Introducing

Vision International College

Distance Education Bible College

Christian Ministry and Theology

Certificate III & Certificate IV,

Diploma & Advanced 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

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, don not hesitate to contact the College office for information about Vision Christian College.

DISCLAIMER

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

Changes to legislation and Vision International College policy may impact 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 correctness of the information 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

P.O. Box 84

Macquarie Fields NSW 2564

Australia

INTRODUCTION

You hold a booklet that introduces you to Vision International Colleges (V.I.C.), a part of the Ministry 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 while maintaining our independence.

Vision Colleges consists of three entities: *Vision Christian College*, our original (and current) Bible College; the *Internet Bible College,* our online presence; and *Vision International College,* our ASQA-accredited program that this booklet specifically addresses.

We 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 we can meet your study and ministry needs and tailor them to suit your ministry.

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

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

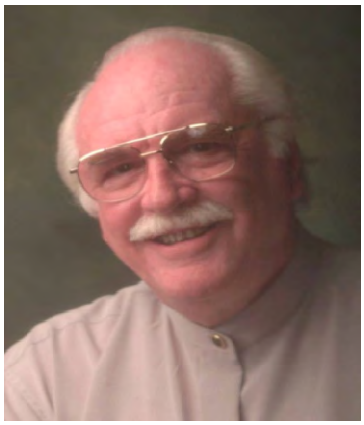
For more information on *Vision Colleges*, contact our office. Our contact details are at the back of the book.

My team and I look forward to speaking and working with you toward 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, hoping 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 (O.A.M., 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.

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. As presented in this handbook, our fully accredited programs enhance those goals.

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 by the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA), the national regulator for Australia's vocational education and training sector. You can take confidence that your awards 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 complete them well. If we can be of assistance to you at any time, 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 resources, discover answers, and finish their course successfully, using their own strengths.

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 into the office for support.

You have joined with a large body of students worldwide 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 U.K. to the United States, France to Nepal, the Philippines to Japan and so many other countries, are all encouraged to pray for each other and your success in ministry.

We look forward to a long and fruitful relationship with you and 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, BA Christian Counselling, TAE40116)***

Principal/C.E.O.

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). 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 a Bible college, a distance education program, and by setting up local church Bible Colleges.

Meanwhile, in the U.S.A., 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. 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. 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 worldwide 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 worldwide.

Dr. Chant and his family returned to his native Australia in 1990. Vision Christian College (U.S.A.)**,** 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*****.**

1993 ***Vision Christian Ministries*** (U.S.A.) was renamed ***Vision International University*** (U.S.A.).

In the meantime, the college was renamed **Vision Christian College** in Australia, and its program continued to flourish under Dr. Chant's leadership. He remains President and Chairman of *V.I.C.* 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, the 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, has written much of the

counselling courses. In contrast, Dr Chant and a range of internationally acclaimed authors have provided much of the teaching material in Doctrine or Theology.

The educational philosophy under-girding the college, its international vision, and its dynamic concepts 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 in developing and implementing ***Internet Bible College***. He has been involved in teaching ministry for over 35 years. During that time, he established two Bible colleges. Denis served as a missionary for two years in Papua New Guinea and was 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 he faced was choosing a curriculum. Following Dr. Ken Chant's suggestion and his 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 R.T.O. under VETAB. They expanded the mission work of the Australian version of vision.

ASQA Accreditation

2002, Vision International College (V.I.C.) was established as the accredited arm of Vision Colleges to offer certified courses as a Recognised Training Organisation (R.T.O.) under VETAB. In 2010, the accrediting body became the "Australian Skills Quality Authority" (ASQA) national accrediting body.[1]

Online Training Portal

The Online Training Portal was added in 2014, allowing students undertaking elective subjects to utilise professional and effective online portals accessible anywhere in the world. Currently, we have students from most states of Australia and several international countries.

