



Introducing

Vision International College

Distance Education Bible College

Christian Ministry and Theology

Certificate III & Certificate IV,
Diploma & Advanced Diploma
Graduate Certificate & Graduate Diploma



Study from your place at your pace

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

**Introducing
Vision International College**

**An Overview of our
Accredited Study Programs
by Distance Education
2024**



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



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Note: this document deals specifically with the accredited programs offered by Vision International College.

For information about our non-accredited programs, please contact the college office for information on Christian College.

DISCLAIMER

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

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

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

This handbook has been prepared as an informational and promotion resource to assist prospective students in understanding the courses offered through Vision International College.

Any queries can be directed to:

Vision International College

PO Box 84

Macquarie Fields NSW 2564

Australia

INTRODUCTION

You hold in your hands a booklet to introduce you to Vision International Colleges (VIC), which is a part of Vision Colleges.

As an interdenominational college, we are one of the most flexible, affordable and enduring distance education Bible colleges available to you anywhere on or off the internet.

Vision Colleges has always been on the cutting edge of Bible College ministry. We work hand in glove with denominations and individual Christian churches of all kinds while maintaining our independence.

Vision Colleges consists of the original *Vision Christian College*, the *Internet Bible College* and *Vision International College*. We have articulation arrangements with We also have articulation arrangements with *Vision International University* and *the Texas University of Theology* for those who would prefer to articulate into Religious Exempt degree programs in the United States.

Through these options, we are confident that we can meet your study and ministry needs and tailor them to your suit your ministry.

We are a distance Education College. That means that you work at your own pace from your own place. You do not have to leave your home or your church to study. There are no required in-house intensives, no formal seminars to attend. All of the assignments are an open book style enabling you to complete your studies from home.

This booklet does not address non-accredited studies. If you prefer non-accredited study options, you will need the booklet *Introducing Vision Christian College*.

For more information on *Vision Colleges*, contact our office our contact details are at the back of the book.

I, and my team look forward to speaking with you and working with you towards your study and ministry goals.

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 upon helping our students to develop their God-given ministry potential. Our goals are certainly academic, but much more, they are spiritual and practical. For that purpose, we believe that our programs are both adequate and admirable. You will find more information below about this philosophy, and about 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, which is to impart to you something of the unique gifts of anointed teachers and writers who have been qualified for their task by the Spirit of God, who can help to create your personal Vision of an exciting future in the service of Christ.

The union of those features creates a strong framework in which you can anticipate an expansion in your grasp of scripture, in your relationships with other Christians, in the vigour of your faith, and in 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 a hope that your expectations of the College will be surpassed. If you have already done some Vision courses, then 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 (OAM, MRE, 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.

With our distance education program and our local-church-based Bible College programs, Vision Colleges has been at the forefront of Bible College ministry 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. Those goals are now enhanced by our fully accredited programs as presented in this handbook.

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 as 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 both 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 be of assistance to 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 will challenge, confront, bless, and develop your skills. Be assured of our prayers for your wellbeing.

We are fully aware that distance education is an advantageous and fruitful form of study for those who cannot or are unable to attend seminary. However, it does place unique demands upon the student to seek out their own resources, to discover answers and to finish their course in their own 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 to the office for support.

You have joined with a large body of students around the world in both our recognised and accredited studies. Your fellow students not only around Australia but in 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 (PhD. Christian Ed, Dr. Min. Theo, TAE40116)

Principal/CEO.



A SHORT HISTORY OF VISION.

We are excited about our ministry! Since Vision Christian College began in August of 1974, we have grown from a local church Bible college to an internationally recognised network of colleges that span the globe.

Our story began in 1974 when Rev. Dr Ken Chant started the *Launceston College of Theology* (in Launceston, Tasmania), and simultaneously, Dr. Joseph Bohac and Dr. Stan DeKoven (in San Diego, California) began *Logos Institute*, a local-church training program in practical ministry and counselling.

Four years later Dr. Chant moved his school to Sydney (Australia), where it continued to grow as Bible college, a distance education program, and by setting up local church Bible Colleges.

Meanwhile, in the USA, the *Logos Institute* continued as a counselling ministry and training centre, and Dr. DeKoven pursued personal studies in psychology and theology.

More changes took place in 1982

Dr. Chant moved to the United States, where he established his program in Minneapolis (Minnesota).

Dr. DeKoven returned to San Diego (having earned his Ph. D in Theology), where he continued to expand the *Logos* program, and in the same year Dr. Randy Gurley began a teaching ministry that eventually merged with *Vision Christian College*.

In 1985 Dr. Chant brought his program to San Diego (California), where Vision Christian College was legally established as a non-profit corporation, and a year later, in the providence of God, he met Dr. DeKoven. These two found an immediate affinity in Christ. Their hearts and visions united and so began a network of affiliated campuses that became Vision Colleges as it is known today. The ministry of Vision Colleges has become an established world-wide Bible College ministry, with some 150,000 students enrolled at any one time, with more than 8000 local church satellite campuses or resource centres in more than 155 countries around the world.

Dr. Chant and his family returned to his native Australia in 1990. Still, prior to his leaving, Vision Christian College (USA) under Dr. DeKoven's direction had expanded to its present university status. A site was purchased in the beautiful community of Ramona, California, where its headquarters are based today.

In 1992 the American college applied for and was granted full institutional accreditation with the *Accrediting Commission International of Schools, Colleges and Theological Seminaries*.

In 1993 *Vision Christian Ministries* (USA) was renamed *Vision International University* (USA).

In the meantime, in Australia, the college was re-named *Vision Christian College*, and its program continued to flourish under Dr. Chant's leadership. He remains President and Chairman of *VIC* in Australasia, the day to day operations are under the direction of Rev. Dr Denis Plant.

