



Vision

International College

Distance Education Bible College

Christian Ministry and Theology

Certificate III and IV Diploma and Advanced Diploma
Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma



Study from your place at your pace

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

Student Handbook 2024

Vision International College

NTIS ID: 90862

Student Handbook

Distance Education Christian Ministry and Theology Study Programs

2024

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



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HANDBOOK DISCLAIMER

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

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

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

New versions of the handbook will be made available online whenever there is an update. You can check for the latest update by the “Last printed” date in the footer of the Student Handbook.

This handbook is prepared as a resource for students to understand their obligations and those of Vision International College.

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

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

<https://visionbiblecollege.edu.au/study-2/online-resources/>

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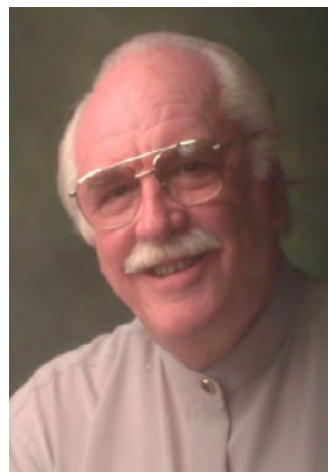
FROM THE PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER

Dear Reader,

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

In the love of Christ,

Ken Chant (M.R.E, PhD).

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Blessings upon you in Jesus' name,

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

Principal/CEO.

PART I

IN BRIEF

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM



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

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

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

Who We Are

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

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

Vision Colleges are both interdenominational and independent Bible Colleges. We have been operating for more than 50 years specializing in distance education Bible College. We have no classes or “in-house intensives”. We send the college to you by sending our study materials via email, the postal service, or our Online Portal. You return your assignments in the same manner.

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

What We Offer

Through *Vision International College*, we offer the following A.S.Q.A. accredited awards in Christian Ministry and Theology –



10741NAT Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology

10742NAT Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology

10743NAT Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology

10744NAT Advanced Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology

10745NAT Graduate Certificate in Christian Ministry and Theology

10746NAT Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology

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

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

The primary student cohort for the course includes:

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

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

Two Streams Of Theological Study

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

1. ***Biblical Theology***¹ is utilised for
 - a. Core units
 - b. Scripture and Theology units
 - c. Ministry and Formation units

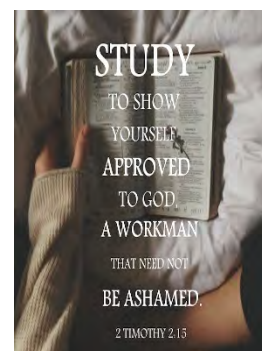
2. ***Practical Theology***.²

Ministry Skills Development³ these units are the “business end” of ministry and are taken from the “Community Services” training and other allied training programs and incorporate practical theology.

Biblical Theology

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

Graduates of a course will understand the Word of God better, develop a stronger relationship with God and his people, and be effectively equipped for ministry.

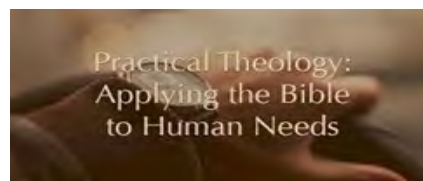
We do not claim to make you a pastor or evangelist or a prophet or a missionary or apostle; such is the work of the Holy Spirit. But we can and will help to develop the skills and knowledge that He will use to release you into His plan for your life.

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

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

Practical Theology: Ministry Skills

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



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

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

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

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

Australian Skills Quality Authority

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

⁴ See “**Systematic Theology**” under the section “**Types of Theology**”. See page 18.

⁵ **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>

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

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

Who Can Join The College?

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



Are There Prerequisites For Enrolling?

There are no formal prerequisites for Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology. See the relevant Section III Course Syllabi award for prerequisites for other awards.

How to enrol

Complete the application, include identification and a photo for your Student ID. and submit it to *Vision Colleges* offices by mail, email, or you can complete the [online application form](#).

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

You may be required to complete an Literacy, Language and Numeracy (LL&N) test before enrolment to determine if you can undertake the study requirements.

If you seek Advanced Standing (see the section on Advanced Standing on page 12), ensure that you include your academic transcripts or apply for the RPL Application form.

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

Universal Student Identifier

All students undertaking an accredited course within Australia must have a Universal Student Identifier (USI⁶). The purpose of the USI is to keep a record of your accredited studies in one place. If you do not have a USI, the College can assist you, or you can go online and get your USI from their website, <https://www.usi.gov.au/>.

⁶ <https://www.usi.gov.au/about>

What is the USI?

The USI is a reference containing a unique series of numbers and letters that gives you access to your records on the USI national database. Since 1 January 2015, all VET achievements have been collated into a single authenticated transcript. It will also ensure that students' VET records are not lost.

The USI is available online and at no cost to the student. This USI will stay with the student for life and be recorded with any nationally recognised VET course completed when the USI came into effect on 1 January 2015.

What Is The Cost Of Study?

Prices are listed at the back of this book and available from [Vision Colleges](#).

Can I Get Government Support?

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

Literacy, Language and Numeracy (LL&N)

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

The Australian Core Skills Framework (ASCF) identifies these five core skills as essential for individuals to participate effectively in society, including the workplace and education sector. Students may be required to take an LL&N test at their entry-level to determine their study and learning needs and eligibility to meet the study requirements of the course.

Student Support

Distance education is among the most rewarding yet challenging forms of learning. Students must seek out knowledge and answers to issues presented from their own resources. For that reason, many who begin their studies fail to complete as they feel alone and without help.

With Vision Colleges, you are not alone. You are encouraged to contact us anytime by emailing principal@visionbiblecollege.edu.au or by telephone at 02 9603 2077, and we will respond to you. We will help you and guide you to the best of our ability.

It is essential for you to realise that you are welcome to contact us and do so no matter how “small” the issue may seem. We are pleased to help.

Can I Apply For Advanced Standing?