The Accredited Course Is For You If You:

- Require Austudy, Abstudy, Youth Allowance or other Australian government funding options to support your studies.
- Are seeking "Gap Year" studies.
- You are in a traineeship for ministry with your local church and require formally accredited awards.
- Prefer to gain recognition for further study in TAFE, University, or another recognised Bible college.
- Are seeking ministry training 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, is less vigorous in the assessment process, and is less costly. Most Australian and international churches accept the awards as a qualification. 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 entire spiritual authority, the reliability, the divine inspiration of the Bible, and its inerrancy in all that it finally affirms.
- Nothing can replace the importance of the local church in the program of God, and planting local churches is the best tool for evangelism and nationwide renewal.
- The church's primary task 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 acceptance of its discipline.
- In the Holy Spirit baptism, baptism is 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.
- The universal church cannot fulfil its mission apart from the five ascension-gift ministries Christ has sent into the world: apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. We accept that it is part of our responsibility to help people 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 also believe in the absolute triumph of Christ over the devil and all his works.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 perspective and purpose. Each style of theology has, inherent within it, its own strengths and weaknesses and each one can help our understanding of God and His word.

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

Below, we have provided an outline of them to help you understand how they are applied. For the most part, you will find that *V.I.C.* 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 specific 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 "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 and the church's administration and educational ministries. They state that practical theology aims to develop effective communicators of Scripture who have a *v*ision 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 in the Bible give information about angels. No one book provides all the information about the angels. Systematic theology takes all the information about angels from all the books of the Bible. It 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, focus, and methods differ from Bible colleges' regular practice. We are different in flavour, practicality, and our manner of challenging and building personal faith and relationships with Jesus Christ and the church.

Our flexible study options, our study time frame, and the opportunity to study from your preferred place of learning at your own pace make *V.I.C.* a desirable learning option.

We do not claim to be better than others in fulfilling these tasks. The nature of our courses, delivery style, and worldwide outreach separate us from colleges 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

V.I.C. 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 Centre[2]
- Flexible elective course options.
- Variable entry and exit points.
- Individualised training options.
- Flexible time frames to suit your lifestyle.

V.I.C. 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 term but subject by subject and 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 encourage you to embrace your ministry as a part of your study.

[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.

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 *V.I.C.* without cost to family, career, or church commitment. At the same time, the practical elements of the course will embrace the ministry in which you are now functioning.

Although *V.I.C.* 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, emailed, 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 their ministry learning needs, strengthening the authentic perception of "*studying to show yourself a workman who will not be ashamed in your ministry," where* you are now functioning.

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, and provide students with dates for graduation and the like.

Because *V.I.C.* is a distance education college, we do not need fixed times for enrollment or graduation. The constraints of a traditional campus do not bind us. To assist students in achieving their goals on time, we suggest that they 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 that 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 students academically if they take 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 students are ready to undertake a practical subject, they can nominate to complete the assignments online and *V.I.C.* 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.

There is a comprehensive teaching section for each subject and interactive sessions to help maintain attention on the subject and aid the learning process.

After working through the teaching section, the student can move on to the assignments. The student can return to the teaching section anytime 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 submit work every few questions to help us monitor, assess, and advise as they progress through a unit.

STUDENT SUPPORT

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

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, must seek out knowledge and resources to answer various assignments without the encouragement of a classroom or student body. For that reason, some who begin their course fail to complete it as they feel alone and without help.

With *V.I.C.*, you are not alone; our staff members are available. Every student is encouraged to contact the college staff anytime by telephone, email, or Skype. Whatever form of communication you choose, we will respond as swiftly as possible. 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 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, *V.I.C.* provides each student with a Student Handbook to inform them of their rights and responsibilities as a student of 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 for each assignment to ensure that the student is informed of their assessment requirements.

The website provides a wealth of information and access to documents and 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 required in 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, V.I.C. can't provide mentors to the student body. For this reason, students are advised to seek a mentor for themselves. It is typical (but not required) for the student's Pastor or his/her delegate to take this role and have a guiding hand in the development of the student's ministry. However, the mentor can be anyone the student is comfortable with learning 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

V.I.C. 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 that prevent campus access;
- need flexible study options;
- prefer to study from home.