From Australia, we now have local church (or Resource Centre) campuses established in many parts of Australia, New Zealand, Philippines, Myanmar, the U.K., Belize, Papua New Guinea, South Africa and several thousand individual students by correspondence.

Dr. DeKoven has provided the entrepreneurial drive for the expansion of *Vision Colleges* internationally and, seeing the Colleges grow in over 100 countries and has written much of the counselling courses, while Dr. Chant has provided much of the teaching material in Doctrine or Theology along with a range of internationally acclaimed authors.

The educational philosophy under-girding the college, its international vision, the dynamic concepts all stem from the work of the Holy Spirit in these men and the teams working with them.

More Innovations

In 1998 Rev. Dr. Denis Plant (Ph.D) became involved with the development and implementation of the *Internet Bible College*. He has been involved in teaching ministry for over 35 years. During that time he has established two Bible colleges. For two years Denis served as a missionary in Papua New Guinea as the last expatriate Principal at *Lighthouse Bible College* with the Foursquare Churches at Madang, P.N.G.

Denis returned to Australia with a vision and determination to place a Bible college on the Internet. The most significant difficulty facing him was the choice of curriculum. Following a suggestion from Dr. Ken Chant, and his own familiarity with the material, it was decided that the Vision Christian College material was the most suitable for this work. As a result, the Internet Bible College was born and is now the internet version of Vision Colleges. Denis and his then staff of Trish Hart and Steve Hart led the college through accreditation to become an RTO under VETAB and expanded the mission work of the Australian version of Vision.

ASQA Accreditation

In 2002 Vision International College (VIC) was established as the accredited arm of Vision Colleges to offer accredited courses as a Recognised Training Organisation (RTO) under VETAB. In 2010 the accrediting body became a national accrediting body the “Australian Skills Quality Authority” (ASQA).¹

Online Training Portal

The Online Training Portal was added in 2014, allowing students who are undertaking the elective subjects to utilise professional and effective online portal accessible anywhere in the world. Currently, we have students from most states of Australia and several international countries. The following link is to the students user guide: https://www.catapult-elearning.com/guides/student_nam/index.html

The Accredited Course Is For You If You:

- require Austudy, Abstudy, Youth Allowance or other Australian government funding options to support you in your studies.
- are seeking “Gap Year” studies.
- wish to be involved in a traineeship for ministry with your local church and require formally accredited awards.
- prefer to gain recognition for further study in TAFE or University or another recognised Bible college.
- are seeking training for ministry that embraces formal skills in addition to the word of God.
- personal preference is an accredited program.

Our alternative study option is the recognised or Non-Accredited studies with Vision Christian College. It does not attract Austudy and is less vigorous in the assessment process and is less costly but is accepted as a qualification by most Australian and international churches. Contact our office for more information if this is your preferred study option.

1 A.S.Q.A. 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>

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We Believe:

- That there is only one God, who has revealed himself in Three Persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- In the absolute lordship and deity of Christ, including his pre-existence with the Father, his virgin birth, his sinless life, his atoning death, his bodily resurrection, his ascension to heaven, and his eventual return to Earth in glory and power to establish his eternal kingdom.
- In the full spiritual authority, the reliability, the divine inspiration of the Bible, and its inerrancy in all that it finally affirms.
- That nothing can replace the importance of the local church in the program of God, and that planting local churches is the best tool for evangelism and for nation-wide renewal.
- That the primary task of the church is worldwide evangelism in fulfilment of the Great Commission given by Christ.
- 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.
- That membership in the church is signified by joyful participation in its worship, fellowship, sacraments, witness, and by acceptance of its discipline.
- 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.
- In the presence and use of the charismata in the local church and in Christian ministry.
- 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.
- 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.
- That *VIC* torious Christian life is built upon a proper understanding and exercise of the spiritual authority conveyed to the believer by the gift of righteousness.
- In the sure promise of Christ's return in splendour at the end of the age, to implement the resurrection of all the dead, to prepare both the world and the church for judgment, and to inaugurate the New Heaven and the New Earth.
- 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.

TYPES OF THEOLOGY

The study of the word of God is generally referred to as theology. There are many forms of theology, each having its own perspective and purpose. Each style of theology has inherent within it, its own set of strengths and weaknesses and each one can help our understanding of God and His word.

With *VIC*, you will encounter three forms of theology. ***Biblical Theology, Practical Theology and Systematic Theology.***

We have provided an outline of them, below, to help you to understand how they are applied. For the most part, you will find that *VIC* prefers the use of Biblical Theology in the study of scripture and occasionally Systematic Theology. There is also an emphasis on Practical Theology in the electives as they relate more to the workplace.

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 categorises 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

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, '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 *VIC* for the spiritual growth of believers while being servant leaders.

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 organises it into a system called angelology. That is what systematic theology is all about – organising the teachings of the Bible into categorical, and, as nearly as possible, coherent systems, while striving to remove contradictions and ambiguities.

VISION INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE IS UNIQUE

Our vision, our focus, our methods differ from the regular practice of Bible colleges. We are different in flavour, practicality, and in our manner of challenging and building both personal faith and relationship with Jesus Christ and with the Church.

Our flexible study options and our study time frame, along with the opportunities to study from your preferred place of learning at your pace, make *VIC* a desirable learning option.

We make no claim to be better than others in fulfilling these tasks. It is the nature of our courses, our style of delivery, and our worldwide outreach separates us from colleges that are built around a single campus. 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;
- the Splendour of Christ exalted.

A VARIETY OF OPTIONS

VIC offers you a variety of study options —

- Studies from your place at your pace by correspondence.
- Online or hardcopy studies for elective units.
- Attendance at a VCC Resource Centre²
- Flexible elective course options.
- Variable entry and exit points.
- Individualised training options.
- Flexible time frames to suit your lifestyle.