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

Academic Transfer. (AT)

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

Recognition of Prior Learning. (RPL)

Students must prove they have previously learned a subject through work, training, or experience through a portfolio of evidence.

Where Do I Study?

As a distance education provider, we have no classrooms or required seminars, intensives, or such like. This means you study from your preferred place and at your pace.

How Long Does It Take To Study?

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

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

What about the Exams?

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

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

In general terms:

1. For theology subject our assessments are designed to test your understanding of the text and the question for theology. We use an open-book assessment which means that students are required to find the correct answers from the textbook.
2. For the Ministry Experience units:
 - a. Complete the assignments through our online training portal or
 - b. Complete a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate your competency in the studied unit.

Can I Appeal A Result?

If you are unsatisfied with your results, we encourage you to contact the office. Typically we can deal with the issues at the point of inquiry, and however, if you feel a further review is required, you will be asked to make your request in writing.

What About Graduation?

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

What Can I Do When I Graduate?

Vocational Options for each award are listed with the award in Section III Accredited Course Syllabi.

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

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

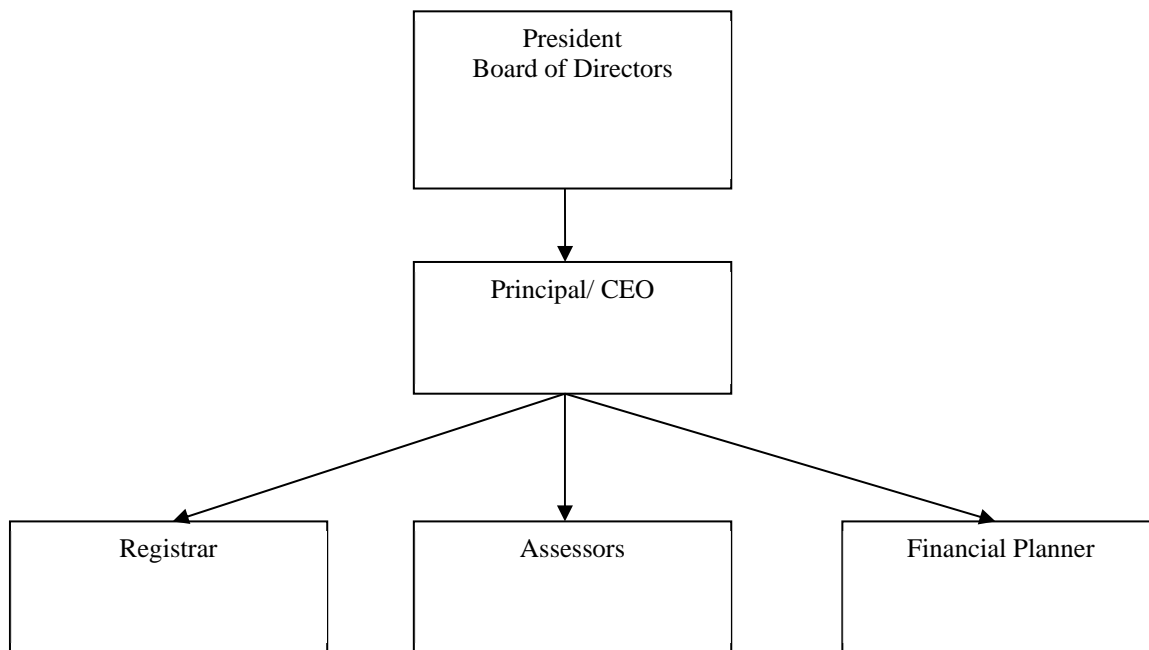
PART II

THE DETAILS

MEET THE STAFF

Administrative Structure

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



Board of Directors

- Rev. Dr Ken Chant (President)
- Dr Alison Chant
- Rev. Dr Denis Plant (Principal/CEO)
- Ps. Rosalind Plant
- Ps. Errol Stevenson (Financial Adviser)
- Sharon Jones
- Kristine Trott
- David Trott
- Elizabeth Plant
- Kristian Jones
- Lee Michelle
- Shane Conlon
- Fiona Conlon

The President

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

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

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

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



Principal CEO



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

For more than 45 years, Denis has been ministering to the Body of Christ in various ways. He has pioneered and pastored several churches in both country and city churches in NSW and Canberra, Australia. He has started several works, including home fellowships, Bible Colleges, and ministries to orphanages and nursing homes. For 12 years, he presented his radio program “The Gospel and Music” in Sydney, N.S.W. Denis is the author of the book “The Blood Covenant of God,” which is used in several Bible colleges worldwide in several denominations and is the Senior Pastor of “The Word Christian Fellowship,” a Foursquare church he pioneered in Macquarie Fields.

Admin Staff

Jackie Mulaya

Jackie came from Africa 10 years ago with her missionary-evangelist husband and has been involved with Vision for several years.

She is very proficient with Vettrak, the Student Records Manager and MYOB, our accounting package. Jackie is responsible for student records for Vision International College, invoicing and following up with student issues, enrolment problems, graduation, and other student issues. Currently, Jackie is studying for her Bachelor of Theology with Vision Colleges.



Jade De Freitas



Jade is part of our admin team and student support. Her voice is usually the first you will hear from Vision Colleges.

Jade deals with students' orders for subjects and is also responsible for producing study and assessment materials for the students. She promptly sends the subjects to the student and follows up with student issues. As a graduate of Vision International College, she can advise students about study issues from a personal perspective and help solve some of the problems of distance education.

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.
- The absolute spiritual authority, the reliability, the divine inspiration of the Bible, and its inerrancy in all 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 Holy Spirit, baptism is an experience discrete from and usually subsequent to the new birth and commonly 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 Christian ministry.
- The 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 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.
- In the resurrection of the dead at Christ's return, the certainty of God's judgment and the inevitable result foretold in the scriptures for the just and the unjust.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Organisational Philosophy.