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

There are three categories of students recognised by the College –

Full-Time Students

Those students enrolled in at least 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 total 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 completing 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 Allowance[3] for eligible students with *V.I.C.* Both courses are deemed approved full-time. The allowance is considerably higher than the College fees.

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

While *V.I.C.* 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.

[3] 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.

PRE ENROLMENT REQUIREMENTS

There are no formal pre-requisites for Certificates III and IV. *V.I.C.* is a Bible College. A student must be able to read their preferred version of the Bible comfortably. Vision Colleges courses are not version-specific. 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 *V.I.C.* 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 be too stressful.

Literacy, Language and Numeracy (LL&N)

L.L.N. 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 essential skills for individuals to participate effectively in society, including in 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[4] http://lln.safework.com.au/

It is deemed that if a student can complete the formal application form unaided, they hold sufficient skills to enter Certificate III. Upon completion of each award level, a student will have adequate core skills for the next level of study.

UNIVERSAL STUDENT IDENTIFIER

All students studying an accredited course in Australia must have a Universal Student Identifier (U.S.I.). If you do not have a U.S.I., the college can assist you, or you can go online and get your U.S.I. from their website. Students have only one U.S.I., and it is yours for life. http://www.usi.gov.au

Non-Australian students who are studying from overseas with *V.I.C.* by distance do not need a U.S.I.

What Is The U.S.I.?

The U.S.I.[5] is a reference number (made up of ten numbers and letters) that:

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

[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.

[5] https://www.usi.gov.au/about

HOW TO ENROL

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

If you seek Advanced Standing (see the section on Advanced Standing), include your academic transcripts or apply for the R.P.L. 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.

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

Our Purpose

Our purpose is to assist the church, Christian leaders and laity in fulfilling God's call to discipleship and learning by offering relevant, flexible, affordable, and legitimate Bible College training and qualifications through distance education.

Only through a well-trained laity and clergy can the world be won to Christ. The church is God's instrument for establishing and expanding 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.

> *Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. (2 Peter 1:2-4 NKJV))*
>
> *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 *V.I.C.* program is faith-building and challenging. It is biblically and academically sound with a vital practical component. *V.I.C.*, as a college, 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 Bible college for whatever reason. We seek to train those in the local church environment for local ministry and the world beyond.

We work with the local church ministry team to mentor the students. Where better to equip the people of God 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, witness, fellowship, teaching, and ministry are all considered part of the training process to equip men and women to serve Christ.

Our function is to add a theological and academic component that few churches can provide. At the same time, 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 regular mail services or email to provide study material to the student, enabling the most remote student to gain access to our excellent materials. Students receive their study material consistently and regularly and complete their work in their preferred place of learning – typically, their own home.

With Vision Colleges, students learn at their own pace and in their own place.

Theology Subjects

The study materials for the theology subjects are provided in book form by post or in electronic format through 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

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

Students who cannot access the Internet or 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, in a self-paced manner. There are many advantages to distance learning, but there are also pitfalls. Chief among them is the need to maintain a study regime to assist the students 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 twelve (12) subjects must be completed. With a bit of discipline, in any given year, a student can easily complete one subject per month complete their award, and have time for a vacation.

Competency-based Vocational Training

Competency-based vocational training perfectly complements *V.I.C.*'s commitment to training within the local church and community. A student is not expected to memorise and repeat information but are 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 local church context.

Five Values of Competency-Based Vocational Ministry Training

V.I.C. 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 on 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 their 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 the community develops character.

Competence

Competency in a particular area of life and ministry is developed and nurtured in 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. Appropriate advice and instructions to complete the assessments are provided with the study materials. The nature of the assessment material may include multiple-choice assignments, short answer tests, essays, study guides, and a portfolio of evidence.

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 or R.P.L. 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, saving the student time, money and effort that can be put to more productive use.

ARTICULATION

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

Upon completing the Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology, students may enrol in a Bachelor's Completion program at the Texas University of Theology or Vision International University, U.S.A.