VIC is not new to the business of Bible College. We have been at the cutting edge of this ministry for over 45 years specialising in distance education.

We do not operate by semester or by the term, but rather subject by subject and by award level. The benefit of our methods is that you, as a student, are not required to begin or exit at a particular time; your time frame is your own. You do not have to attend the college or “intensives” that will consume your leave entitlements from work, nor do we take you away from your ministry. We actually encourage you to embrace your ministry as a part of your study.

No matter where you live, or how mobile you are at a national or international level, no matter what your job, regardless of the level of commitment or involvement you have in your local church, your ministry, or your family, you can continue with your studies with *VIC* without cost to family, career, or church commitment while the practical elements of the course will embrace the ministry in which you are now functioning.

² A Resource Centre is established in a local church, and is run by the local church using *Vision Christian College* material. A student of *Vision International College* is welcomed and encouraged to attend and utilise the student resources and study options available at a Resource Center. It must be noted that the Vision Christian College Resource Centre is not a formal part of the Vision International College program but a complementary option.

Although *VIC* has no central campus, our students may choose to attend one of our ***Vision Christian College*** Resource Centres and take advantage of the options offered and assistance available to them in their studies.

We are flexible in our delivery. Study material can be posted or emailed to you or collected from our office. Elective subjects can be completed by hard copy or through our online portal.

Students decide the order of the subjects they will undertake in each award level, allowing them to take control of their study program. We can tailor the studies to meet the needs of their own particular ministry. This strengthens the very real perception of “*studying to show yourself a workman who will not be ashamed in your personal ministry*”³, ministry in which you are now functioning.

Although *VIC* has no central campus, our students may choose to attend one of our ***Vision Christian College*** Resource Centres and take advantage of the options offered and assistance available to them in their studies.

Flexible Time Frame

For many reasons, the study requirements of a traditional campus demand a set time frame. They need to maintain the integrity of their methods, meet the demands of the curriculum for a large student body, provide students with dates for graduation and the like.

Because *VIC* is a distance education college, we have no need for fixed times, for enrolment or for graduation. We are not bound by the constraints of a traditional campus. To assist students in achieving their goal on time, we do suggest that they should take no more than one month from the time they purchase a subject until they complete it. In fact, the vast majority of our students do so.

Having said that we also realise that sometimes “life happens”, and studies can be the first to suffer, especially in a self-paced program. While most other colleges will fail a student for non-compliance, we do not, for we allow extra time when required. While we do not penalise a student academically if a student takes more than three months to finalise a subject, they will attract a “Late Marking Fee”.

Online Training Portal

The Online Training Portal was added in 2014, allowing students undertaking the Ministry Skills, from Certificate III to the Graduate Diploma, to do so online, if they prefer.

When a student is ready to undertake a practical subject, he or she can nominate to complete the assignments online. In which case, the *VIC* will provide the student with login details.

The online portal provides the student with a comprehensive and interactive *Student User Guide*, helping even a novice to become familiar with the learning program and the subject requirements. Students refer back to the system as often as needed to refresh their skills online.

For each subject, there is a comprehensive teaching section, there are interactive sessions to help maintain attention in the subject and aid the learning process.

After working through the teaching section, the student can move 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 completes them, the work is saved, allowing them to return to where they left off as often as needed. When an assignment or set of tasks is completed, the student should save and submit the work for assessment. We strongly recommend that the student should submit work every few questions, to help us monitor, assess and advise as they progress through a unit.

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

³ Paraphrase of 2 Tim. 2:15

WHY THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY PROGRAM STUDENT SUPPORT

Distant education has its own rewards and weaknesses, one weakness being a sense of being alone, we take considerable care with our student body to ensure that, as much as we can, you are supported.

Personal Support

We realise that distance education, by its very nature, is among the most rewarding and yet challenging of all forms of learning. You, the student are required to seek out knowledge and resources to answer various assignments, without the encouragement of a classroom or student body. It is for that very reason, some who begin their course fail to complete them, as they feel alone and without help.

With *VIC*, you are not alone; our staff members are available to you. Every student is encouraged to contact the college staff at any time by telephone, email, or on Skype. Whatever form of communication you choose, 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 will be available, students can just call in for a chat, advice, or help. We will help you to the best of our ability. You must understand that you can contact us and that no issue is too big or small and we are always pleased to help.

Documentary Support

On enrolment *VIC* provides each student with a Student Handbook on enrolment to inform them of the rights and responsibilities of the student and the College.

Also, students are provided with a copy of our Student Study Helps and Hints to assist them in completing the assessments successfully. This book provides the student with details to address the requirements for written and multiple-choice assessments.

Specific instructions are provided with each assignment to ensure that the student is informed of there assessment requirements.

The internet site provides a wealth of information and access to documents and our Online Study Resources for our student body.

For the Elective Subjects, we offer our Online Training Portal with an online Student User Guide or a student workbook.

Mentor Support

A mentor is not a required part of our program; however, we encourage all students to find a local mentor to assist and provide encouragement as they undertake the course.

As much of our student body is widely scattered throughout Australia and overseas, it is not possible for *VIC* to provide mentors to the student body. For this reason, students are advised to seek out a mentor for themselves.

It is typical (but not required) for the student's own pastor or his/her delegate to take this role and to have a guiding hand in the development of the student's ministry. However, the mentor can be anyone the student is comfortable to learn from. It is required that the mentor should have experience in the practical fields that the student will undertake, and this may need multiple mentors.

In cases where the student cannot find a mentor, the College Principal will act for them upon request.

STUDENT BODY

VIC exists for those members of the Christian community, and others, who want to undertake a serious study of God's word and be equipped for ministry but find that they:

- are unable to take full-time studies at a campus;

- cannot leave their local church but need to study;
- have work or family commitments, which prevent campus access;
- need flexible of study options;
- prefer to study from home.

