graduate should undertake effectively. These same skills have similar value in other areas of the industry, offering a cross-industry value.

The identified employability skills are listed below. While familiar with each award offered by *Vision Colleges*, these skills are developed to a greater depth of competency for each succeeding award.

- Communication.
- Teamwork.
- Problem-solving.
- Initiative and enterprise.
- Planning and organising.
- Self-management.
- Learning.
- Technology.

Vocational Options and recognition of the courses

The list below is indicative only and taken from a broad sweep of denominations. Each denomination reserves the right to determine the level of qualifications required to fulfil any particular role.

Vision Colleges is an independent Bible college. Many Christian Churches and denominations accept *Vision Colleges* for training purposes.

Due to the diverse requirements of individual denominations, *Vision Colleges* cannot and does not offer or guarantee to any student or graduate any posting to any church or missions organisation. Such a determination is the role of the churches and or organisations to which they are applying.

Application and inquiries to these bodies must be made in person by the student/graduate.

Vocational Options Of The Course						
Job Role	Certificate III	Certificate IV	Diploma	Advanced Diploma	Vocational Graduate Certificate	Vocational Graduate Diploma
Ministry Worker	✓	✓				
Religious Instructor	✓	✓	✓			
Minister/Pastor		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Missionary Worker		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Work placements

It is helpful but not required for a student to be involved in a local church or community-based program under competent leadership.

The student should document their work experience for each unit to provide evidence of competencies.

Emphasis

The Certificate IV and the Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology can be taken with an emphasis in Chaplaincy or Christian Counselling.

To satisfy their study requirements the student will select alternative subjects from the *Vision Colleges* “Counselling Stream” for the doctrine subjects in the Cert IV or Diploma

To satisfy the study requirement for the elective units the student shall select alternative subjects from the Alternative Elective Units for the award level.

The decision of the Principal on the suitability of the choice will be final.

CERTIFICATE III IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

Certificate III is the first step in an exciting journey of discovery into the word of God and preparation for ministry. No study can impact the life of a person as the study and application of the Word of God. Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology is the platform that will launch you into a deeper and more exciting relationship with God, the church and his people.

Pre-requisites

There are no formal academic requirements for enrolling in Certificate III. However, knowledge of the English language sufficient to read your preferred version of the Bible is desirable.

The ability to complete the Formal Application form unaided demonstrates a sufficient level of formation skills.

An LL&N¹⁷ test may be required to determine eligibility to enter the course.

The course can be completed in one year as a Distance Education study program; the time frame is a guide only dependent on the student's capacity and the circumstances for study.

Government Support

Certificate III attracts Austudy, AbStudy and Youth Allowance for eligible Australian students.

The purposes of this course:

This course provides participants with entry-level knowledge and skills that deepens their understanding of Christian theology. They will be able to perform limited functions associated with serving in a Christian church group or ministry context:

- Knowledge of theological sources
- Understanding of theological information
- Understanding of Christian practice
- Skills to identify theological insights
- Ability to communicate theology effectively
- Qualify individuals to serve in church groups and other ministry contexts within a broad range of defined roles and in accordance with the values, procedures and practise guidelines of those church groups and Christian ministry contexts, or

To provide a pathway for further learning by progression to a higher level of qualifications developed in conjunction with this Course, particularly to the Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology.

Graduates of this course will have acquired knowledge related to fundamental, basic beliefs of church groups relevant to specific Christian ministry contexts.

The graduates of this course will also have gained skills consistent with the Certificate III AQF descriptor, such as the ability to:

- Interpret information related to basic Christian beliefs;
- Propose what actions are appropriate in a limited range of life and ministry situations based on interpretations about Christian beliefs;
- Provide some information related to Christian beliefs and understandings to some Christian and some non-Christian audiences;
- Fulfil relatively informal roles, and some more formal roles with higher expectations and requirements, within the Christian ministry sector.

¹⁷ See section on LL&N

Graduates of this course will demonstrate the application of the knowledge and skills they have gained:

- By using some discretion and judgement when advising others on possible courses of action in life or ministry-related situations;
- By adapting some approaches, they have gained by studying Christian concepts and beliefs to a limited range of subjects and topics.

The graduate will have factual, technical, procedural, and some theoretical knowledge of Christian Ministry and Theology and apply knowledge and skills to demonstrate autonomy and judgment and take limited responsibility in known and stable ministry contexts within established parameters. They will complete routine activities and provide and transmit solutions to predictable and sometimes unpredictable problems within a Christian Ministry environment.

Subjects have been selected to establish a sound biblical base and a secure ministry foundation. Our combination of theology and elective skills makes this the ideal starting point for students seeking to develop their skills for ministry.

The Christian Ministry and Theology qualifications are well designed and highly suitable for their purpose. They are broad and flexible enough for customisation while remaining specific for the Christian Ministry and Theology sector.

Certificate III is suited to:

The Certificate III Christian Ministry and Theology is higher within the education system than the Senior School Leaving Certificate.

It is the first year of formal Bible College study.

It is suitable for those students who:

- This course develops Christians' spiritual formation and growth through biblical studies and theological discourse. It equips them with the necessary skills to serve effectively in their local churches, para-church organisations and other Christian ministries.
- It is used to equip students for initial entry into ministry, internships, and service in their community, local churches and mission fields, resulting in improved ministry skills and knowledge for volunteers and entry-level ministry staff.
- To train men and women to share Jesus with the world.
- Provides an entrance point for young Christians who may want to learn more or move into ministry or further study in this field.
- It provides the essential foundations for biblical knowledge and literacy, theological frameworks and spiritual reflection.
- It increases familiarity with and interpretation of the scriptures, provides personal views and engages others outside the faith community.
- This course supports leaders and laypeople assisting in parishes in ministry and pastoral care to understand Christian Ministry and Theology. The course is a learning pathway for those who wish to pursue theology and ministry studies at University who may not have studied for a while.
- These qualifications are used as the equipping program for Church of Christ members, providing a training pathway to higher education for those aspiring to senior leadership and ministry roles.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members of the Uniting Church in Australia who are training for lay ministries (e.g. Pastor, lay preacher, etc.) undertake either Cert III or Cert IV in Christian Ministry and Theology. Students studying for ordained ministry must complete Cert IV and Diploma in Christian Ministry and Theology.
- It is used to train and develop young people in leadership, youth and church ministry.

The subjects

Theology subjects develop a sound foundation for Christian life and work. They assist Christians in growing in their knowledge of God and the scriptures, understanding their faith, and their ability to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

The elective subjects are appropriate for those who are:

- Starting formal involvement in church or ministry activities, or
- For those who are involved in ministry under the direct oversight of a mentor or staff member
- Are equally appropriate for those entering the secular workforce.

The student will complete the units as follow 6 Biblical Theology subjects, identified as “CMT” units and 2 Elective Units: Practical Theology

VIC has nominated subjects to satisfy the units.

Biblical Theology Subjects

Students are supplied with a textbook, assignments and complete instructions to complete the subject satisfactorily

1. **Dynamic Christian Foundations.**
2. **New Testament Survey.**
3. **Great Words of the Gospel.**
4. **Old Testament Survey.**
5. **Faith Dynamics.**
6. **Clothed with Power.**

Students may request alternative options for the theology subjects from the Principal or Registrar provided that the choice satisfied the requirement of the units. The decision of the Principal on the alternative will be final.

Elective Units: Practical Theology

See elective units: Practical Theology Cert III

1. **Organise Ministry Priorities.**
2. **Assisting Ministry Activities.**

There are two options to complete the elective units

3. Through our “Online Training Portal”. The portal provides the student with a comprehensive and interactive learning and training program. Various assignments are presented to teach and determine competency in the units required. Detailed instructions and access are provided to students by VIC as they enter into the subject.

A preview of the Vision Colleges Training Portal is available as the [Student User Guide](https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e)
<https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>

4. If a student is unable to access the internet or is uncomfortable with online learning, the unit is available in hard copy as a workbook with written assignments

The minimum number of elective units to be undertaken for this award is two. The minimum nominal hours must not be less than 40, regardless of the subjects selected.

Students may request alternative subjects for the elective units from the elective options. See section **Elective Skills Units VIC**. The decision of the Principal on the choice will be final.

It is helpful but not required for a student to be involved in a local church or community-based program under competent leadership. The student should document their work experience for each unit to provide evidence of competencies.

CERT III EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS:

Communication

- Communicating some Christian concepts by writing and speaking to Christian and non-Christian audiences.
- Recognising views and opinions that differ from one's own beliefs.
- Reading and interpreting theological material.
- Presenting theological information to groups.

Teamwork

- Working effectively with people from various backgrounds, e.g. age, gender, race, faith or political persuasion.
- Recognising one's strengths in a Christian ministry team situation.