Our philosophy is to provide authentic, legitimate Bible College materials to individuals and the local church in ways as easy to access as possible. To this end, we provide Distance Education for individuals through regular mail, email services, or online.



Not everyone who desires to attend a Bible College can do so for many legitimate reasons. The problems of a remote location, family commitments, political barriers, church or business responsibilities, financial constraints, or even the entry requirements of individual Colleges can provide an insurmountable obstacle for some. Our role at *Vision Colleges* is to bring Bible College to students unable or unwilling to attend a campus.

We are deeply committed to training people within their local church and providing excellent teaching materials for Christians everywhere.

We treat the entire local church environment as part of our “learning process”. The worship of the local church, its witness, fellowship, teaching, and ministry – are all reckoned to be part of equipping men and women to serve Christ.

Our function is to add a theological and academic resource that few churches can provide, leaving the practical training for ministry to the local pastor and his team.

Educational Philosophy

Underlying the way we present our materials and the kinds of assessment we employ is an educational philosophy based on the following principles –

1. Christian education must stand upon a solid theological foundation (cp. the injunctions and warnings about “sound doctrine” found in 1 Timothy 1:10; 4:13; 2 Timothy 4:3; 2 Peter 2:1-3; Jeremiah 6:16; 1 Corinthians 3:10-13; etc.)
2. Students must be brought to know God, not just to learn about him. The curriculum must be consciously structured to achieve that excellent end.
3. The goal must not simply be to impart knowledge but to teach principles of sound interpretation, showing people how to do their research, apply the truth to life, and use the available resources. The entire curriculum should reflect those principles of learning.
4. The Bible is a self-revelation of God, who discloses himself and his glory in scripture. We accept the Bible's divine inspiration and its infallibility and authority in all that it affirms concerning God and our relationship with him. We are, therefore, confident that sincere teaching of God’s Word, mixed with faith on the part of the hearers (Hebrews 4:2), is more than adequate to affect a life-change in those hearers. It is strong enough to countermand all secular influences and an ungodly environment.
5. Since the glory of God is mirrored in scripture, that same glory must be reflected in all our printed materials and spoken lectures. We believe God reveals himself through his word, teaching and preaching, especially in a Pentecostal/charismatic context (1 Corinthians 2:9-13). Note the apostles' attitude. They saw that salvation could only be gained by believing the scriptures (Ephesians 1:13; 1 Thessalonians 2:13).

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

.... you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfected, thoroughly furnished to every good work. (2Ti 3:15-17)

- All teaching must aim for an intelligent, believing response to the word of God, leading to a life of obedience to God's will and conformity to the character of Christ.
1. We practise “open-book” assessments, typically multiple-choice exams, not because of practical necessity but because of their connection with the philosophy outlined above. The combination of “open-book” with multiple-choice assessment achieves the double aim of obliging students to work through their textbooks several times and learn to think analytically and discern shades of doctrinal meaning.
 2. We look to the local church to provide a “field” experience through each student’s active participation in the church's worship, work, and witness. No other place is closer to the “front line” of spiritual warfare than the local church, in its proclamation of the evangel, as it intermingles with society and combats the world's rebellion against God.

Biblical Philosophy.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Our Teaching Commitment:

- the absolute lordship of Christ

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

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

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

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

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

TYPES OF THEOLOGY

There are various forms of theology, each with its purpose and value to help our understanding of God and His word. *Vision Colleges*, used three significant forms, **Biblical Theology**, **Practical Theology** and occasionally **Systematic Theology**. We have outlined them to help you understand where they apply.

Biblical Theology



Biblical theology⁷ is the study of the doctrines of the Bible, arranged according to their chronology and historical background, in contrast to systematic theology, which categorizes doctrine according to specific topics. Biblical theology shows the unfolding of God’s revelation as it progressed through history. Biblical theology may seek to isolate and express the theological teachings of a specific portion of Scripture, such as the theology of the Pentateuch (first five books

of the Old Testament) or the theology contained within John’s writings, etc. Or it may focus on a particular period, 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 theology. As he was inaugurated to a professorship in 1787, Gabler called for a sharp distinction between dogmatic (systematic or doctrinal) theology and biblical theology. For Gabler, biblical theology must be strictly a historical study of what was believed and taught in the various periods of biblical history, independent of modern denominational, doctrinal, philosophical, or cultural considerations. In general, the principles that Gabler espoused were correct, and he influenced the development of biblical theology for many years.

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

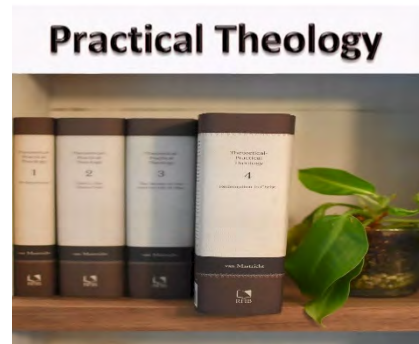
Here is a fundamental difference between systematic and biblical theology: systematic theology asks, “What does the Bible as a whole say about angels?” and then examines every passage that concerns angelic beings, draws conclusions, and organizes all the information into a body of truth called “angelology.”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

Biblical theology asks, “How did our understanding of angels develop throughout biblical history?” Starting with the Pentateuch’s teaching about angels and tracing God’s progressive

⁷ Recommended Resource: [A New Testament Biblical Theology: The Unfolding of the Old Testament in the New](#) by G.K. Beale

revelation of these beings throughout Scripture. Along the way, the biblical theologian concludes how people's thinking about angels may have changed as more and more truth was revealed. The conclusion of such a study is an understanding of what the Bible has to say about angels, placing that knowledge in the context of the "bigger picture" of God's whole revelation. Biblical theology helps us see the Bible as a unified whole rather than as a collection of unrelated doctrinal points.