All students can study at their own pace, in their own time and in their own environment.

There are three categories of students recognised by the College –

Full-Time Students

Those students enrolled into a minimum of three competencies over three consecutive months are considered full-time. Please note that Austudy/Abstudy/Youth Allowance rules require a student to be enrolled for at least three competencies per term (three months) to be eligible. Such students typically will complete one full award per year.

Part-Time Students

These students need to work at a slower pace due to their circumstances. While it may take longer to graduate, as a student, they are as welcome and valued as any full-time student and will graduate with the same awards.

Casual Students

Studies are open to those who desire or need to take only one or more competencies (subject). Such students will receive a statement of attainment upon the successful completion of a single competency or more.

Government Assistance (Eligible for Australian Students only)

Certificate III and Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology both attract Austudy/Abstudy or Youth Allowance⁴ for eligible students with VIC. Both courses are deemed to be approved full-time courses. The allowance is considerably higher than the College fees.

Austudy/Abstudy/Youth Allowance is available to both full time and part-time students. Terms and conditions for this support are available from Centrelink. Students are responsible for maintaining their eligibility.

While VIC is not responsible for Austudy/Abstudy/Youth Allowance, we will provide the student with advice and the necessary documentation to apply for financial assistance from Centrelink. Note; the student must apply in person to their local Centrelink office for the relevant allowance.

Centrelink is responsible for all matters relating to the allowances. For more information, call your nearest Centrelink office.

An Alternative Option

For those who find the rigours of the accredited study too demanding but wish to study, we recommend our non-accredited sister program Vision Christian College as an alternative option. It is less demanding, less costly, and there are fewer time constraints. Please note Vision Christian College does not attract Youth Allowance, Austudy or Abstudy government funding and the program is not accredited.

PRE ENROLMENT REQUIREMENTS

There are no formal pre-requisites at the Certificate III and IV. VIC is a Bible College. It is required that a student must be able to read an English Bible comfortably. The version is not relevant as we are

⁴ While we encourage students to enrol into the various forms of government funding, all decisions concerning eligibility are determined by Centrelink. Vision International College is not an agency for Centrelink and cannot influence their decisions or student eligibility.

not a version-specific College. As a guide only, we suggest that a student should have a level of English proficiency to read their local newspaper.

Non-Discrimination

We do not discriminate on gender, religion, age, culture, or disability. Indeed, anyone who wants to study with *VIC* is welcome and will be treated equally by our staff. We suggest that a student should have completed high school, since the stress of concurrent high school and Bible college exams may prove to be too great.

Literacy, Language and Numeracy (LL&N)

The term LLN refers to five core skills; 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. 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 course⁵ <http://lln.safework.com.au/>



UNIVERSAL STUDENT IDENTIFIER

All students studying an accredited course in Australia are required to have a Universal Student Identifier (USI). If you do not have a USI, the College can assist you or you can go online and get your USI from the Web site. Students have only one USI and it is yours for life. <http://www.usi.gov.au>

If you do not have a USI, *VIC* will assist you to obtain it.

Non-Australian students who are studying from overseas with *VIC* by distance do not need a USI.

What Is The USI?

The USI⁶ is a reference number (made up of ten numbers and letters) that:

- is a secure online record of your recognised training and qualifications gained in Australia, from all training providers with whom you undertake recognised training.
- will give you access to your training records and transcripts.
- can be accessed online, anytime and anywhere.
- is free and easy to create.

HOW TO ENROL

Complete the application form and submit it to the *VIC* office by mail, or email with a photo for your Student ID. If there are problems with your information we will clarify the issues before we enrol you.

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

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

5 While we encourage students to enrol into the various forms of government funding, all decisions concerning eligibility are determined by Centrelink. Vision International College is not an agency for Centrelink and cannot influence their decisions or student eligibility.

6 <https://www.usi.gov.au/about>

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

Our Purpose

Our purpose is to assist the church, Christian leaders and laity to fulfil God's call to discipleship and learning by offering relevant, flexible, affordable, and credible distance education, Bible college training, and qualifications.

It is only through a well-trained laity and clergy that the world can be won to Christ. The church is God's instrument for the establishment and expansion of the Kingdom of God. Only when the church of the 21st century embraces its calling to make disciples of the nations can the purposes of the Lord be met. All Christian leaders, indeed all Christians must begin to see as the Lord does, and begin to believe and act with courage, until "*the earth is filled with the knowledge of the Glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea*" (Hab. 2:14). Note the comments by Peter as he refers to knowledge as the key to relationship and blessing, while Paul's comments to Timothy make clear the need to learn.

But continue in the things that you have learned and have been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from a babe 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. (2 Ti 3:14-17) MKJV

What is Taught?

The VIC program is faith-building, challenging. It is biblically and academically sound with a strong practical component. VIC as a body is conservative, evangelical, and charismatic.

Over the years, we have developed a Bible-based curriculum that is:

- Conservative in Doctrine
- Charismatic in Practice
- Evangelistic in Emphasis
- Loving in Fellowship
- Restorative in Purpose
- Bold in Faith

LEARNING OPTIONS

While we recognise the value and the need for a central campus or seminary to train denominational ministries, our part is to provide excellent teaching material and study options to those who cannot attend the Bible college for whatever reason. We seek to train those in the local church environment for local ministry and then the world beyond.

Where we can we work with the local church ministry team to mentor the student. Where better to equip people than in the very place where they serve Christ? Who better to train them than the successful pastors who are daily engaged in fulfilling the principles of the gospel?

We see the local church environment as part of our "campus activity". The church's worship; its witness; its fellowship; its teaching; its ministry – all are reckoned to be part of the training process to equipping men and women to serve Christ.