Problem-solving

- Developing effective techniques for communicating Christian teaching in different settings.
- Reflecting on and relaying answers to questions about Christian beliefs and practice.
- Identifying solutions to predictable problems related to ministry practice by applying the teaching of scripture.

Initiative and enterprise

- Identifying opportunities to better engage with individuals and groups regarding Christianity and Christian life today.
- Planning and organising
- Planning and delivering talks about Christian faith within a prescribed timeframe.
- Collecting and preparing theological information for delivery to an audience.

Self-management

- Taking the time to be personally prepared before leading in a ministry setting.
- Recognising own personal vision and goals within a ministry situation.
- Responding to community members from all backgrounds and beliefs in a non-judgemental and respectful manner.

Learning

- Openness to new ideas relating to Christian faith and practice.
- Engaging with others to gain new insights and personal revelation within a ministry setting.
- Preparedness to investigate one's theological tradition and that of others.

Technology

- Use basic communication technology skills and equipment to contact community members, plan Christian Ministry work, prepare presentations, and research essential matters relevant to Christian Ministry.

CERTIFICATE IV IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

Certificate IV Christian Ministry and Theology are suitable for those continuing from Certificate III or who enter into the course with advanced standing.

Certificate IV continues and extends a vibrant faith-building journey in the Word of God, developing a greater depth of understanding and relationship with God and his word.

Students continuing from Certificate III, Certificate IV builds on the themes, skills, and knowledge presented in Certificate III. Certificate III is not a pre-requisite for Certificate IV.

The course can be completed in one year as a Distance Education study program; the time frame is a guide only depending on the student's capacity and the circumstances for study.

Prerequisite:

There are no formal academic requirements to begin this course. However, a sound knowledge of the English language sufficient to read your preferred version of the Bible is desirable, along with an ability to demonstrate a reasonable understanding of the word of God and some verifiable ministry experience with a pastoral recommendation, or the Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology. An LL&N test may be required to determine eligibility to enter the course. Government Support

Government Support

Certificate IV attracts Austudy, AbStudy and Youth Allowance for eligible Australian students.

Purpose of the course

This course is intended to provide participants with a range of knowledge and skills to perform the following functions in a Christian ministry context:

- identify, interpret and compare information related to basic Christian beliefs
- provide information related to Christian beliefs and understandings to some Christian and some non-Christian audiences
- propose what actions are appropriate in a range of life and ministry situations based on interpretations of Christian beliefs

The graduate will have theoretical and practical knowledge of Christian Ministry and Theology. They will select and apply a broad range of knowledge and skills to a specific area or a broad field within Christian Ministry. They will be able to complete routine and non-routine activities and provide and transmit solutions to predictable and sometimes unpredictable problems within a Christian Ministry environment.

The purpose of this course is to either:

- qualify individuals to serve in church groups and other ministry contexts within a broad range of specialised roles and in accordance with the values, procedures and practice guidelines of those church groups and Christian ministry contexts
- provide a pathway for further learning by progression to a higher level of qualifications developed in conjunction with this Course, and in particular, to the Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology

Graduates of this course will have acquired broad knowledge related to fundamental beliefs of church groups and some knowledge of groups holding other views relevant to specific Christian ministry contexts.

The graduates of this course will also have gained skills consistent with the Certificate IV AQF descriptor, such as the ability to:

- identify, interpret and compare information related to basic Christian beliefs

- propose what actions are appropriate in a range of life and ministry situations based on interpretations of Christian beliefs
- provide information related to Christian beliefs and understandings to some Christian and some non-Christian audiences
- fulfil informal roles and more formal roles with some level of leadership and increasing expectations and requirements within the Christian ministry sector

Graduates of this Course will demonstrate the application of the knowledge and skills they have gained:

- by using considered judgement when advising others on possible courses of action in a range of life or ministry-related situations
- by adapting approaches they have attained to the study of Christian concepts and beliefs to a range of subjects and topics

Certificate IV is suited to:

Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology is an “Advanced Standing Entry Level” and is a prerequisite for the Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology.

This course is suitable for those continuing with formal Bible College studies and or having some experience in ministry and are preparing for Christian ministry or service.

Subjects selected will further develop a sound biblical base and build upon an established ministry foundation. Our combination of theology and Elective skills make this the ideal course for those involved in and seeking to develop their formal ministry skills.

It is suitable for those students who:

- This course supports the development of Christians in their spiritual formation and growth through biblical studies and theological discourse. It equips them with the necessary skills to serve effectively in their local churches, para-church organisations and other Christian ministries.
- It is used to equip students for initial entry into ministry, internships, and service in their community, local churches and mission fields, resulting in improved ministry skills and knowledge for volunteers and entry-level ministry staff.
- To train men and women to share Jesus with the world
- The enterprise units are generic enough to provide a framework allowing relevant denominational information to be incorporated into the program.
- Provides an entrance point for Christians who may want to learn more or move into ministry or further study in this field.
- The Christian Ministry and Theology qualifications are very well designed, highly suitable for this purpose. They are broad and flexible enough for customisation while remaining specific enough for the Christian Ministry and Theology sector.
- It provides the essential foundations for biblical knowledge and literacy, theological frameworks and spiritual reflection.
- It increases familiarity and interpretation of the Scriptures, allows personal views, and engages others outside the faith community.

The subjects

The theology subjects continue to develop a sound understanding and depth of knowledge in the word of God for Christian life in their ability to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

The elective subjects are appropriate for someone already involved in a ministry with some responsibility while subject to pastoral oversight, such as a youth leader, women or men's ministry leader, other ministry department leader.

The student will complete the following units:

- 6 Units of Biblical Theology, identified as "CMT" units.
- 3 Elective Units: Practical Theology.

VIC has nominated subjects to satisfy the units. Students may request alternative subjects provided they fulfil the unit elements. The decision of the Principal on the substitution request is final.

Biblical Theology Subjects.

Students are supplied with a textbook, assignments and complete instructions to complete the subject satisfactorily

1. **Royal Priesthood**
2. **Authenticity and Authority of the Bible**
3. **Highly Exalted.**
4. **The Cross and the Crown**
5. **Christian Life**
6. **Equipped to Serve**

Students may request alternative options for the Theology subjects from the Principal or registrar provided that the choice satisfied the requirement of the units. The decision of the Principal on the choice will be final.

Elective Units: Practical Theology

See elective units: Practical Theology Cert IV

1. **Develop Ministry Priorities**
2. **Christian Communications I**
3. **Planning Ministry Activities**

There are two options to complete the elective units

1. Through our "Online Training Portal". The portal provides the student with a comprehensive and interactive learning and training program. Various assignments are presented to teach and determine competency in the units required. Detailed instructions and access are provided to students by VIC as they enter into the subject.

A preview of the Vision Colleges Training Portal is available as the [Student User Guide](#)

<https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>

2. If a student is unable to access the internet or is uncomfortable with online learning, the unit is available in hard copy as a workbook with written assignments

The minimum number of practical units to be undertaken for this award is three. The minimum nominal practicum hours must not be less than 80, regardless of the units selected.

Students may request alternative subjects for the elective units from the elective options. See the section **Elective Skills Units VIC**. The decision of the Principal on the choice will be final.

It is helpful but not required for a student to be involved in a local church or community-based program under competent leadership. They should document their work experience to assist in establishing competencies.

CERT IV EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Communication

- Communicating Christian concepts and practice clearly using language suited to the audience.
- Communicating skills to discuss theological beliefs and implications.
- Comprehension skills to identify and compare different theological beliefs, opinions and sources.

Teamwork

- Working effectively with people from a variety of backgrounds, e.g. age, gender, race, faith or political persuasion.
- Working within Christian ministry teams and provide some leadership within defined scope.
- Working with a range networks within Christian communities

Problem solving

- Developing effective techniques for communicating Christian teaching in different settings.
- Reflecting on and applying answers to questions about Christian beliefs and practice.
- Identifying solutions to predictable and unpredictable problems related to ministry practice by applying the teaching of scripture.

Initiative and enterprise

- Identifying opportunities to better engage with individuals and groups regarding Christianity and Christian life today.
- Recognising and using different approaches for interpreting theological information.

Planning and organising

- Collecting, analysing and organising theological information for delivery to an audience.
- Collecting and preparing information on theological, ethical and social issues for use in a Christian ministry setting.

Self-management

- Taking the time to be personally prepared before leading in a ministry setting.
- Reflecting on one's ministry practice and identifying opportunities to improve.
- Responding to community members from all backgrounds and beliefs in a non-judgemental and respectful manner.

Learning

- Willingness to consider new ideas about Christian faith and practice, and their implications for personal faith perspective.
- Recognising, locating and using resources for basic theological research.