GRADUATION CEREMONY/CELEBRATION SERVICE

Since *V.I.C.* 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. However, we 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 *V.I.C.* graduation ceremony at the nominated date, time and place; or,
2. Send the award to your Pastor for presentation during a church service or other formal service recognising 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 directly to the student by mail.

What Can I Do When I Graduate?

Graduates from these courses 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. While accepted by many Christian Churches and denominations for training purposes, their diverse qualification requirements mean 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.

COURSE OVERVIEWS

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

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 customisation while remaining specific for the Christian Ministry and Theology sector.

- Provides the foundations for biblical knowledge and literacy, theological frameworks, and spiritual reflection.
- 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, C.R.C., Pentecostal and Evangelical denominations.

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

The course is a companion to other qualifications, such as 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 sectors by understanding the frameworks, beliefs, mission, and values underpinning the sector.

Christian Ministry and Theology awards meet the training needs of Indigenous communities. It is supported by Uniting, Anglican, Lutheran and Catholic churches. It is the basis for the Anglican and Uniting Churches in the Northern Territory, which is ordaining and commissioning ministers and pastors for its churches and developing 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 training for lay ministries (e.g., Pastor, lay preacher, etc.) undertake either Cert III or Cert IV in Christian Ministry and Theology.

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 various 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 A.Q.F. 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 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

The 11236NAT 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 eligible[6] 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" or Entry Level for 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 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.
- Those who have not studied for an extended period seek 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.

[6] 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 on student eligibility.

Occupational titles may include:

- Ministry team member
- Sunday school teacher
- Volunteer coordinator
- Youth ministry worker

The Subjects

To achieve the qualification 11236NAT Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology, the candidate must complete eight units, including two core competencies and six electives.

Elective units must consist of:

- At least four units were selected from the listed electives below.
- Up to two units selected from any endorsed Training Package or accredited course – these units must be relevant to the work outcome at the Cert III level.

Core Units

Fresh Manna – Intro to Bible Study satisfies:
NAT11236001 Develop Foundational knowledge of the Bible

Dynamic Christian Foundations satisfies:
NAT11237003 Develop and apply knowledge of key Christian beliefs

Elective Units

At least four (4) x units must be selected from the options below

Old Testament Survey satisfies:
NAT11236002 Research Christian Scripture and Theology

Creative Bible Study Methods: satisfies:
NAT11236003 Study and present a biblical topic

New Testament Survey satisfies:
NAT11236004 Apply elementary strategies for biblical interpretation

Biblical Management Principles: satisfies
NAT11236005 Support the mission and values of a Christian organisation

Developing a biblical world view Satisfies:
NAT11236008 Explain own beliefs to others

Faith Dynamics satisfies:
NAT11236009 Communicate Theology in everyday language

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

Alternative subjects may be requested from the Study Streams to satisfy the Unit. The final decision on an alternative subject rests with the Principal.

This listing is correct at the time of publication but is subject to change without notice.

CERTIFICATE IV IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

11237NAT 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 develop relationships with and understand God and his word.

Certificate IV builds on the themes, skills, and knowledge from Certificate III or pre-existing skills and knowledge.

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.

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, and Pensioner Study Supplement for eligible[7] Australian students.

Certificate IV is Suited to:

Those continuing their formal Biblical studies from Certificate III, or with at least two years of verifiable ministry experience. It is recommended for those students who:

- Are entitled to an advanced entry-level 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, para-church organisations, or Christian ministries.
- They seek entry into ministry, internships, and service in their community, local churches, and mission fields. The course improves their ministry skills and knowledge.
- The Christian Ministry and Theology qualifications are well-designed and suited for this purpose. They are broad and flexible enough for customisation 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.

[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 on student eligibility.

Vocational or Educational Outcomes

This course is intended to equip individuals to serve in various roles in church, para-church 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 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
- Evangelist
- Ministry worker
- Elder
- Lay preacher
- Pastoral carer
- Salvation Army Auxiliary Lieutenant

The Subjects

To achieve the qualification 11237NAT Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology, the candidate must complete nine units, including three core competencies and six electives.