Our function is simply to add a theological and academic component that few churches can provide by themselves, while the practical element of training up a ministry can be left in the hands of the local pastor and the ministry team.

As a "Distance Education Provider", we use the regular mail services or email to the study material enabling even the most remote student to study with us. Students receive their study material on a

consistent and regular basis and complete their work in their preferred place of learning – typically, their own home.

With Vision Colleges students learn at their pace in their place.

Theology Subjects

The study materials for the theology subjects are provided in book form by post or in electronic format through the email services; the assignments are all open book and are designed to test the student's comprehension of the textbook, or "competency" in the subject. The assignments are in the form of multiple-choice questionnaires, short answer questions, study guides, and essays enhanced through active participation in the life and ministry of the local church or at a community based service. This practical experience is formally documented in a student portfolio of evidence, to demonstrate competence.

Ministry Skills

The Ministry Skills are the "business end" of ministry – the office work, communications, dealing with people, management skills and so forth. While these are undertaken through our Online Training Portal, it is flexible enough to allow for the local ministry to influence the training, making it more relevant to the individual student.

students who cannot access the internet, or who are uncomfortable working with it, can receive their study material in hard copy and complete it in their preferred place of learning – typically, their own home.

The learning experience is enhanced through active participation in the life and ministry of the local church or at a community based service. This practical experience is formally documented in a student portfolio of evidence, to demonstrate competence.

SUGGESTED STUDY REGIME

Distance education students study in their preferred place of study and of necessity self-paced. There are many advantages to distance learning, however, there are also many pitfalls, chief among them is the need to maintain a study regime to assist the student in completing their subjects on time.

Typically the student is required to complete one (1) subject per month, depending on the award level undertaken, a minimum of eight (8) and a maximum of ten (10) subjects must be completed. With a little discipline, in any given year, a student can easily complete one subject per month and have time for a vacation.

Competency-based Vocational Training

Competency-based vocational training perfectly complements VIC's commitment to training within the local church and community. A student is not expected to memorise and repeat information but required to demonstrate their competence in the essential skills for vocational ministry. Competency is demonstrated by collecting and submitting evidence of practical work to the College. We believe that functional training is best accomplished in the context of the local church.

Five Values of Competency-Based Vocational Ministry Training

VIC affirms the following values for vocational ministry training (which, of course, we share with many other schools and colleges) –

Christ

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

Calling

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

Community

Training will be carried out and proven in the context of community life. Each student's ministerial vocation will be expressed and worked out in the daily life of his or her various communities: family, church, society, and the broader community of the world.

Character

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

Competence

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

Assessments

Assessments are provided to the student with their study material, a with appropriate advice and instructions on completing an assessment. The nature of the assessment material is typically in the form of multiple-choice assignments, short answer tests, essays, study guides, and a portfolio of evidence of competency.

ADVANCED STANDING

We invite all students who can provide the necessary evidence to apply for advanced standing.

Advanced standing, in the form of Academic Credits and/or RPL evidence is available to all students throughout their course.

We offer advanced standing because we believe skills already learned do not need to be learned again. Thus, the student can save time, money and effort that can be put to more productive use.

ARTICULATION

A student who has successfully completed an Australian accredited course may apply to any other accredited college in Australia for full recognition of their completed studies.

Upon completion of the Advanced Diploma of Theology and Christian Ministry, students may articulate into the Bachelor's Completion with the Texas University of Theology, or with Vision International University, U.S.A.

GRADUATION CEREMONY/CELEBRATION SERVICE

Since *VIC* is a distance education provider, and many of our students are remote, it is not practical to insist that students attend a formal graduation service. We do, however, recognise the value of a graduation ceremony to students and the level of self-esteem that a graduation service provides.

We offer the following options to those students who graduate –

1. Attend a *VIC* graduation ceremony at the nominated date, time and place; or,
2. Send the award to your local Pastor (or other designated person) to be presented formally during a church service or other formal service, in recognition of the student's achievements.
3. Upon invitation, we may be able to come to your church to present the awards at a graduation Service (additional costs may be involved).
4. We can send the award, transcript, and congratulatory letter by mail, direct to the student.

What Can I Do When I Graduate?

Graduates from these course 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

Vocational options are indicated in the award outline further in this book.

Recognition Given to Vision International Colleges Awards

Vision Colleges is an independent Bible college and while accepted by many Christian Churches and denominations for training purposes their diverse qualification requirements means that Vision Colleges cannot and does not offer or guarantee any posting to any church or missions organisation.

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

OVERVIEW

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



Christian Ministry and Theology
 11236NAT Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology
 11237NAT Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology
 11238NAT Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology
 11239NAT Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology
 11231NAT Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry and Theology
 11232NAT Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology



Vision International College

NTIS ID: 90862

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

- It provides the 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.

They are preferred courses for ministry preparation and development with the Australian Christian Churches, CRC, and other Pentecostal and Evangelical denominations.

It meets the training needs for Indigenous communities and is supported by Uniting, Anglican, Lutheran and Catholic churches, it is the basis for the Anglican and Uniting Churches in the Northern Territory ordaining and commissioning ministers and pastors for its churches as well as the development of lay leaders.

These qualifications are 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.

The course is used across a broad range of Christian contexts, including Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran, Uniting, Australian Christian Churches (Pentecostal), Baptist and Evangelical, demonstrating broad industry support.

The course serves as a companion piece to other qualifications, such as in education, nursing, health or community services. In this context it serves to equip graduates to work effectively in the Christian education, community service, health care, social service and aged care sector by providing an understanding of the frameworks, beliefs, mission and values that underpin the sector.