Practical theology⁸, as its name implies, is the study of theology in a way that is intended to make it practical or applicable. Another way of saying it is that it is the study of theology so that it can be used and is relevant to everyday concerns. One seminary describes its Practical Theology Program as "being dedicated to the practical application of theological insights" and "generally includes the sub-disciplines of pastoral theology, homiletics, and Christian education, among others." Another seminary sees the purpose of practical theology as helping to prepare students to translate the knowledge learned into an effective ministry to people. Doing this involves both personal and family life as well as the administration and educational ministries in the church. They state that the goal of practical theology is to develop effective communicators of Scripture who have a *Vision* for the spiritual growth of believers while being servant leaders.



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

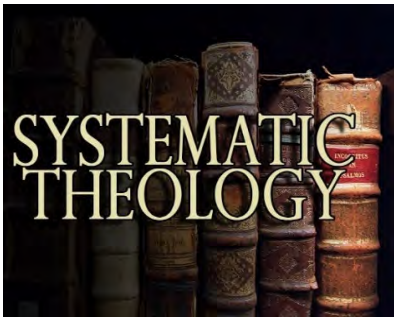
The premise behind practical theology programs is that future Christian leaders need to be equipped with theological knowledge and the necessary professional skills to minister effectively in the modern world. Often these programs use preaching, Christian education, counselling and clinical programs to provide opportunities to equip and prepare future Christian leaders.

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

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

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

⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Practical_theology



“Systematic” refers to something being put into a system. Systematic theology⁹ is, therefore, the division of theology into systems that explain its various areas. For example, many books of 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 organizes it into a system called angelology. That is what systematic theology is all about—organizing the teachings of the Bible into categorical systems.

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

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

Within Christianity, different traditions (both intellectual and ecclesial) approach systematic theology in different ways, impacting

- the method employed to develop the system,
- the understanding of theology's task,
- the doctrines included in the system, and
- the order in which those doctrines appear.

Even with such diversity, it is generally the case that works that one can describe as systematic theologies begin with revelation and conclude with eschatology.

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

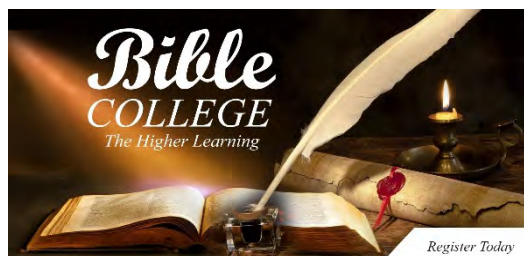
⁹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Systematic_theology

STUDENT INFORMATION

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

Admission Policy

Vision Colleges is open to anyone who desires to study our courses. We are careful not to discriminate against anyone who wishes to study with *Vision Colleges* who meets our admission requirements. No applicant to *Vision Colleges* will be disadvantaged by race, gender, age, religion, social or educational background, or disability.



Admission Requirements

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

Pre-requisites are outlined in the award pages in section III, Accredited Course Syllabi.

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

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

Regarding physical disabilities, the conditions for completing assessment tasks or field studies may vary at the Principal's discretion and per the College's *Access and Equity Policy*.

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

Access and Equity

Students are recruited ethically and responsibly, consistent with the requirements of the curriculum. Our *Access and Equity Policy* ensures student selection decisions comply with equal opportunity legislation.

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

Enrolment Procedure

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

- A student may be required to complete an LL&N test at any award level before acceptance.
- Students must sign off the privacy statement¹⁰ on the enrolment form.

¹⁰ See the Privacy Statement & Student Declaration example in Appendix III.

Once the enrolment process is completed, *Vision Colleges* will send the “First Subject Pack” to the student. It will contain a welcome letter, the first subject¹¹, assessments, a Student Study Helps and Hints booklet, our Student Handbook, promotional material, and a receipt.

What should I Do When I Receive My Study Materials?

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

Study the material, complete the assignments and send your completed assignments to the *Vision Colleges* office¹². We will assess it as quickly as possible and respond to you promptly.

You can order your next subject when you submit your work or wait until you receive your results.

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

Financial Assistance

Australian students of the Certificate III and IV may be eligible for Youth Allowance, Austudy or Abstudy and the Pension Education Supplement from Centrelink. *Vision Colleges* will support the student’s application for support, but the final decision rests with Centrelink.

It is the student's responsibility to inquire with Centrelink for support options. For advice on Government support, contact your Centrelink office.

Vision Colleges provides a link to Edupay¹³ on the website. Edupay is a private organisation that will offer an affordable loan if required.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Personal Support

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

With *Vision Colleges*, you are not alone. Our staff members are always available to you anytime by telephone or email. If we cannot respond immediately, leave a message, and we will respond as swiftly as possible. Contact details are on the last page of this booklet.

Documentary Support

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

A copy of Student Helps and Hints is provided with instructions for each form of assessment.

We also offer Online Resources¹⁴ to our student body from our internet site.

¹¹ The “First Subject” will be determined by the course the student is enrolled in.

¹² If assignments are sent by post we recommend sending photocopies of your assignments and retain the originals in case the work is lost in the mail.

¹³ An affordable loan to cover your college fees and expenses are available through Edupay and can be used for recognised, accredited studies or degree program options. Edupay is a separate entity offering finance to Australian students and is not a part of *Vision Colleges*.

¹⁴ <https://visionbiblecollege.edu.au/study-2/online-resources/>

Assignments instructions are provided with each assignment ensuring student awareness of the requirements

Mentor Support

While it is not required, we encourage students to find a mentor to assist them and provide encouragement throughout their course. It is not possible for *Vision Colleges* to provide a mentor as our student body is widely scattered throughout Australia and overseas. For this reason, the student is responsible for seeking out their mentor.

The mentor should have experience in the field of study. Typically, the student's pastor or his delegate takes this role and has a guiding hand in developing the student's ministry.

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

Learner Support Policy

Language, Literacy and Numeracy (LLN) are core skills required within Vocational Education and Training (VET). The skills are 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 the workplace and education sector.

VIC students must have the LL&N skills sufficient to successfully participate in training and assessment in the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector. Students must have an adequate LL&N skill set after their training to work successfully in their chosen vocation.