Technology

- Using communication technology skills and equipment to contact community members, plan Christian Ministry work, prepare presentations, and research matters relevant to Christian Ministry

DIPLOMA OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

For students continuing from Certificate IV or who enter into the course with advanced standing, the Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology continues and extends their learning and skills development. It enhances faith in, and understanding of God's Word and will strengthen their ministry at a local and corporate level.

The course can be completed in one year as a Distance Education study program; the time frame is a guide only depending on the student's capacity and study circumstances.

The course includes a broad range of challenging, faith-building, and biblically-based studies relevant for personal, pastoral, church and community life.

Students will learn to apply biblical principles to their daily lives and explain and share those Christian truths with others.

Pre-requisites

Preferred:

- Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology or similar bible college studies and or
- A minimum of two years of verifiable ministry experience with a pastoral recommendation and or
- The ability to demonstrate a sound understanding of the Word of God.

Purpose of the course

This course is intended to provide participants with a range of knowledge and skills to perform the following functions within a Christian ministry context:

- Interpret, analyse and apply integrated concepts related to Christian beliefs;
- Provide considered information and ideas related to Christian beliefs and teachings to Christian and non-Christian audiences;
- Provide leadership to Christians based on demonstrated understanding of Christianity.

Graduates will be able to apply integrated theoretical concepts and skills related to theological beliefs of church groups and knowledge of groups holding other views relevant to Christian ministry contexts.

The purpose of this course is to either:

- Qualify individuals to serve and lead in church groups and other ministry contexts within a broad range of specialised independent roles and in accordance with the values, procedures and practice guidelines of those church groups and Christian ministry contexts, or
- To provide a pathway for further learning by progression to a higher level of qualifications developed in conjunction with this course, and in particular, to the Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology

Graduates of this course will have acquired specialised knowledge related to the beliefs of church groups and an understanding of groups holding other views relevant to Christian ministry contexts.

Graduates of this course will also have gained skills consistent with the Diploma AQF descriptor, such as the ability to:

- Analyse information related to Christian beliefs
- Provide guidance and leadership in a range of life and ministry situations based on more advanced interpretations of Christian beliefs
- Provide considered information related to Christian beliefs and understandings to some Christian and some non-Christian audiences
- Provide solutions to some complex theological problems

- Fulfil more formal roles with increasing leadership responsibilities, expectations and requirements, within the Christian ministry sector

Graduates of this Course will demonstrate the application of the knowledge and skills they have gained:

- By more independent judgement when advising others on possible courses of action in a range of life or ministry-related situations
- By applying more advanced, flexible approaches, they have gained to the study of Christian concepts and beliefs to a broad range of advanced subjects and topics
- Take responsibility for ministry situations with changing contexts within general organisational parameters

The Diploma is suited to:

The Diploma is preferred for those engaged in or preparing for pastoral ministry. It is expected but not required that students work in decision-making roles while answerable to a senior minister. They may be involved in church or Christian work and service at an eldership, Assistant Pastor or Pastoral ministry;

- This course supports the development of Christians in their spiritual formation and growth through biblical studies and theological discourse. It equips them with the necessary skills to serve effectively in their local churches, para-church organisations and other Christian ministries.
- It is used to equip students for initial entry into ministry, internships, and service in their community, local churches and mission fields, resulting in improved ministry skills and knowledge for volunteers and entry-level ministry staff.
- To train men and women to share Jesus with the world.
- Provides an entrance point for Christians who may want to move into ministry or further study in this field.
- The Christian Ministry and Theology qualifications are very well designed, highly suitable for this purpose. They are broad and flexible enough for customisation while remaining specific enough for the Christian Ministry and Theology sector.
- It provides the essential foundations for biblical knowledge and literacy, theological frameworks and spiritual reflection.
- It increases familiarity and interpretation of the Scriptures, allows personal views, and engages others outside the faith community.

The subjects

The Theology subjects continue to develop a sound understanding and depth of knowledge. They require a more significant level of research in the word of God to strengthen their Christian life and ability to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

The elective subjects are appropriate for someone involved in ministry at a senior level, such as the pastor or seeking to be qualified for a pastoral ministry.

The student will complete the following units –

- 6 Units of Biblical Theology, identified as “CMT” units.
- 4 Elective Units: Practical Theology

VIC has nominated subjects to satisfy the units. Students may request alternative subjects provided they fulfil the unit elements. The decision of the Principal on the substitution request is final.

Biblical Theology Subjects.

Students are supplied with a textbook, assignments and complete instructions to complete the subject satisfactorily

1. **The Blood Covenant of God.**
2. **Principles of Praise and Worship.**
3. **Treasures from Paul Corinthians.**
4. **The Church.**
5. **Dazzling Secrets for Despondent Saints.**
6. **Understanding your Bible.**

Students may request alternative options for the Theology subjects from the Principal or Registrar provided that the choice satisfied the requirement of the units. The decision of the Principal on the choice will be final.

Elective Units: Practical Theology

See elective units: Practical Theology Diploma

1. **Administration in the local Church.**
2. **Christian Communications II.**
3. **Networking for ministry.**
4. **Church and Ministry Safety.**

There are two options to complete the elective units

1. Through our “Online Training Portal”. The portal provides the student with a comprehensive and interactive learning and training program. Various assignments are presented to teach and determine competency in the units required. Detailed instructions and access are provided to students by VIC as they enter into the subject.

A preview of the Vision Colleges Training Portal is available as the [Student User Guide](#)
<https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>

2. If a student is unable to access the internet or is uncomfortable with online learning, the unit is available in hard copy as a workbook with written assignments

The minimum number of practical units to be undertaken for this award is 4. The minimum nominal practicum hours must not be less than 190, regardless of the units selected.

Students may request alternative subjects for the elective units from the elective options. See section **Elective Skills Units VIC**. The decision of the Principal on the choice will be final.

It is helpful, but not required, for a student to be involved in a local church or community-based program under qualified leadership and document their work experience completed for each unit to assist in establishing competencies

DIPLOMA EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Communication

- Ability to understand and articulate the views and opinions of those with other beliefs.
- Selecting and applying communication skills to illustrate Christian teachings on a range of personal and social issues.
- Selecting and using communication skills to provide feedback to facilitate personal growth and social change.
- Ability to read sources critically and synthesise information coherently.

Teamwork

- Working effectively with people from a variety of backgrounds, e.g. age, gender, race, faith or political persuasion.
- Providing leadership within networks and teams in Christian communities.

Problem solving

- Reflecting on and finding answers to difficult questions related to theological information and Christian life and practice.
- Identifying solutions to unpredictable problems related to ministry practice by applying the teaching of scripture.

Initiative and enterprise

- Identifying a range of opportunities to better engage with individuals and groups in the community on Christianity and Christian life today.
- Inquiring into the approaches, Scriptures and doctrines of other groups.

Planning and organising

- Collecting, analysing and presenting information for use in a range of ministry settings (e.g. sermon/lesson preparation and delivery).
- Apply analytical skills to identify and evaluate the implications of beliefs and ethics for social issues and practice.

Self-management

- Taking the time to be personally prepared before leading in a ministry setting.
- Responding appropriately to community members from all backgrounds and beliefs in a non-judgemental and respectful manner showing some awareness of own behaviour.
- Apply self-reflection techniques and practices.
- Apply techniques required to analyse and present differing views.

Learning

- Systematically use resources for theological research.
- Actively seeking out opportunities to gain new personal revelation and new interpretations of Christian theology, life and practice.

Technology

- Use a wide range of communication technology skills and equipment to contact community members, plan Christian Ministry work, write articles and other resources, and research matters relevant

ADVANCED DIPLOMA OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

For those continuing from the Diploma or who enter into the course with advanced standing, the Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology continues to extend the skills, learning, and development of faith in and understanding of God's word. It will provide for growth for their ministry and at a corporate level.

The course can be completed in one year as a Distance Education study program; the time frame is a guide only depending on the student's capacity and the circumstances for study.

The course includes a broad range of challenging, faith-building, and biblically-based studies relevant for personal, pastoral, church and community life. Students will learn to apply biblical principles to their daily lives and explain and share those Christian truths with others.

Pre-requisites

Candidates undertaking this Advanced Diploma will have:

- completed the core units of the Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology or have gained equivalent learning from other sources; or
- at least twelve months' experience in a Christian ministry role.

Candidates will also require language, literacy and numeracy skills to interpret complex documents, prepare written reports and communicate complex issues orally.

An appropriate level of language, literacy and numeracy skills would be ACSF level two (2) in numeracy, three (3) in reading and writing, and four (4) in learning and oral communication.