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 subject choice.
- 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

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

Vision Colleges is an independent Bible college. Many Christian Churches and denominations accept Vision Colleges for training purposes. Vision Colleges cannot and does not offer or guarantee any posting to any church or missions organisation to any student or graduate. Such a determination is the role of the churches and/or organisations they apply to.

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

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 Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology can be taken with an emphasis on Chaplaincy or Christian Counselling.

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.

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

Government Support

Certificate III attracts Austudy, AbStudy, Youth Allowance and Pensioner Education Supplement for eligible⁷ Australian students.

Certificate III Is Suited To:

The Certificate III sits between the Senior School Leaving Certificate and Certificate IV. It is the "first year" of formal Bible College study and best suited to those:

- New to the Christian faith
- Seeking essential biblical knowledge and literacy foundations, theological framework and spiritual reflection.
- Need to develop their spiritual formation and growth through biblical studies and theological discourse.
- Seeking necessary skills to serve effectively in their local churches, para-church organisations and other Christian ministries.
- Seeking to share Jesus with the world more effectively.
- Students and school leavers seeking a "Gap Year" option.
- Who have not studied for an extended period and are seeking a pathway into university for theology and ministry

Vocational or Educational Outcomes

This course is intended to provide individuals with the following vocational outcomes:

- Entry level engagement in Christian ministry within a broad range of defined roles and under supervision
- Supporting the vision and values of a Christian organisation
- Workforce entry or further vocational training pathways

Occupational titles may include:

- Ministry team member

⁷ While we encourage students to seek government funding, all decisions concerning eligibility are determined by Centrelink. Vision International College is not an agency for Centrelink and cannot influence their decisions or student eligibility

- Sunday school teacher
- Volunteer coordinator
- Youth ministry worker

The Subjects

Theology subjects develop a sound foundation for Christian life and work. They assist Christians to grow 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 beginning a formal involvement in church or ministry activities or those involved in ministry under the direct oversight of a mentor or staff member.

The course is equally appropriate for those entering the secular workforce.

The student will complete eight (8) Units VIC has nominated subjects to satisfy the units.

Core Units

NAT11236001 Develop foundational knowledge of the Bible.
Dynamic Christian Foundations.

NAT11237003 Develop and apply knowledge of key Christian beliefs.
Clothed with Power.

Scripture and Theology

NAT11236003 Study and present a biblical topic.
Great Words of the Gospel.

NAT11236004 Apply elementary strategies for biblical interpretation.
New Testament Survey.

Ministry and Formation

NAT11236008 Explain own beliefs to others.
Old Testament Survey.

NAT11236011 Conduct an awareness campaign on an ethical issue.
Faith Dynamics.

Students are supplied with a textbook, assignments and instructions in .PDF format to complete the subject satisfactorily, hardcopy books may be purchased separately.

Students may request alternative subjects, for a list of alternatives contact the Principal or Registrar. The choice must satisfy the unit requirements. The principal's decision on the alternative will be final.

Ministry Skills

NAT11236010 Manage own work performance.
Developing and managing your ministry skills.

PSPGEN114 Work effectively with diversity and inclusion.
Learning to reach out and work with people holding a different worldview and winning them to Christ and the Church.

CERTIFICATE IV IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology is an “Advanced Standing Entry Level” course, providing a vibrant faith-building journey in the Word of God. It helps to develop a relationship and understanding of God and his word.

Certificate IV builds on Certificate III's themes, skills, and knowledge.

The course can be completed in one year as a distance education study program depending on their capacity and the circumstances for study.

It is a pre-requisite for the Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology.

Pre-requisite:

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 and some verifiable ministry experience, preferably with a pastoral recommendation or the Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology, is desirable.

Government Support

Certificate IV attracts Austudy, AbStudy and Youth Allowance, Pensioner Study Supplement for eligible⁸ Australian students.

Certificate IV is Suited to:

Those continuing their formal Biblical studies or those with some experience in ministry and preparing for formal Christian ministry or service. It is recommended for those students who:

- Require an advanced entry point for Christians who want to study Christian ministry and Theology.
- Seek to strengthen and develop their spiritual formation and growth through biblical studies and theological discourse.
- Need to formally develop their skills to serve effectively in their local churches, parachurch organizations, or Christian ministries.
- They seek entry into ministry, internships, and service in their community, local churches, and mission fields. This results in improved ministry skills and knowledge for volunteers and entry-level ministry staff.

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

- It provides the 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.

Vocational or Educational Outcomes

This course is intended to equip individuals to serve in a range of roles in church, parachurch and community organisations, Christian education, health, social services or aged care services and not-for-profits. Work in these roles may require commissioning from a recognised religious

⁸ All decisions concerning eligibility are determined by Centrelink. Vision International College is not an agency for Centrelink and cannot influence their decisions or student eligibility for support.

institution. The course is also designed to train workers from other industries in Christian ministry and theology as it applies to their industry, for example Christian camping ministries, businesses, hospitals and charities.

Occupational Titles May Include

- Chaplain
- Youth ministry worker
- Ministry team leader
- Sunday school teacher
- Evangelist
- Ministry worker
- Elder
- Lay preacher
- Pastoral carer
- Salvation Army Auxiliary Lieutenant

The Subjects

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

Elective subjects are appropriate for those beginning a formal involvement in church or ministry activities or those involved in ministry under the direct oversight of a mentor or staff member.

The course is equally appropriate for those entering the secular workforce. The student will complete nine (9) units. VIC has nominated subjects to satisfy the units.

Core Units

NAT1123700 Apply knowledge of the Bible.
Royal Priesthood.

NAT11237002 Interpret biblical texts
Authenticity and Authority of the Bible.

NAT11237003 Develop and apply knowledge of key Christian beliefs.
The Cross and the Crown.

Scripture and Theology

NAT11237004 Discuss a topic from a Christian perspective.
Highly Exalted.