Elective units must consist of:

- At least four (4) units and up to (6) selected from the listed electives below.
- Up to two units may be selected from any endorsed Training Package or accredited course – these units must be relevant to the work outcome at the Cert IV level.

Core Units

NOTE: All of the core units must be completed.

Royal Priesthood satisfies:
NAT11237001 Apply knowledge of the Bible

Authenticity and Authority of the Bible satisfies:
NAT11237002 Interpret biblical texts.

Dynamic Christian Foundations satisfies:
NAT11237003 Develop and apply knowledge of key Christian beliefs.

Elective Units

Students must complete six units from the Elective Options below.

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

Shades of Grey satisfies:
NAT11237005 Apply Christian ethics to contemporary issues.

Foundations of Faith satisfies:
NAT11237006 Explain Christian beliefs to a non-Christian audience.

The World's Greatest Story satisfies:

NAT11237007 Apply knowledge of Christian history and historical theology.

Overcoming Darkness satisfies:

NAT11238006 Analyse and compare worldviews and world religions.

Pentecostal Pulpit satisfies:

NAT11237011 Prepare and preach a sermon.

Students are provided with a textbook, assignments, and instructions to complete the subject satisfactorily. Alternative subjects may be requested from the Study Streams. The final decision on an alternative subject rests with the Principal.

Emphasis Options

The following options apply for students seeking an emphasis on Counselling or Chaplaincy.

The three mandatory units listed below are required to satisfy the emphasis. These units will be completed online through the Vision Colleges online training portal.

1. CHCMHS001 Work with people with mental health issues
2. CHCCCS016 Respond to client needs.
3. CHCPAS004 Provide Pastoral and Spiritual Care.

In addition, the student shall complete the three (3) Core and three (3) other elective units.

The Core and Elective subjects shall be substituted from the Counselling stream of Vision Colleges. The final decision on alternative rests with the Principal.

Contact Vision Colleges for further details.

This listing is correct at the time of publication but is subject to change without notice.

DIPLOMA OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

For students continuing from 11237NAT Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology or entering the course with advanced standing, the 11238NAT Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology continues and extends their learning and skills development. It enhances faith in understanding God's word, strengthening their ministry at a local and corporate level.

It is a pre-requisite for the 11239NAT 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 various 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, and in non-denominational contexts, reflecting broad industry support.

Pre-requisites

- Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology or similar bible college award; or
- At least four 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 preferred 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 organisations, charities, and other ministry contexts within a broad and diverse range of specialised independent roles per those contexts' values, procedures, and practice guidelines. 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 provides a pathway to further learning by progression to a higher level of qualifications developed in conjunction with this Course, particularly the Advanced Diploma Christian Ministry and Theology.

Occupational Titles May Include

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

The Subjects

To achieve the **Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology qualification,** the candidate must complete ten units, including two core competencies and eight electives.

Elective units must consist of:

- At least six (6) and up to eight (8) units from the Electives listed below.
- Up to two units selected from any endorsed Training Package or accredited course at the Diploma level – these units must be relevant to the work outcome.

Core Units

Both of the core units must be completed.

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

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

Elective Units

Great Words of the Gospel satisfies:
NAT238003 Research and present a Biblical theme.

Blood Covenant satisfies:
NAT11238004 Develop and apply knowledge of church history.

Equipped to serve satisfies:
NAT11238007 Explain and discuss the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

I want to be like you Dad satisfies:
NAT11238008 Develop self-awareness.

Leadership vision for the city satisfies:
NAT11238009 Provide leadership in a Christian organisation.

Environmental Analysis satisfies:
NAT11238010 Develop and implement ministry Programs.

Songs to Live By satisfies:
NAT11238011 Prepare and lead worship.

Group Dynamics satisfies:
CHCGRP002 Plan and conduct group activities.

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

Alternative subjects may be requested from the Study Streams. The final decision on an alternative subject rests with the Principal.