Purpose of the course

This course is intended to provide participants with a range of knowledge and skills to fulfil the following functions within a Christian ministry context:

- Interpret and synthesise information related to a range of Christian beliefs
- Provide general guidance concerning difficult questions and complex problems in Christian ministry situations based on interpretations of Christian beliefs
- Provide leadership in a defined area within the Christian Ministry sector.
- Graduates of this course will have acquired broad specialised and integrated knowledge related to theological and contextual beliefs of church groups and advanced understanding of groups holding other views relevant to Christian ministry contexts.

Graduates of this course will have acquired broad specialised and integrated knowledge related to theological and contextual beliefs of church groups and advanced expertise of groups holding other views relevant to Christian ministry contexts.

The purpose of this course is to:

- Qualify individuals to lead in church groups and other ministry contexts within a broad and diverse range of specialised independent roles and in accordance with the values, procedures and practice guidelines of those church groups and Christian ministry contexts; and/or
- Provide a pathway for further learning by progression to a higher level of qualifications developed in conjunction with this Course, particularly to the Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry and Theology.

The graduates of this course will also have gained skills consistent with the Advanced Diploma AQF descriptor, such as the ability to:

- analyse and synthesise into a piece of relevant form information related to a range of Christian beliefs

- provide specialist advice, guidance and leadership in a broad range of life and ministry situations based on advanced interpretations about Christian theological and contextual beliefs, including providing solutions to unpredictable and complex problems
- provide advanced knowledge related to Christian beliefs and understandings to Christian and non-Christian audiences
- fulfil formal leadership with attending responsibilities, expectations and requirements, within the Christian ministry sector

Graduates of this Course will demonstrate the application of the knowledge and skills they have gained:

- by autonomous judgement when advising others on possible courses of action in a broad range of life or ministry-related situations
- by applying advanced, flexible and applied approaches they have gained to the study of Christian concepts and beliefs to a broad range of advanced subjects and topics

The Advanced Diploma is suited to:

Generally speaking, the Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology is a preferred option for those involved in, preparing for, or seeking qualifications for ministry. It is expected but not required to be unsupervised in a senior decision-making capacity.

- This course supports the development of Christians in their spiritual formation and growth through biblical studies and theological discourse. It equips them with the necessary skills to serve effectively in their local churches, para-church organisations and other Christian ministries.
- It is used to equip students for entry into ministry, and service in their community, local churches and mission fields, resulting in improved ministry skills and knowledge for volunteers and ministry staff.
- The Christian Ministry and Theology qualifications are well designed and highly suitable for this purpose. They are broad and flexible enough for customisation while remaining specific enough for the Christian Ministry and Theology sector.
- It provides the foundations for biblical knowledge and literacy, theological frameworks and spiritual reflection.
- It increases familiarity with, and interpretation of the Scriptures, allows for personal views and focuses on engaging others outside the faith community.
- This course supports leaders and lay people assisting in parishes in ministry and pastoral care to have a deeper understanding of Christian Ministry and Theology. The course provides a learning pathway for those who wish to pursue theology and ministry studies at University who may not have studied for a while.
- These qualifications are used as the equipping program church members, providing a training pathway to higher education for those aspiring to senior leadership and ministry roles.
- It is used to train and develop young people in leadership, youth and church ministry.
- This product is used to train people for lay and ordained ministry in the Anglican Church. The Advanced Diploma is to equip and train ordained ministers.
- This course is used to equip team leaders for a variety of Christian ministry contexts

The Subjects

The Theology subjects continue to develop a sound understanding and depth of knowledge. Units are studied at greater depth, more detailed written work is required, and a greater emphasis on ministry skills development.

The elective subjects are appropriate for someone involved in ministry at a senior level, such as the pastor or seeking to be qualified for a pastoral level of ministry

The student will complete the following units –

- 6 Units of Biblical Theology, identified as “CMT” units.
- 4 Elective Units: Practical Theology

VIC has nominated subjects to satisfy the units. Students may request alternative subjects provided they satisfy the unit elements. The decision of the Principal on the substitution request is final.

Biblical Theology Subjects.

Students are supplied with a textbook, assignments and complete instructions to complete the subject satisfactorily

1. **Songs to Live By**
2. **The World’s Greatest Story**
3. **Marriage and Family I: Marriage and Family Life**
4. **When the Trumpet Sounds**
5. **Throne Rights**
6. **Marriage and Family II: Parenting on Purpose**

Students may request alternative options for the Theology subjects from the Principal or Registrar provided that the choice satisfied the requirement of the units. The decision of the Principal on the choice will be final.

Elective Units: Practical Theology

See elective units: Practical Theology Advanced Diploma

1. **Manage Developing Ministry**
2. **Establish a Ministry**
3. **Ministry Relevance and Research.**
4. **Leading the Ministry Team**

There are two options to complete the elective units

1. Through our “Online Training Portal”. The portal provides the student with a comprehensive and interactive learning and training program. Various assignments are presented to teach and determine competency in the units required. Detailed instructions and access are provided to students by VIC as they enter into the subject.

A preview of the Vision Colleges Training Portal is available as the [Student User Guide](#)
<https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>

2. If a student is unable to access the internet or is uncomfortable with online learning, the unit is available in hard copy as a workbook with written assignments

The minimum number of practical units to be undertaken for this award is 4. The minimum nominal practicum hours must not be less than 380, regardless of the units selected.

Students may request alternative subjects for the elective units from the elective options; see section **Elective Skills Units VIC**. The decision of the Principal on the alternative choice will be final.

It is helpful, but not required, for a student to be involved in a local church or community-based program under qualified leadership and document their work experience completed for each unit to assist in establishing competencies

ADVANCED DIPLOMA EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Communication

- Ability to understand and articulate the detailed views and opinions of those with other beliefs
- Selecting and applying communication skills to describe complex theological ideas and implications
- Ability to read sources critically and synthesise information coherently and in-depth.

Teamwork

- Working effectively with people from various backgrounds, e.g. age, gender, race, faith or political persuasion.
- Establishing and providing leadership to networks and teams in Christian communities.

Problem-solving

- Reflecting on and formulating responses to complex questions related to Christian teachings and practice.
- Formulating solutions to unforeseen problems related to ministry practice by applying the teaching of scripture.

Initiative and enterprise

- Initiating opportunities for individuals and groups in a Christian community to better engage in Christian life and practice.

Planning and organising

- Analysing, synthesising and presenting complex information about theology for use in a range of ministry settings (e.g. sermon/lesson preparation and delivery).

Self-management

- Taking the time to be personally prepared before leading in a ministry setting.
- Responding appropriately to community members from all backgrounds and beliefs nonjudgmentally and respectfully shows some awareness of their behaviour.
- Apply self-reflection techniques and practices.

Learning

- Initiating opportunities for individuals in the community to gain new personal revelation and new interpretations of Christian theology, life and practice.
- Systematically use resources for theological research.

Technology

- Use a wide range of communication technology skills and equipment to contact community members, plan Christian Ministry work, write articles and other resources, and research matters relevant to Christian Ministry

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

Those who are continuing from the Advance Diploma or entering into the course with advanced standing the Graduate Certificate of Christian Ministry and Theology continues to develop their skills, enhances their faith in and understanding God's word towards a more prosperous ministry.

The course can be completed in one year as a Distance Education study program; the time frame is a guide only depending on the student's capacity and study circumstances.

The Graduate Certificate is designed for those in senior ministry roles. It builds on their skills developed from the Advanced Diploma. Issues are studied at a greater depth bringing fascinating insights into the learning processes

Pre-requisites

Entrants to the Graduate Certificate in Ministry and Theology must have either:

- Completed all core units required to complete the Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology, or
- Hold an accredited undergraduate degree or higher qualification or equivalent qualification.

Candidates will also require language, literacy and numeracy skills to interpret complex documents, prepare written reports and communicate complex issues orally. An appropriate level of language, literacy and numeracy skills would be ACSF level two (2) in numeracy, four (4) in reading and writing, and five (5) in learning and oral communication.

The purpose of this course is to either:

This course is intended to provide participants with a range of knowledge and skills to perform the following functions in a Christian ministry context:

- provide specialised knowledge related to Christian beliefs and understandings
- provide technical guidance in a range of life and ministry situations based on interpretations of Christian beliefs
- provide broad leadership within the Christian ministry sector

Graduates of this course will acquire advanced knowledge and skills for professional and highly skilled work related to the theological and contextual beliefs of church groups and groups holding other views and which apply to Christian ministry contexts.

Qualify individuals for autonomous senior leadership in church groups and other ministry contexts according to the values, procedures and guidelines of those church groups and Christian ministry contexts

Provide a pathway for further learning by progression to a higher level of qualifications developed in conjunction with this Course, particularly to the Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology.