NAT11237005 Apply Christian ethics to contemporary issues.
Shades of Gray.

Ministry and Formation

NAT11237006 Explain Christian beliefs to a non-Christian audience.
Equipped to Serve.

NAT11248014 Lead a process of Christian Discipleship.
Dynamic Christian Foundations.

Students are supplied with a textbook, assignments, and instructions in .PDF format to complete the subject satisfactorily, hardcopy books may be purchased separately.

Students may request alternative subjects, for a list of alternatives contact the Principal or Registrar. The choice must satisfy the unit requirements. The principal's decision on the alternative will be final.

Ministry Skills

CHCMHS001 Work with people with mental health issues.

CHCCCS016 Respond to client needs.

DIPLOMA OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

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

It is a pre-requisite for the Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology. 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 to personal, pastoral, church and community life.

The course is used across a broad range of Christian contexts, including Anglican, Wesleyan Methodist, Australian Christian Churches (Pentecostal) and Evangelical, as well as in non-denominational contexts, reflecting broad industry support.

Pre-requisites

- Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology or similar bible college award; or
- A minimum of two years of verifiable ministry experience with a pastoral verification of the ability to demonstrate a sound understanding of the Bible.

The Diploma Is Suited To Those Who:

The Diploma is a preferred option for those engaged in or preparing for pastoral ministry. Students are expected but not required to 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.

Vocational or Educational Outcomes

This course is intended to equip individuals to provide leadership in churches, Christian organizations, charities and other ministry contexts within a broad and diverse range of specialized independent roles and in accordance with the values, procedures and practice guidelines of those contexts. Work in these roles may also require commissioning from a recognized religious institution. The course is also designed to train workers from other industries in Christian ministry and theology as it applies to their industry.

The course also provides a pathway for further learning by progression to higher level of qualifications developed in conjunction with this Course, and in particular, to the Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry and Theology and Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology.

Occupational Titles May Include

- Associate minister
- Pastor
- Chaplain
- Evangelist
- Deacon
- Lay preacher
- Manager

The Subjects

Theology subjects develop a sound foundation for Christian life and work and assist Christians to grow 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 with involved in church or ministry activities or those involved in ministry under the direct oversight of a mentor or staff member.

The course is equally appropriate for those entering the secular workforce.

The student will complete ten (10) Units. VIC has nominated subjects to satisfy the units.

Core Units

NAT11238001 Apply advanced knowledge of the Bible.
Understanding your Bible.

NAT11238002 Compare and explain Christian beliefs and practices.
Christian Life.

Scripture and Theology

NAT11238003 Research and present a biblical theme.
Blood Covenant.

NAT11238004 Develop and apply knowledge of church history.
The World's Greatest Story.

NAT11238006 Analyse and compare worldviews and world religions.
God in the hands of angry sinners.

Ministry and Formation

NAT11238009 Provide leadership in a Christian organisation.
Leadership Vision For the city.

NAT11238010 Develop and implement ministry programs.
Healing Community.

NAT11238011 Prepare and lead worship.
Songs To Live By (Psalms).

Students are supplied with a textbook, assignments and instructions in .PDF format to complete the subject satisfactorily, hardcopy books may be purchased separately.

Students may request alternative units from the Principal of **VIC**. The decision of the Principal on the choice will be final.

Ministry Skills

CHCPAS003 Provide pastoral and spiritual care.

CHCPAS004 Plan for the provision of pastoral and spiritual care.

ADVANCED DIPLOMA OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

For those continuing from the Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology or who enter the course with advanced standing, the Advanced Diploma extends 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 various challenging, faith-building, and biblically based studies relevant to 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 the following:

- completed the Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology or through advanced standing having gained equivalent learning from other sources, or
- at least two years experience in a Christian verifiable ministry role.

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

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 in an unsupervised ministry in a senior or decision-making capacity.

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. 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.

Vocational or Educational Outcomes

This course is intended to equip individuals to provide leadership in churches, Christian organisations, charities 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 contexts. Work in these roles may also require commissioning from a recognised religious institution. The course is also designed to train workers from other industries in Christian ministry and theology as it applies to their industry.

The course also provides a pathway for further learning by progression to higher level of qualifications developed in conjunction with this course, and in particular, to the Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry and Theology and Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology.

Occupational titles may include

- Associate minister
- Pastor
- Chaplain
- Evangelist

- Deacon
- Lay preacher
- Manager

The Subjects

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

Elective subjects are appropriate for those involved in ministry activities. The course is equally appropriate for those entering the secular workforce. The student will complete Twelve (12) Units. VIC has nominated subjects to satisfy the units.

Core

- NAT11239001 Apply advanced knowledge of the Bible in Christian Ministry.
Strong Reasons.
- NAT11239002 Analyse a theological topic and apply it to a contemporary context.
When The Trumpet Sounds.
- NAT11239003 Communicate complex theological ideas to diverse audiences.
Discovery.

Scripture and Theology

- NAT11239004 Analyse the theology of a biblical author.
Treasures from Paul – Colossians.
- NAT11239006 Articulate, present and debate the nature and person of Jesus.
Emmanuel.
- NAT11239007 Provide guidance on ethical issues in a Christian ministry context.
Principles and Practices of the Pastoral Ministry.
- NAT11239008 Analyse the theology of an influential theologian and their impact on
theology and church practice.
The student will self select the theologian and study materials.

Ministry and Formation

- NAT11239009 Develop ministry skills through supervision.
- NAT11239010 Build and maintain community relationships.
Healing Community.

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

Students may request alternative options from the Principal or Registrar. The decision of the Principal on the choice will be final.