Introduction

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

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

Learner Support Procedures

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

Before Enrolment

- *Vision Colleges* staff will advise students identified as needing learner support during enrollment of the support options available.
- *Vision Colleges* management is advised of all LL&N test results identifying significant Learner Support needs of enrolling students.
- *Vision Colleges* retains the right to defer prospective students from enrolling in a course until they have sufficiently addressed their LL&N learner needs to satisfy the LL&N Test.

- Students who need significant Learner Support may be enrolled at *Vision Colleges* with a reduced¹⁵ study load.

Post Enrolment

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

Pre Assessment

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

Learner Support Review

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

Changes to the programme

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

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

Alternative Programme

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

It is less demanding, less costly, and has fewer time constraints. For many students, it provides an alternative pathway to Certificate IV.

Please note *Vision Christian College* does not attract Youth Allowance, Austudy or Abstudy, government funding and the program is not accredited.

Student Records

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

¹⁵ A reduced study load means that a student's work will be spread over a longer period of time and various alternative options may be offered to assist the student to successfully complete their work. It is not intended that the student should graduate by doing less work but by being allowed to complete the work over a longer period of time or through alternative assessment options.

sufficient notice, Vision Colleges' administrative staff shall provide students with access to their student records.

Student Body

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

- Prefer a self-paced distance-based education.
- Are unable to undertake full-time studies at a campus.
- Have work or family commitments that prevent access to a campus.
- Find campus requirements challenging to comply with.
- Find campus study too costly.
- For a multitude of other reasons, are unable to access other study options.

The primary student cohort for the course includes:

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

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

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

Full-Time Students

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

Students receiving Austudy, Abstudy, Youth Allowance, or any other form of government subsidy must complete one subject per month to maintain eligibility as a condition of their funding. For Centrelink funding, a full-time student undertakes 20 hours of study per week.

Part-Time Students

Students who enrol but complete their studies at a slower pace than one subject per month or cannot complete a course in a single year are considered part-time students. While it may take longer to graduate, such students are treated the same way as any full-time student. Credits for each competency completed will contribute to their award. Centrelink funding for part-time students, less than 20 hours per week, may be available.

Casual Students

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

Course Emphasis

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

Duration Of The Program

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

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

Study Method

Students typically complete their subjects as listed in the award, they can tailor their awards by selecting alternative subjects to meet their needs. Student's should discuss their needs with their mentor or Principal of *Vision Colleges* to tailor the learning program.

Extensive advice on study is provided to the student in our book Student Study Helps and Hints.

Code Of Practice

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

Social Justice

Principles of social justice are addressed appropriately in all aspects of the implementation of this training program. We will endeavour to follow those principles as it is reasonable and acceptable to do so within the constitutions of the participating denominations or faith groups.

Resources

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

Prepared notes	Recommended texts	Training videos
Computer software	Internet access	Experienced mentors
Email	Telephone access	Facsimile service
Seminars	Study Bible	Internet Access

No Semester or Term Dates

As a Distance Learning provider *Vision Colleges* does not apply semester or term restrictions to a student. Students can access the courses at any time. However, a late marking fee shall apply if a student take three calendar months to complete a subject.

Class Attendance

As a distance education provider, we send the material to the student. There are no classrooms or intensives to attend. The distance education program can be complemented occasionally by enrichment classes at a "Resource Centre"¹⁶.

¹⁶ A Resource Centre is Vision Christian College local church Bible college. A *Vision International College* and *Vision Christian College* teach from the same subjects a student with *Vision International College* is welcomed and encouraged to attend and utilize the student resources available at a Vision Christian College Resource Centre. A Resource Centre is not a formal part of the *Vision International College* program.

Grievance Policy

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

Definition of Grievance

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

Grievance Procedure

First, Students are encouraged to contact the staff member or person concerned in the dispute. If that is not possible, the next step is to approach the principal. A *Grievance Report Form* will be completed and sent to the office, and a formal meeting will be set up to resolve the issue.

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

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

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

ONLINE TRAINING PORTAL



Vision International College
Christian Ministry and Theology
Online Training Portal

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

We STRONGLY suggest the student submit **no more than two answers at a time**. The assessor will be able to guide the student in their responses and resolve errors before they become recurrent.

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

We encourage our students to use the online system; it is a very professional and effective online learning portal that can be accessed anywhere in the world.

Currently, we have students from most states of Australia, South Africa and the USA who avail themselves of this option.

CHURCH AFFILIATION

Church Life Policies

Vision Colleges is committed to the principles of the local church ministry. We encourage our students to be active members of a local church of their choice, where they will be encouraged to exercise and develop the skills they will learn through their *Vision Colleges* course.

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

Active Membership

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

We recognise that not all students who enter distance education can be involved in a local church. The nature of distance education is that some students are in remote areas where regular church attendance is impossible.

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

PART III

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

VISION COLLEGES

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY PROGRAM

The Christian Ministry and Theology program suits Vision International College's ministry objectives.

These qualifications were developed through broad consultation with various denominations, independent churches, and bible colleges throughout Australia. They are subject to ongoing feedback and review to maintain relevance.

This suite of six Christian Ministry and Theology qualifications was first accredited in September 2002 and again in 2008, 2012, and 2023.

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

Christian denominations leading the development of the 2018 qualifications were:

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

Denominations represented in the student cohort include:

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

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

Benefits Of The Program

- Combines practical ministry and theological training in one course.
- Flexible enough to be delivered to various church groups and Christian ministry contexts.
- The flexibility of elective choice or theology subject is significant.
- The courses can be customised to suit the needs of the setting and adaptable to different interpretations of the Bible and Christian beliefs.
- The courses provide pathways into Christian Ministry and Theology for those not interested in or ready for higher education qualifications.
- The stepped progression of qualifications and core competencies is helpful to support the increasing depth of knowledge and skill requirements at higher levels of responsibility.
- Combining theological learning with practical ministry skills effectively balances participants and supports career pathways.
- Certificate III focuses on the personal formation that is helpful at this level, particularly for younger participants.
- Competency outcomes of individual units are appropriate and consistent with AQF levels.