The graduates of this course will also have gained advanced cognitive, technical and communication skills consistent with the Graduate Certificate AQF descriptor, such as the ability to:

- analyse, synthesise and consolidate into a relevant form of information related to a complex and diverse range of Christian beliefs
- provide specialised guidance and leadership in a broad range of life and ministry situations based on advanced interpretations about Christian theological and contextual beliefs
- provide technical knowledge related to Christian beliefs and understandings within Christian and non-Christian settings

Graduates of this course will demonstrate the application of the knowledge and skills they have gained:

- by advanced autonomous judgement in advising others on courses of action in a broad range of life, ministry, or educational settings

- by taking responsibility as a skilled practitioner in an uncontrolled ministry environment
- by applying advanced, flexible and applied approaches they have gained to the study of Christian concepts and beliefs to a broad range of advanced subjects and topics

The Graduate Certificate is suited to:

- Generally speaking, this award is designed to meet the ongoing educational needs of those who function at a senior ministry level or aspire to do so. The award builds on skills and learning from the Advanced Diploma. Units are studied at greater depth. More detailed written work is required, and there is a greater emphasis on ministry skills development and research. It should meet the needs of people who
- This course supports leaders and laypeople assisting in parishes in ministry and pastoral care to understand Christian Ministry and Theology. We regard the courses as a learning pathway for those who wish to pursue theology and ministry studies at University who may not have studied for a while.
- These qualifications are used as the equipping program for Church of Christ members, providing a training pathway to higher education for those aspiring to senior leadership and ministry roles.
- It is used to train and develop young people in leadership, youth and church ministry.
- Our organisation has a residential discipleship course with four main goals: for our students to develop their relationship with the Lord Jesus, enhance their knowledge of the Bible, develop skills in ministry, and capture a vision for World Mission.
- This course is used to equip team leaders for a variety of Christian ministry contexts
- These qualifications are used as the equipping program for members of various denominations, providing a training pathway to higher education for those aspiring to senior leadership and ministry roles.

The subjects

The Theology subjects continue to develop a sound understanding and depth of knowledge in the word of God for Christian life in their ability to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

The elective subjects are appropriate for someone involved in ministry at a senior pastoral level with independent decision-making responsibility.

The student will complete the following unit –

- 3 Units of Biblical Theology, identified as “CMT” units.
- 2 Elective Units: Practical Theology.

VIC has nominated subjects to satisfy the “CMT” units and the Practical Ministry Skills units. However, students may request alternative subjects if appropriate. The decision of the Principal on the substitution request is final.

Biblical Theology Subjects.

1. Pastoral Epistles
2. History of the Charismatic Movement
3. The Christian and Old Testament Theology

Due to the research nature of this level of study students are required to purchase study books and resources to complete the course from a wide range of options.

Elective Units: Practical Theology

See elective units: Practical Theology Graduate Certificate

1. **Conflict Management**
2. **Managing a Ministry.**

There are two options to complete the elective units

1. Through our “Online Training Portal”. The portal provides the student with a comprehensive and interactive learning and training program. Various assignments are presented to teach and determine competency in the units required. Detailed instructions and access are provided to students by VIC as they enter into the subject.

A preview of the Vision Colleges Training Portal is available as the [Student User Guide](#)
<https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>

2. If a student is unable to access the internet or is uncomfortable with online learning, the unit is available in hard copy as a workbook with written assignments

The minimum number of practical units to be undertaken for this award is 2. The minimum nominal practicum hours must not be less than 120, regardless of the units selected.

Students may request alternative options for the elective units from, see section **Elective Skills Units VIC**. The decision of the Principal on the choice will be final.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Communication

- Working effectively with and providing some leadership to people from a variety of backgrounds, e.g. age, gender, race, faith or political persuasion.
- Establishing and providing leadership to networks and teams in Christian communities.

Teamwork

- Developing effective and innovative ways of communicating and applying Christian teaching to a range of real life situations.
- Reflecting on and finding answers to a range of difficult or complex questions related to theological information and Christian life and practice.
- Resolving a wide range of concerns related to ministry projects by applying the teaching of scripture.

Problem solving

- Using a wide range of new techniques to communicate theological information in a range of cross cultural circumstances.
- Initiating a wide range of opportunities to better engage with a range of individuals and groups in the community on Christianity and Christian life today

Initiative and enterprise

- ensuring that a range of talks about the Christian faith are delivered within appropriate timeframes to ensure that interest is maintained throughout the talk
- Analysing and synthesizing theological information to generate and evaluate complex ideas about Christian life and practice

Planning and organising

- Responding appropriately to community members from all backgrounds and beliefs in a nonjudgemental and respectful manner showing some awareness of own behaviour.
- Integrate self-reflection techniques and practices to support personal practice development.

Self-management

- Systematically use resources for specialised theological research.
- Engaging and consulting with others in a wide range of ministry settings to gain new insights and personal revelation.

Learning

- Using a wide range of communication technology skills and equipment to contact community members, plan Christian Ministry work, write articles and other resources, and research matters relevant to Christian Ministry.

Technology

- use a wide range of communication technology skills and equipment to contact community members, plan Christian Ministry work, write articles and other resources, and research matters relevant to Christian Ministry

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

Those who are continuing from the **Graduate Certificate** or entering into the course with advanced standing the Graduate **Diploma** of Christian Ministry and Theology continues to develop **their** skills enhancing their faith in and understanding God's word towards a more prosperous ministry.

The course can be completed in one year as a Distance Education study program; the time frame is a guide only depending on the student's capacity and study circumstances.

The Graduate Certificate is designed for those in senior ministry roles. It builds on their skills developed from the Advanced Diploma. Issues are studied at a greater depth bringing fascinating insights into the learning processes

Prerequisite:

Entrants to the Graduate Diploma of Ministry and Theology must have either:

- Completed all core units required to complete the Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology OR
- Hold a recognised Australian undergraduate degree or higher qualification or equivalent overseas qualification.

The purpose of this course

The purpose of this course is to either:

- qualify individuals for autonomous and senior leadership in church groups and other ministry contexts in accordance with the values, procedures and practise guidelines of those church groups and Christian ministry contexts, or
- to provide a pathway for further learning by progression to higher level qualifications

The graduates of this course will also have gained advanced cognitive, technical and communication skills consistent with the Graduate Diploma AQF descriptor, such as the ability to:

- analyse, synthesise and consolidate into a relevant form of information related to a complex and diverse range of Christian beliefs
- provide specialised guidance and leadership in a broad range of life and ministry situations based on advanced interpretations about Christian theological and contextual beliefs
- provide technical knowledge related to Christian beliefs and understandings within Christian and non-Christian settings

Graduates of this course will demonstrate the application of the knowledge and skills they have gained:

- by advanced autonomous judgement in advising others on courses of action in a broad range of life, ministry, or educational settings
- by taking responsibility as a skilled practitioner in an uncontrolled ministry environment
- by applying advanced, flexible and applied approaches they have gained to the study of Christian concepts and beliefs to a broad range of advanced subjects and topics

The Graduate Diploma suited to:

This course supports the development of Christians in their spiritual formation and growth through biblical studies and theological discourse. It equips them with the necessary skills to serve effectively in their local churches, para-church organisations and other Christian ministries.

- It is used to equip students for ministry and service in their community, local churches and mission fields, resulting in improved ministry skills and knowledge.
- To train men and women to share Jesus with the world.

- The Christian Ministry and Theology qualifications are very well designed and highly suitable for this purpose. They are broad and flexible enough for customisation while remaining specific enough for the Christian Ministry and Theology sector.
- It provides the foundations for biblical knowledge and literacy, theological frameworks and spiritual reflection.
- It increases familiarity with, and interpretation of the Scriptures, allows for personal views and focuses on engaging others outside the faith community.
- Provide foundational studies in biblical studies, theology and ministry at a graduate level for the professional who has a call to a church in the commercial marketplace or for those wanting to fulfil their dream in ministry

This course supports leaders and laypeople assisting in parishes in ministry and pastoral care to have a deeper understanding of Christian Ministry and Theology. We regard the courses as a learning pathway for those who wish to pursue theology and ministry studies at University who may not have studied for a while.

These qualifications are used as the equipping program for members of various Churches and denominations, providing a training pathway to higher education for those aspiring to senior leadership and ministry roles.

This course is used to equip leaders for a variety of Christian ministry contexts

The subjects

The student will be required to purchase study books to complete the course from various options with other universities.

The elective subjects are appropriate for someone involved in ministry with some responsibility while subject to pastoral oversight, such as a youth leader; women or men's ministry leader; other ministry department leader;

The student will complete the following unit –

- 3 Units of Biblical Theology, identified as “CMT” units.
- 2 Elective Units: Practical Theology.