Ministry Skills

- BSBOPS502 Manage business operational plans.
- CHCCDE021 Develop and support community resources.
- PSPGEN123 Provide workplace mentoring.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

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

This course is designed to prepare individuals for senior Christian ministry roles including as ordained ministers, pastors and Bible College lecturers and managers or directors of parachurch organisations. Work in these roles may also require commissioning from a recognised religious institution. The course is also designed to train workers from other industries in Christian ministry and theology as it applies to their industry.

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.

The Graduate Certificate is a pre-requisite for the Graduate Diploma and may be nested with the Graduate Diploma.

Pre-requisites

Entrants to the Graduate Certificate in Ministry and Theology must:

- hold the Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology

OR

- hold a higher education qualification (e.g. Bachelor Degree) with relevant vocational experience in Christian ministry and theology

It is recommended entrants have language, literacy and numeracy skills sufficient 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.

Vocational or Educational Outcomes

This course is intended to equip individuals for autonomous and senior leadership in church groups, parachurch organisations and other ministry contexts in accordance with the values, procedures and practice guidelines of those contexts. The course is also designed to train workers from other industries in Christian ministry and theology as it applies to their industry.

The course also provides a pathway for further learning by progression to higher level of qualifications developed in conjunction with this Course, and in particular, to the Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology.

Occupational titles may include

- Pastor
- Senior Pastor
- Minister of Religion
- Bible College lecturer
- Director

The Subjects

To achieve the qualification of a Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry and Theology, the candidate must complete four elective units of competency.

Scripture and Theology:

NAT11231001 Examine and compare Scripture and theology.

The Christian and Old Testament Theology.

NAT11231003 Lead ethical practice in a Christian ministry context.

Christian Ethics A Biblical Theology of Morality.

Ministry Skills

NAT11231004 Lead the mission of a Christian organisation.

Church Administration and Leadership.

BSBTWK502 Manage team effectiveness (Online).

Students may request alternative subjects for the elective units from the elective options. For a list of alternative options, contact the Principal at Vision Colleges.

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

The Graduate Diploma Builds on the Graduate Certificate of Christian Ministry and Theology or entering the course with advanced standing, the Graduate Diploma continues to develop their skills in Christian Ministry and Theology, enhancing their faith in and understanding of God's word towards a more prosperous ministry.

This course is designed to prepare individuals for senior Christian ministry roles including as ordained ministers, pastors and Bible College lecturers and managers or directors of parachurch organisations. Work in these roles may also require commissioning from a recognised religious institution. The course is also designed to train workers from other industries in Christian ministry and theology as it applies to their industry.

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

The Graduate Diploma can be nested with the Graduate Certificate.

Pre-requisites

Entrants to the Graduate Diploma of Ministry and Theology must:

- hold the Graduate Certificate of Christian Ministry and Theology

OR

- hold a higher education qualification (e.g. Bachelor Degree) with relevant vocational experience in Christian ministry and theology

Recommended Entry Requirements.

It is recommended entrants have language, literacy and numeracy skills sufficient 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.

Vocational or Educational Outcomes

This course is intended to equip individuals for autonomous and senior leadership in church groups, parachurch organisations and other ministry contexts in accordance with the values, procedures and practice guidelines of those contexts. The course is also designed to train workers from other industries in Christian ministry and theology as it applies to their industry.

The course also provides a pathway for further learning by progression to higher level of qualifications developed in conjunction with this Course, and in particular, to the Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology.

Occupational Titles May Include

- Pastor
- Senior Pastor
- Minister of Religion
- Bible College lecturer

➤ Director

The Subjects

Advanced research in Christian Ministry and Theology

NAT11232002 Conduct advanced research in Christian ethics.

Christian Ethics A Biblical Theology of Morality.

Scripture and Theology

NAT11232005 Analyse worldviews and world religions.

The Missionary Encounter with World Religions.

Ministry and Formation

PSPGEN117 Implement and manage diversity and inclusion strategies (Online).

BSBSTR601 Manage innovation and continuous improvement (Online).

COLLEGE FEES

In keeping with our policy of being affordable, our fees⁹ are inclusive of all study materials in .PDF files or online studies. Study material is available in hard copy for a fee, see below.

There are no hidden fees or costs with our programs. The current fees for material and services from *Vision Colleges* are as follows – (plus postage and packing).

Enrolment fees

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Undergraduate:..... | \$95.00 |
| Graduate | \$175.00 |

Subject materials per unit

Study materials are provided online or by .PDF files

| | |
|--|----------|
| Certificate III..... | \$195.00 |
| Certificate IV..... | \$285.00 |
| Diploma..... | \$315.00 |
| Advanced Diploma | \$350.00 |
| Graduate Certificate and Diploma: | \$450.00 |
| Optional hard copies of study materials..... | \$25.00 |

Advanced Standing

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Academic Transfer per subject: | 60% of unit Fee |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|

Recognised Prior Learning

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Unit of recognition: | 60% of Unit Fee |
|----------------------------|-----------------|

Replacements or copies

| | |
|---|---------|
| Award:..... | \$35.00 |
| Academic Transcript: | \$35.00 |
| Replacement of ID Card: | \$35.00 |
| Assessment..... | \$25.00 |
| Study Helps and Hints..... | \$25.00 |
| Student Handbook..... | \$25.00 |
| Late Marking Fee ¹⁰ | \$35.00 |
| Postage and Packing ¹¹ | TBA |
| Graduation Ceremony ¹² | TBA |

Fees And Refund policy.

Vision Colleges operates an equitable refund policy. In the event of a cancellation of any unit of competency or course, participants enrolled into the course are entitled to a full refund or credit a current course of their choice.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ Applied if a student takes 3 months or more to complete a subject.

¹¹ *Vision Colleges* will always try to source the most economical method of delivery, however we are subject to the rates of Australia Post.

¹² 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.

CONTACT VISION INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

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