Emphasis Options

The following options apply for students seeking an emphasis on Counselling or Chaplaincy.

The four mandatory units listed below are required to satisfy the emphasis. These units will be completed online through the Vision Colleges online training portal.

PCHCPAS001 Plan for the provision of pastoral and spiritual care

PCHCPAS004 Provide Pastoral and Spiritual Care

CHCCCS016 Respond to client needs

CHCMHS001 Work with people with mental health issues

In addition, the student shall complete the three (3) Core and three (3) other elective units.

The Core and Elective subjects shall be substituted from the Counselling stream of Vision Colleges. The final decision on alternative rests with the Principal.

Contact Vision Colleges for further details.

This listing is correct at the time of publication but is subject to change without notice.

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 11239NAT Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology 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 four years of verifiable 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.

The Advanced Diploma is suited to:

Generally speaking, the Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology is preferred for those seeking qualifications in an unsupervised ministry as a senior pastor or in a similar 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 per those contexts' values, procedures, and practice guidelines. 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 a higher level of qualifications developed in conjunction with this course, particularly the 11231NAT 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

To achieve the Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology qualification, the candidate must complete twelve units, including three core competencies and nine electives.

Elective units must consist of:

- At least six (6) units and up to nine (9) selected from the electives below
- Up to three units were selected from any endorsed Training Package or accredited course for the Advanced Diploma. These units must be relevant to the work outcome.

These units may not include units listed in the Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry in Theology or the Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology.

Core

All Three Core units must be completed

Strong Reasons, satisfies:

NAT11239001 Apply advanced knowledge of the Bible in Christian Ministry.

When The Trumpet Sounds, satisfies:

NAT11239002 Analyse a theological topic and apply it to a contemporary context.

Discovery, satisfies:

NAT11239003 Communicate complex theological ideas to diverse audiences.

Electives

At least six (6) units and up to nine (9) selected from the electives below

Treasures from Paul – Colossians, satisfies:

NAT11239004 Analyse the theology of a biblical author.

Emmanuel Christology, satisfies:

NAT11239006 Articulate, present and debate the nature and person of Jesus.

Pastoral ministry in the Eye of the Storm, satisfies:

NAT11239007 Provide guidance on ethical issues in a Christian ministry context.

Principles and Practice or Pastoral Ministry, satisfies:

NAT11239009 Develop ministry skills through supervision.

Healing Community satisfies:

NAT11239010 Build and maintain community relationships.

Students are supplied with a textbook, assignments, and instructions to complete the subject satisfactorily. Students may request alternative subjects to satisfy the units, the decision of the Principal on the choice will be final.

Theology of a Theologian

NAT11239008 Analyse the theology of an influential theologian and their impact on theology and church practice

Analyse Biblical Translation

NAT11239005 Analyse translation of the Bible to assist in exegesis

Students are supplied with assignments and instructions to complete the subject satisfactorily and must source their own text book and materials.

Training Package units

Suggested Training package units:

Up to three units may be selected from the suggested units below. Units may also be selected from any other Training Package or accredited course at the Advanced Diploma level. These units must be relevant to the work outcome.

The units will be completed online through the Vision Colleges Online Learning Platform. They may not include units listed in the Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry in Theology or the Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology.

Build and maintain ministry Relationships

NAT11239010 Build and maintain community relationships

Manage ministry operational plans

BSBOPS502 Manage business operational plans

Lead Diversity and Inclusion

BSBTWK501 Lead Diversity and Inclusion

Lead the ministry team

CHCMGT003 Lead The Work Team

This listing is correct at the time of publication but is subject to change without notice.

COLLEGE FEES

In keeping with our policy of being affordable, our fees[8] include 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

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
Optional Hard Copy (Plus Postage) $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[9]..... $35.00
Postage and Packing[10]..... T.B.A.
Graduation Ceremony[11] ..... T.B.A.

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 in the course are entitled to a full refund or full credit to a current course of their choice.

[8] 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.

[9] Applied if a student takes 3 months or more to complete a subject.

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

[11] 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.

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