VIC has nominated subjects to satisfy the units. Students may request alternative subjects provided they satisfy the unit elements. The decision of the Principal on the substitution request is final.

Biblical Theology Subjects.

- 1. Christian Life and Evangelical Spiritual Theology**
- 2. Christian Ethics A Biblical Theology of Morality**
- 3. The Missionary Encounter with World Religions**

Due to the research nature of this level of study, students are required to purchase study books and resources to complete the course from a wide range of options..

Elective Units: Practical Theology

See elective units: Practical Theology Graduate Diploma

- 1. Advanced Ministry Research**
- 2. Developing ministry partnerships**

There are two options to complete the elective units

- 1. Through our “Online Training Portal”. The portal provides the student with a comprehensive and interactive learning and training program. Various assignments are presented to teach and**

determine competency in the units required. Detailed instructions and access are provided to students by VIC as they enter into the subject.

A preview of the Vision Colleges Training Portal is available as the [Student User Guide](#)
<https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>

2. If a student is unable to access the internet or is uncomfortable with online learning, the unit is available in hard copy as a workbook with written assignments

The minimum number of practical units to be undertaken for this award is 2. The minimum nominal practicum hours must not be less than 80, regardless of the units selected.

Students may request alternative options for the elective units from, see section **Elective Skills Units VIC**. The decision of the Principal on the choice will be final.

GRADUATE DIPLOMA EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Communication

- Communicating a wide range of complex Christian concepts clearly and directly in substantial detail by writing and speaking to Christian and non-Christian audiences.
- Ability to understand and articulate the complex views and opinions of those with other beliefs

Teamwork

- Working effectively with and providing some leadership to people from various backgrounds, e.g. age, gender, race, faith or political persuasion.
- Establishing and providing leadership to networks and teams in Christian communities.

Problem-solving

- Developing effective and innovative ways of communicating and applying Christian teaching to a range of real-life situations.
- Reflecting on and formulating responses to a wide range of challenging and complex questions related to theological information and Christian life and practice.
- Resolving a wide range of complex concerns related to ministry projects by applying the teaching of scripture.

Initiative and enterprise

- Using a wide range of new techniques to communicate complex theological information and ideas in a wide range of cross-cultural circumstances.
- Initiating a wide range of opportunities to better engage with a wide range of individuals and groups in the community on Christianity and Christian life today.

Planning and organising

- Collecting, analysing and synthesising advanced theological information to generate and evaluate complex ideas about Christian life and practice

Self-management

- Responding appropriately to community members from all backgrounds and beliefs in a nonjudgemental and respectful manner showing some awareness of own behaviour.
- Integrating self-reflection techniques and practices to support personal and professional development.

Learning

- Systematically use resources for advanced theological research.
- Engaging and consulting with others in a wide range of ministry settings to gain new insights and personal revelation.

Technology

- Use a wide range of communication technology skills and equipment to contact community members, plan Christian Ministry work, write articles and other resources, and research matters relevant to Christian Ministry

VIC “CMT” UNIT SUBJECTS

The VIC subjects in the table below are offered to meet the requirements of the “CMT” units. A student may discuss with the Principal the option of an alternative subject from the range of subjects offered by VIC, provided that the alternative subject satisfies the requirements of the “CMT” unit being undertaken. A complete list of subjects is available from *Vision Colleges*.

Code	Unit Title
CMTTHE301	<p>Research Christian Scripture and Theology Dynamic Christian Foundations This module is designed to instruct the student in the basic foundations of Christian doctrine and of the gospel. The textbook covers the essential truths upon which a Christian life is built with a charismatic and/or Pentecostal dimension. It comprises both the heart of the message of eternal life in Christ that we bring to the world, and the foundation upon which all believers structure their lives and ministry.</p>
CMTTHE302	<p>Interpret theological data Identify theological data Basic Bible Survey New Testament This module provides an overview of the New Testament, with a brief introduction to each of the 27 books of the Protestant canon, and a concise summary of their contents, enabling the learner to correctly relate the parts of the New Testament to each other, and to the Old Testament. The module allows the learners to enrich their knowledge of the Bible and their ability to read each part intelligently, with an understanding of the context in which each book occurs and of how doctrine evolved gradually over the centuries. Armed with this knowledge, students are able to develop their ability to relate the Bible and its contents to daily life and to Christian witness.</p>
CMTTHE303	<p>Present information on a theological theme or issue Great Words Of The Gospel An introduction to the Christian theology of salvation. .The purpose of this book is to mine the riches of salvation by digging into some of the key words scripture uses to describe its benefits. Hence the title, “<i>Great Words of the Gospel.</i>” So you will not find here a comprehensive search through salvation; rather, the course searches out several of the brighter veins of gospel ore.</p>
CMTTHE304	<p>Apply new theological insight Basic Bible Survey Old Testament This module provides an overview of the Old Testament, with a brief introduction to each of the 39 books, and a concise summary of their contents, enabling the learner correctly to relate the parts of the Old Testament to each other, and to the New Testament. The module allows learners to enrich their knowledge of the Bible and their ability to read each part intelligently, with an understanding of the context in which each book occurs and of how doctrine evolved gradually over the centuries. Armed with this knowledge, students are able to develop their ability to relate the Bible and its contents to daily life and to Christian witness</p>
CMTMIN301	<p>Apply theological knowledge to contemporary ethical issues Faith Dynamics The purpose of this module is to help students to discover, understand, and appropriate the promises of God that are recorded in the Bible. Attention is given to the context in which each promise occurs, the right and wrong use of the promises, and to recognising the various fallacies that are often attached to the divine promise. Other sources of diverse promises are discussed, along with ways to guard against being misled by false influences. Students should emerge from this study strengthened in faith, and better able to live in the Victory, strength, and divine supply that are inherent in the promises of God and in a life of faith.</p>
CMTMIN302	<p>Communicate theology in everyday language Clothed With Power A presentation of the Pentecostal position on Holy Spirit baptism. The position taken generally represents the Pentecostal and Charismatic viewpoints hovering somewhere between the more extreme views taken on either side. This position on Holy Spirit baptism, the gifts of the Spirit, depends upon establishing four things – 1. there is available to every Christian an <i>experience</i> known as “<i>Holy Spirit baptism</i>”; 2. new birth and the baptism in the Spirit are separate and distinct although they may occur simultaneously; 3. that speaking in tongues is the usual initial evidence that a person has been baptised in the Spirit; and 4. that the miraculous gifts of the Spirit of the early church are still available and occurring in the worship of the modern church.</p>

Code	Unit Title
CMTTHE401	<p>Interpret and discuss Christian Scripture and Theology Royal Priesthood The priesthood of every believer is perhaps the most important doctrine in the New Testament, and certainly the most revolutionary. Although it stands plainly written on every page of the gospel it remains one of the most difficult truths to penetrate because it defies the common ideas most people have about religion and calls for a breathtaking boldness of faith in approaching the throne of God that will surely transform the student by recognising the Royal Priesthood God has given to us in Christ.</p>
CMTTHE402	<p>Interpret theological data Authenticity and Authority of the Bible This module provides an introduction to the documentary and historical evidence of the reliability of the biblical writings. Out of an acceptance of the <i>authenticity</i> of the Bible arises a need to confront its claims of <i>authority</i>. This module provides also a brief introduction to the <i>canon</i> of scripture – what we mean by the canon, how it came into being, how the canonical books were recognised, and the like</p>
CMTTHE403	<p>Compare and present information on a theological theme or issue Highly Exalted The Saviour's heavenly priesthood is itself a product of the great event that climaxed his passion; that is, his ascension into heaven and his resumption of his seat at the right hand of the Father. The first three chapters of the book deal with the ascension of Christ; the remainder with his role as our High Priest in the heavenlies.</p>
CMTTHE404	<p>Compare and apply new theological insights The Cross And The Crown This course is a close companion to another VCC series, Emmanuel. But whereas that series deals with the person of Christ, this deals with the work of Christ. Especially, with the historical work of Christ, and even more particularly with the events surrounding his passion – that is, the crucifixion and the resurrection.</p>
CMTMIN401	<p>Explain the application of Christian ethics to contemporary life issues Christian Life This module explores diverse views of Christian life, from the very pious to the very pragmatic, from quietism to activism, and from the formulaic to the flexible. Students are left free to select a life-style that they deem the most conformable with scripture in harmony with their own personality, character, and background. Special emphasis is placed upon the need to maintain a balance (“moderation in all things,” as Paul calls it), and upon the manner in which devout Christians should relate to themselves, to their neighbours, to the larger community, and to God.</p>
CMTMIN402	<p>Communicate theological information Equipped To Serve This module should bring the student to an understanding of the role of the charismata in the church past and present, and in contemporary worship and witness. Various gifts of the Spirit are described in detail, but always with the aim of incorporating the charismata into both the life of the church and the believer's personal life. The purpose and value of the charismata are presented, along with examples of both wise and foolish use of these wonderful gifts. A rich experience of the charismata should be the heritage of every local church, and of its members, for by the gifts of the Holy Spirit the church is able to become to its community as if Jesus himself were present in the flesh.</p>
CMTTHE501	<p>Analyse and interpret Christian Scripture and Theology The Blood Covenant Of God This module is one of the major themes of the whole Bible. It seeks to present this splendid concept succinctly and vividly. From ancient human history until our recent past, Blood Covenant was the single most common and effective manner of formalising relations between nations and peoples or of bringing about peace between warring nations and tribes. While the terminology has been lost to us over the last 200 years, the principles are still effective. This study is built around the Blood Covenant ceremony from ancient times as found in the Amarna Tablets and other records and seeks to show that Blood Covenant is a biblical concept, comparing it with the ancient ceremony and the biblical Blood Covenant ceremony, and shows the continuing relevance of the Blood Covenant between God and man today.</p>