Two Streams Of Study

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

3. **Biblical Theology** is utilised for
 - a. Core units
 - b. Scripture and Theology units
 - c. Ministry and Formation units
4. **Practical Theology** is utilised for

Ministry Skills Development these units are the “business end” of ministry and are taken from the “Community Services” training and other allied training programs and incorporate practical theology.

Community Services and *Business Development* units combined with *Biblical Theology* and *Practical Theology* make the *Vision Colleges* program compelling and unique.

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

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

Students completing awards from Certificate III to Graduate Diploma will find themselves increasingly equipped with a balanced understanding of the Word of God, development of their

personal growth, a stronger relationship with God, and fit for ministry both presently and long into the future. Our goal is to satisfy the criteria set out in scripture –

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

Biblical Theology

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

Our approach embraces Biblical Theology¹⁷, which deals with the great ideas presented in scripture. Subjects are offered to the student by topic. The student enjoys a higher level of flexibility in the subjects, which allows us to tailor a course to suit a particular ministry/student need without compromising the integrity of the course.

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

Ministry Skills

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

Each of the awards requires a number of these units.

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

These units are used for religious and secular qualifications in various fields of employment. This acceptance adds to the attraction of the *Vision Colleges* awards as they address many administrative, legal, social and community responsibilities while developing a sense of professional excellence in the student.

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

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

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

Competency-Based Vocational Training

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

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

¹⁷ For definitions on the types of theology utilised by *Vision* see our section “Types of Theology”.

Five Values of Competency-Based Vocational Ministry Training

Vision Colleges affirms the following values for vocational ministry training.

Christ

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

Community

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

Character

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

Calling

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

Competency

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

SUGGESTED STUDY METHOD

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

Typically, a student should complete one subject per month. With some discipline, a student can comfortably complete this pace and have time for a vacation in any given year.

We recommend that students should complete a “Theology” unit followed by “Ministry Skills” subject, then 2 “Theology” units, followed by a “Ministry Skills” unit until the course is completed.

Study Materials

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

The “**Ministry Skills**” are completed through our online training portal or by a workbook and the completion of a comprehensive portfolio of evidence.

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

The student may discuss with the Principal or the Registrar the option of substituting subjects provided that the substitute subject satisfies the requirements of the unit.

The Principal's decision on the choice of a substitute is final.

Ordering A Subject

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

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

Subjects must be paid for when ordered unless special arrangements are made with the registrar and endorsed by the principal. Students can order by phone, mail, email, or our website.

First Subject

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

Subsequent Subject

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

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

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

ADVANCED STANDING

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

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

Academic Credit

Students who have completed subjects at another college should present their academic transcript for assessment. The college will assess the transcript and advise the student of the level of advanced standing available.

Recognised Prior Learning (RPL)

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

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

ASSESSMENTS

Assessment Options

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

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

Pre-requisites/Co-requisites

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

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

Assessment Codes

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

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

Theology Units

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

Ministry Skills Units

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

Suggested Assessment Strategies.

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

Assessment Methods

1. Written plays.
2. A written for and against essay.
3. Case Studies.
4. Tests – short answer and multiple choice.
5. Written reports.
6. Projects.
7. Essays.

8. Consideration of third-party reports (such as a congregational support team or pastoral supervisor).
9. Other exercises appropriate to the unit of competency.

Assessment Adjustments

According to the College Access and Equity policy, adjustments can be made to the assessment process to ensure equitable judgments.

Adjustments may include:

- Provision of personal support services such as an interpreter, a carer or a scribe where appropriate or available.
- Use adaptive technology such as a word processor, voice or video recorder.
- Design shorter assessment sessions to allow for fatigue, medical condition, or certain medications.
- Use larger print versions of any papers or notes for those needing them.

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

Assessment Procedure

Assignments are assessed in the *Vision Colleges* office by *Vision Colleges* assessor. Arrangements may be made to evaluate the student at their location.

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

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

The work is forwarded to the assessor for assessment.

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

If the work is not yet satisfactory:

- Notations are made in the "*SUBJECT_Name* answer template."
- The student is advised of the unit's unsuccessful completion and recommendations for the work to be completed.

Final Subject

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

Assessment Appeal

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

Appeal Procedure

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

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

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

The Assessor will re-evaluate the assessment process with the Registrar, taking the student's comments into account.

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

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

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

Plagiarism

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

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

According to the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary¹⁸, to "plagiarize" means:

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

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

Any student engaging in plagiarism may be expelled from the college. Academic standing will be forfeited for the plagiarised subject—anyone who participates in plagiarism risks legal action from the original author.

Course Grading Policies

“Competency¹⁹” is the standard by which a student satisfactorily completes a subject.

¹⁸ <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/plagiarize>

¹⁹ Having suitable or sufficient skill, knowledge, experience, etc., for some purpose; properly qualified: He is perfectly competent to manage the bank branch. Adequate but not exceptional.

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

Multiple-choice Assessment

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

1. Student Study Guide

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

2. Assignment Report

Element	Possible Total
Formatting.....	10
Scripture Reference	10
Supporting Evidence	30
Content Relevance	50
Total Possible Result	100

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

Element	Possible Total
Formatting	10
Length	10
Scripture reference	15
Supporting references	15
Content relevance	50
Total Possible Result	100

Vision Colleges has over 50 years of experience in a worldwide ministry reaching 155 nations with a diverse student body of more than 150,000 students annually.

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

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

Quality Management Focus

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

Student Service

We have sound management principles to ensure effective service to our student body, the standards provide a timely response to student assessment results and qualifications.

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

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

Assessment Standards

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

Graduation Ceremony/Celebration Service

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

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

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

Articulation and Credit Transfer

Graduates who have received awards with *Vision Colleges* can receive credit towards higher qualifications offered by various R.T.O's and Higher Education Providers. Graduates will need to negotiate this on an individual basis.