Code	Unit Title
CMTTHE502	<p>Analyse and interpret theological data Principles Of Praise And Worship In the study of Praise and Worship, believers will discover the joy of moving into God's presence and releasing their spirits in all of the powerful, fresh, biblical expressions of high praise and intimate worship with God. By the truths revealed in this book, believers will become daily worshippers of God. Powerful breakthroughs in the Spirit will occur in the lives of all who will "draw near to God" with a new determination to release their body, soul and spirit to experience all that is revealed in these powerful, life-changing studies.</p>
CMTTHE503	<p>Research and analyse information within a theological theme or issue First Corinthians This module provides an outline commentary on Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. The aim is to equip the student to serve God and the church better by gaining deeper insight into the special truths highlighted in this great letter and to give substantial answers to the issue of divorce and to the question of whether or not re-marriage is allowable after divorce. The approach taken is generous rather than legalistic, compassionate not sternly unyielding while room is left for students to make their own decisions on the rightness of the arguments presented.</p>
CMTTHE504	<p>Analyse and apply new theological insights The Church This module offers a balanced and thoroughly biblical ecclesiology, or doctrine of the church. It examines various models of church structure and points to the strengths and weaknesses of each model. It defines the major sacraments and explores the relationship that each believer should have, both with the local and the universal church. Attention is given to church government, the officers of the church, the ministry gifts that Christ has planted in the church, and to the biblical types and descriptions of the church. On completion, students should have a clear grasp both of what the church is and what it is not, of their proper place in the church, of the purpose Christ has for his church, of the present day task of the church, and of its destiny in the coming eternal kingdom.</p>
CMTMIN501	<p>Facilitate personal or social change through the application of theological ideas Dazzling Secrets For Despondent Saints. This module examines some of the issues that are associated with depression, disappointment and seeming failure. What is the best remedy for depression? How can Christians maintain a life of continual victory? These pages will present some key ideas that can lift people out of the gloomy pit and keep them living in the sunshine of God's love. You may not need help for yourself; yet there are probably people around you who <i>are</i> hurting. With these keys in your hand, you may be able to help them escape from darkness and come into light.</p>
CMTMIN502	<p>Present theological beliefs and their implications Understanding Your Bible This book by Ken Chant explores how our Bible came into being in its present form; its inspiration, authority and authorship. It presents the differences between the Bible and sacred books of other religions. It provides a consistent and coherent rule of interpretation that can be applied anywhere in the Bible. How can we bring our lives into harmony with the Bible unless we know what it teaches? And how shall I know what it teaches without a sound rule of interpretation? The Bible remains ineffective until it is both <i>intelligently read</i> and <i>wisely understood</i>, which is the task of good <i>hermeneutics</i> and the purpose of this book.</p>
CMTTHE601	<p>Analyse and critique Christian theology Songs To Live By We can trust without any qualm the power of the <i>Psalms</i> to rescue us from the venom of that old viper Satan. Here, in Israel's sacred songs, is a divine antivenin for all the Serpent's poison. Those who read the <i>Psalms</i>, and reflect upon them continually, will find their promise fulfilled. These are truly "songs to live by", which will quicken in you a new interest in the <i>Psalter</i>; and a desire to know more about it. The first part of this book deals with the psalmody of Israel, and the second half builds on Israel's worship experience and explores some aspects of worship in the church, along with practical issues of the art and ministry of leading others in worship</p>

Code	Unit Title
CMTTHE602	<p>Critique the interpretation of theological data The Worlds Greatest Story This book deals with the most amazing period of Church History, <i>the first 1000 years</i>, with some intrusions into the second period, followed by a brief survey of the second millennium. The concentration is on the first ten centuries, (a) because most people are ignorant of what happened during those years; and (b) because the story they tell must surely be the world's most dramatic tale. The adventures of the new church ran the gamut of human experience, rising and falling between lofty nobility and squalid ignominy. Here we see people collapsing from grandeur into disgrace, or rising from basest cowardice to incredible bravery. Here we find chronicles of love and hate, laughter and tears, triumph and defeat, VIC and virtue, greed and generosity, failure and success. The finest and the foulest of human behaviour lie in the annals of the church; but in the end love and grace prevail, and Christ gains honour from his people</p>
CMTTHE603	<p>Apply critical analysis to a theological theme or issue Marriage And Family I: Marriage And Family Life The biblical approach to marriage and family relations is the focus of this book. Most believers are ill prepared to deal with the problems of married life and the responsibility of raising a family. This book lays a solid foundation for positive family life</p>
CMTTHE604	<p>Critique new insights on theological information When The Trumpet Sounds The author writes, "My aim has not been to convince you so much as to inform you. I have tried to present clearly both those aspects of eschatology on which evangelical Christians agree and also those on which they disagree. I do not personally belong to any particular "school" of prophecy; nonetheless, I do have a viewpoint on the subject, and this book necessarily presents that view. However, I hope my own opinions are not too intrusive, and that you will find space here to formulate your own ideas. Your study of these pages should be exciting and rewarding. Even more, may they leave you better fitted to meet the Lord with joy when he comes!"</p>
CMTMIN601	<p>Synthesise theological ideas and apply these to specific personal or community issues Throne Rights The basic theme of this course is answered prayer and spiritual authority. That may seem on the surface to be a simple theme. But, as the author says, "having now completed the series I am conscious once again that I have done little more than fumble with the fringes of my subject. The following pages could hardly be considered anything more than a wondering learner's introduction to the exciting matters with which they deal. Nonetheless, I hope that you will find here much encouragement for your faith, and that the result of your studies will be a richer experience, not just of prayer itself, but of <i>answered</i> prayer. Not all prayer is answered. But the right kind of prayer, prayed by the right person, in the right way, and to the right God, always is!"</p>
CMTMIN602	<p>Communicate theology in depth Marriage And Family Life II – Parenting on Purpose This book attempts to succinctly yet fully provide for the reader a clear understanding of how purposefully, with goal and direction, to raise children in this complex world. The combined wisdom of over twenty years of counselling troubled families, mixed with biblical wisdom are shared with a dash of humour and a spot of realism. Remember, if perfect parenting was a requirement for anything, even God would fail the test!</p>
CMTTHE801	<p>Examine and compare Scripture and theology The Pastoral Epistles Perhaps the greatest need in the Christian community today is for biblical leadership. However, there are different views on leadership issues, such as: What are the responsibilities of ministerial leaders? Who is qualified for pastoral leadership? Can women serve as pastors? This course identifies biblical answers to crucial leadership questions from Paul's letters to Timothy and Titus. Stott walks students through an exegetical analysis of these letters and shares insights from the historical background and the Greek New Testament. Throughout the course, learners are guided in applying the theology of the pastoral epistles to life and ministry.</p>

Code	Unit Title
CMTTHE802	<p>Analyse information within a theological theme or issue History of the Charismatic Movements Charismatic theology is more than just a theology of spiritual gifts; worship, bibliology, sanctification, and ecclesiology are also central. Learners will complete a historical and theological study of the origins and developments of Classical Pentecostalism, Charismatic Renewalism, and Restoration Movements, emphasis is given to theological backgrounds and trends. Lectures also analyze related movements, such as the Jesus Only Movement, the Vineyard Movement, and the Toronto Revival Movement. The pros and cons of various charismatic movements are presented.</p>
CMTMIN801	<p>Develop specialised understanding of concepts about God in relation to Christian life and leadership The Christian & Old Testament Theology This course examines the foundational theology of the Old Testament as applied to the New Testament and the church. It also identifies the focal point for the Old and New Testaments and discusses the continuity and discontinuity between the Testaments concerning: saving faith, the people of God, the Law, worship, atonement, the kingdom of God, the Messiah, and the new covenant. Throughout the course, Kaiser examines how Old Testament theology is vital to contemporary Christian living.</p>
CMTTHE803	<p>Research and assess theological beliefs The Christian Life: An Evangelical Spiritual Theology With the contemporary interest in spirituality, it is imperative that the Church establish a comprehensive theology of Christian spirituality that can inform the life and witness of Christian believers. This course presents such a theology of spirituality: a theology that is biblical, practical, and contemporary, accounting for and enabling spiritual formation and nurture in a post-modern, pluralistic, materialistic society. In addition, the course provides a theological foundation for a life of prayer that will empower and sustain the believer in life and ministry.</p>
CMTTHE804	<p>Research and assess information in a theological area of study for use in a ministry environment Christian Ethics A Biblical Theology of Morality In a self-centred culture, how do we demonstrate a God-centered ethic? This course presents a biblical model for ethics in a postmodern world, examining the ethical theories of obligation and value from a philosophical perspective. The lectures survey various ethical systems, identify unstated assumptions in ethical theories, and evaluate those theories for legitimacy, relevancy, and cogency. The goal of the course is to provide learners with a Christian framework of values and ethics, leading them to make God-honoring decisions in a truth-relative world.</p>
CMTMIN802	<p>Apply researched theological concepts to Christian life and leadership The Missionary Encounter with World Religions Nothing demonstrates the pluralism of our world better than religion. Christians must be able to respond to the myriad of religious systems that permeate society. This course develops a biblical theology of religions by studying current models and approaches. Using major religious systems as examples, the lectures sketch five characteristics of all religions. Students will learn the major concepts in religious encounter, including the concept of elentics, various definitions of "religion," and the five magnetic points of religions. The course culminates with practical suggestions for approaching world religions evangelistically.</p>

FEE STRUCTURE

Payment of Fees

Timely payment of fees is a requirement of all students. Payment may be made in cash, by cheque or by credit card.

If you prefer you may contact the Registrar to make your study payments by interest free instalments.

Fees

While the fee structure is subject to change from time to time at the discretion of *Vision Colleges* we try to give our students at least one month's notice of increase where possible.

In addition to actual College fees, you may be required to purchase textbooks for occasional competencies;

For students undertaking the Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma studies study and research material will need to be purchased or sourced independently.

Please note – No student may commence a new subject owing fees without the Principal's permission.

- All textbooks must be paid for as they are ordered.
- All outstanding fees are to be finalised before the start of a new subject.
- All fees include GST where appropriate.

REFUND POLICY

In the event that a student leaves *Vision Colleges* without having paid fees, he/she will still be held responsible for the full fees owing.

Fees And Refund policy.

Vision Colleges operates an equitable refund policy, guaranteeing the refund of fees to students in the event of course cancellation.

In the event of *Vision Colleges* cancelling any competency or course, participants enrolled into the course are entitled to a full refund or transfer of funds to another current competency or course of their preference.

Vision Colleges typically enrolls students who have paid the required Enrolment Fees, Advanced Standing Fees and a minimum of the First Subject Fee in advance.

Students who pay for more subjects in advance will receive all of their study materials as ordered.

A student may apply for a refund up to 14 days after enrolment. The full Subject Fees will be refunded less a \$50.00 Admin fee per subject on the condition that the study materials are in pristine condition. All other fees are non-refundable.

After 14 days no refund is available except in cases of hardship. Application must be made to the Principal in writing citing evidence.

In the event that a student leaves *Vision Colleges* without having paid fees, he/she will still be held responsible for the full fees owing.

PRICE LIST

In keeping with our policy of being affordable, our fees¹⁸ are inclusive of all study materials including the required text books and assessments up to and including the Advanced Diploma.

A student may choose to purchase other materials to assist in their studies however they are not required. We do recommend a good bible dictionary, Concordance and Study Bible of the student’s own choice. There are no hidden fees or costs with our programs. Students will pay the fees as outlined below (Plus Postage).

The current fees for material and services from *Vision Colleges* are as follows – (Plus Postage and packing)

Student enrolment fee:

Undergraduate:	\$85.00
Graduate	\$150.00

Subject materials per unit

Certificate III	\$195.00
Certificate IV	\$285.00
Diploma	\$315.00
Advanced Diploma	\$350.00
Graduate Certificate and Diploma:	\$450.00

Advanced Standing

Academic Transfer per subject: 50% of unit Fee

Recognised Prior Learning

Unit of recognition: 50% of Unit Fee Replacements or copies

Replacements or copies

Award:	\$35.00
Academic Transcript:.....	\$35.00
Replacement of ID Card:	\$35.00
Study Book	\$25.00
Exam.....	\$10.00
Study Pack	\$50.00
Study Helps and Hints	\$15.00
Student Handbook	\$20.00

Late Marking Fee¹⁹\$35.00

Postage and Packing\$15.00

Graduation Ceremony²⁰TBA

¹⁸ Fees quoted are correct as at the time of publication. *Vision Colleges* reserves the right to increase fees as required. Intending students should contact *Vision Colleges* to confirm the current price structure.

¹⁹ Applied if a student takes 3 months or more to complete a subject

²⁰ The Graduation Fee is only applied if the student is attending a *Vision* Graduation Ceremony in Sydney and the costs will be advised in advance.

APPENDIX

SUPPORT SERVICES

Support Agencies List

AUSPELD

Supporting people with learning disabilities www.auspeld.mediacloud.com.au

AUSPELD, The Australian Federation of SPELD Associations, responds to the needs of children and adults with Specific Learning Difficulties/Disabilities, such as the learning disability dyslexia, and those who care for, teach, and work with them, through the dissemination of information, advocacy, research, and support.

Learning Difficulties Australia www.lidaustralia.org

Learning Difficulties Australia is an association of teachers and other professionals dedicated to assisting students with learning difficulties through effective teaching practices based on scientific research, both in the classroom and through individualised instruction.

ALNARC - Adult Literacy and Numeracy Australian Research Consortium.

www.staff.vu.edu.au/alnarc

This site contains key information about Australian adult literacy activity and links to a range of additional program, professional development, resource, and research sites.

NCVER Adult Literacy Resource

National Centre for Vocational Education Research Ltd

ncver@ncver.edu.au www.adultliteracyresource.edu.au

The information in this resource is based on research funded through the Adult Literacy Research Program (ALRP). The National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) managed this research program on behalf of the former Commonwealth Department of Education, Science and Training (now Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR)).

Australian Council for Adult Literacy www.acal.edu.au

The Australian Council for Adult Literacy promotes adult literacy and numeracy policy and practice.

The council exists to:

- provide leadership in Australian debate on adult literacy and numeracy practices and policy
- build understanding of adult literacy and numeracy issues
- advocate on behalf of equitable adult literacy and numeracy provision for all Australians
- build links between people, organisations and systems; the participants and stakeholders in the adult literacy and numeracy field
- Work with other organisations on issues of mutual concern.

Local TAFE colleges

PRIVACY STATEMENT & STUDENT DECLARATION

I declare that the information I have provided to the best of my knowledge is true and correct.

I understand that Vision International College is required to submit data sourced from this enrolment form to the National Centre for Vocational Education Research Ltd (NCVER) as a regulatory reporting requirement. The information contained on my enrolment form may be used by my RTO or the following third parties for administrative, regulatory and/or research purposes:

School – if I am a secondary student undertaking VET, including a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship.

Employer – if I am enrolled in training paid by my employer.

Government departments and authorised agencies.

NCVER.

Organisations conducting student surveys.

Researchers.

You may receive an NCVER student survey which may be administered by an NCVER employee, agent or third party contractor. Please note you may opt out of the survey at the time of being contacted.

[STUDENT SIGNATURE]

[DATE]

[PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE*]

[DATE]

**Parental/guardian consent is required for all students under the age of 18.*

NCVER will use, secure, disclose, and retain your data in accordance with the VET Data Protocol and all NCVER policies and protocols (including those published on NCVER's website at www.ncver.edu.au).

HOW TO CONTACT *Vision* INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Principal: Rev. Dr. Denis Plant,
principal@visioncolleges.edu.au

Admin: Mrs. Jackie Muleya,
registrar@visioncolleges.net

Telephone: 02 9603 2077

Assessments: exams@visioncolleges.net

Subject Orders: registrar@visioncolleges.net

Web site <http://www.visioncolleges.edu.au>

Postal Address Vision International College

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NSW 2564
Australia

Street Address: Vision International College

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Minto
NSW 2566