Credit Transfer of units completed from a National Training Package are available if it is allowed within the stated rules of the Training Package.

Training/Education/Career Pathways

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

There is a formal arrangement with the Texas University of Theology and *Vision International University* to articulate into the Bachelor's Completion from the Christian Ministry and Theology Diploma.

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

SECTION III

COURSE SYLLABI

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.
- Flexibility of elective choice is essential.

- The courses are flexible enough to be delivered in many church groups and Christian ministry contexts.
- 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.

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

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

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

CERTIFICATE III IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

Certificate III is the first step in an exciting journey of discovery into the word of God and preparation for ministry.

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 eligible²⁰ 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.

²⁰ 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

Occupational Titles May Include:

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

Course Description

This course is designed to prepare individuals for various entry-level Christian ministry roles. It is also designed to equip employees in Christian organisations, not-for-profit or service contexts with an understanding of the beliefs and values that guide Christian education, health, social services, childcare or aged care so that they can work effectively in these sectors.

Workers in these contexts must align their work with the organisation's vision, values and expected practices and operate within an ethical and moral framework.

The course will provide participants with:

- Basic knowledge of core Christian beliefs and practices.
- An understanding of the relevance and application of these beliefs and practices to a specific context.
- Skills to interpret, apply and communicate Christian beliefs and practices at an introductory level.
- Opportunities for personal ethical formation and
- Foundational skills for work or further vocational training.

The Subjects

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

The elective subjects are appropriate for those 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.

There are two options to complete the practical theology units.

1. Through our "Online Training Portal". The portal provides students with a comprehensive and interactive learning and training program. Various assignments are presented to teach and determine competency in the units required. Detailed instructions and access are provided to students by VIC as they enter into the subject. A preview of the *Vision Colleges* Training Portal is available to students and prospective students. Student User Guide <https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>
2. If a unit is not available online, or if a student cannot access the internet or is uncomfortable with online learning, the unit is available in hard copy as a workbook with written assignments.

Students may request alternative practical theology units. For a list of alternative options, contact the Principal at Vision Colleges.

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

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; the time frame is only a guide. A student's actual time frame depends 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 eligible²¹ 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, para-church 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.

²¹ 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.

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 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

Course Description

This course is designed to prepare individuals for a range of Christian ministry roles such as chaplain, lay worker, ministry team leader, youth ministry worker and evangelist.

It is also designed to equip employees in parachurch, community and Christian organisations with an understanding of the beliefs and values that guide Christian education, health, social services, child care or aged care so that they are able to work effectively in these sectors. Workers in these contexts are required to align their work with the vision, values and expected practices of the organisation and to operate within an ethical and moral framework.

The course will provide participants with:

- knowledge of core Christian beliefs and practices;
- an ability to apply these beliefs and practices to a range of issues or contexts;
- skills to interpret and communicate Christian beliefs and practices;
- opportunities for personal ethical formation; and
- skills for work or further vocational training.

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 Grey

Ministry and Formation

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

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 principal's decision on the alternative will be final.

Ministry Skills

- NAT11238014 Lead a process of Christian discipleship
Foundations of Faith
- CHCMHS001 Work with people with mental health issues.
Ministering to hurting people
- CHCCCS016 Respond to client needs.
Responding to the needs of others

There are two options to complete the Practical Units.

- Through our "Online Training Portal". The portal provides students with a comprehensive and interactive learning and training program. Various assignments are presented to teach and determine competency in the units required. Detailed instructions and access are provided to students by VIC as they enter into the subject. A preview of the *Vision Colleges* Training Portal is available to students and prospective students. Student User Guide <https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>
- If a unit is not available online, or if a student cannot access the internet or is uncomfortable with online learning, the unit is available in hard copy as a workbook with written assignments.

Students may request alternative practical theology units. For a list of alternative options, contact the Principal at Vision Colleges.

It is helpful, for a student to be involved in a local church or community-based program under qualified leadership and document work experience to assist in establishing competencies.

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 provides a pathway for further learning 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

Course Description

This course is designed to prepare individuals for a range of Christian ministry roles including as pastors, deacons, lay preachers, chaplains and evangelists.

Work in these roles may also require commissioning from a recognized religious institution.

The course will provide participants with

- advanced knowledge of core Christian beliefs and practices.
- skills to interpret, apply and teach Christian beliefs and practices.
- opportunities for personal ethical formation.
- practical ministry, leadership or teaching skills; and
- skills for work or further vocational training.

Graduates of this course will have acquired specialized knowledge related to the beliefs of church groups and an understanding of groups holding other views relevant to Christian ministry contexts and will also have gained skills consistent with the Diploma AQF descriptor, such as the ability to:

- Analyse information related to Christian beliefs
- Provide guidance and leadership in a range of life and ministry situations based on more advanced interpretations of Christian beliefs.
- Provide considered information related to Christian beliefs and understandings to some Christian and some non-Christian audiences.
- Provide solutions to some complex theological problems.
- Fulfil more formal roles with increasing leadership responsibilities, expectations and requirements within the Christian ministry sector.

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.

Ministry and Formation

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

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

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 Principal's decision on the choice will be final.

Ministry Skills

CHCPAS001 – Plan for the provision of pastoral and spiritual care:
Planning Pastoral and Spiritual Care

CHCPAS004 Provide Pastoral and Spiritual Care
Provide Pastoral and Spiritual Care

NAT11238009 Provide leadership in a Christian organisation
Provide leadership in a Christian organisation

NAT11238010 Develop and implement ministry programs
Develop and implement ministry programs

There are two options to complete the Practical

Theology units.

- Through our “Online Training Portal”. The portal provides students with a comprehensive and interactive learning and training program. Various assignments are presented to teach and determine competency in the units required. Detailed instructions and access are provided to students by VIC as they enter into the subject. A preview of the *Vision Colleges* Training Portal is available to students and prospective students. Student User Guide <https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>
- If a unit is not available online, or if a student cannot access the internet or is uncomfortable with online learning, the unit is available in hard copy as a workbook with written assignments.

Students may request alternative practical theology units. For a list of alternative options, contact the Principal at Vision Colleges.

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

ADVANCED DIPLOMA OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND THEOLOGY

For students continuing from the Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology Certificate IV 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.

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

Course Description

This course is designed to prepare individuals for various Christian ministry roles, including pastors, deacons, lay preachers, chaplains and evangelists. Work in these roles may also require commissioning from a recognised religious institution.

The course will provide participants with

- advanced knowledge of core Christian beliefs and practices;
- skills to interpret, apply and teach Christian beliefs and practices;
- opportunities for personal ethical formation;
- practical ministry, leadership or teaching skills; and
- skills for work or further vocational training.

About The Course

The purpose of this course is to:

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

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

- Analyse and synthesise information related to various Christian beliefs into relevant forms.
- Provide specialist advice, guidance and leadership in a broad range of life and ministry situations based on advanced interpretations of Christian theological and contextual beliefs, including providing solutions to unpredictable and complex problems.
- Provide advanced knowledge of Christian beliefs and understandings to Christian and non-Christian audiences.
- Fulfil formal leadership by attending to responsibilities, expectations and requirements within the Christian ministry sector.

The Subjects

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

The elective subjects are appropriate for those 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 Twelve (12) Units. VIC has nominated subjects to satisfy the units.

Theology

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

NAT11239004 Analyse the theology of a biblical author
Treasures from Paul – Colossians

NAT11239006 Articulate, present and debate the nature and person of Jesus
Emmanuel: Christology

NAT11239007 Provide guidance on ethical issues in a Christian ministry context
Marriage and family Life

NAT11239009 Develop ministry skills through supervision
My Brother's Keeper

Students are supplied with a textbook, assignments and complete instructions to satisfactorily complete the subject; alternative subjects may be selected from the Study Streams

NAT11239008 Theology of an influential theologian
As the theologian is of the student's choice, research materials are self-selected and sourced

.Ministry Skills

NAT11239010 Build and maintain community relationships
Build and maintain ministry Relationships

BSBOPS502 Manage business operational plans
Manage ministry operational plans

CHCCDE021 Develop and support community resources
Developing and supporting ministry resources

CHCMGT003 Lead the work team
Lead the ministry team

Through our "Online Training Portal". The portal provides students with a comprehensive and interactive learning and training program. Various assignments are presented to teach and determine competency in the units required. Detailed instructions and access are provided to students by VIC as they enter into the subject. A preview of the *Vision Colleges* Training Portal is available to students and prospective students. Student User Guide <https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>

1. If a unit is not available online, or if a student cannot access the internet or is uncomfortable with online learning, the unit is available in hard copy as a workbook with written assignments.

Students may request alternative practical theology units. For a list of alternative options, contact the Principal at Vision Colleges.

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

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's Degree) with relevant vocational experience in Christian ministry and theology

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

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

Course Description

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 will provide participants with the ability to analyse, synthesise and communicate complex Christian beliefs; skills to provide specialised guidance and leadership in a broad range of contexts; and advanced skills at biblical and theological interpretation.

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

Graduates will demonstrate advanced autonomous judgment and initiative and judgement in advising others on Christian ministry or theological matters in a broad range of organisational settings. They will take responsibility as a skilled practitioner in an uncontrolled ministry environment and apply advanced approaches to the study of Christian concepts and beliefs to a broad range of subjects and topics.

The Subjects

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

Scripture and Theology:

NAT11231003 Lead ethical practice in a Christian ministry context
Christian Ethics

NAT11231001 Examine and compare Scripture and theology
Christian and Old Testament Theology

Ministry Skills

NAT11231004 Lead the mission of a Christian organisation
Leading a Ministries Mission

BSBTWK502 Manage team effectiveness
Manage a Ministry Team

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

There are two options to complete the (Online) units

1. Through our “Online Training Portal”. The portal provides students with a comprehensive and interactive learning and training program. Various assignments are presented to teach and determine competency in the units required. Detailed instructions and access are provided to students by VIC as they enter into the subject. A preview of the *Vision Colleges* Training Portal is available to students and prospective students. Student User Guide <https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>

2. If a unit is not available online, or if a student cannot access the internet or is uncomfortable with online learning, the unit is available in hard copy as a workbook with written assignments.

Students may request alternative practical theology units. For a list of alternative options, contact the Principal at Vision Colleges.

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

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's Degree) with relevant vocational experience in Christian ministry and theology

Recommended Entry Requirements.

Entrants should 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

Course Description

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 will provide participants with the ability to analyse, synthesise and communicate complex Christian beliefs; skills to provide specialised guidance and leadership in a broad range of contexts; and advanced skills at biblical and theological interpretation.

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

Graduates will demonstrate advanced autonomous judgment and initiative and judgement in advising others on Christian ministry or theological matters in a broad range of organisational settings. They will take responsibility as a skilled practitioner in an uncontrolled ministry environment and apply advanced approaches to the study of Christian concepts and beliefs to a broad range of subjects and topics. The subjects

To achieve the qualification Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology the candidate must complete eight elective units. Four of the units are taken from the Graduate Certificate leaving a total of four units to complete.

The Subjects

Biblical Theology

Vision International College has nominated units satisfy the Graduate Diploma of Christian Ministry and Theology. Students may select alternatives to meet their study needs. Contact the Principal of the college to request a list of options. The final decision on an alternative rests with the Principal. Students will be required to source study materials from their own resources as indicated in the subject study guides.

Theology

NAT11231002 Analyse and apply Christian doctrine
Contemporary Theology

NAT11232005 Analyse worldviews and world religions
The Missionary Encounter with World Religion

PSPGEN100 Manage conflict
Dealing With Conflict

NAT11232003 Initiate Research in Christian Ministry
Research and Reaching the Local Community

Ministry Skills

BSBSTR601 Manage innovation and continuous improvement
Managing Innovation in the Local Church

CHCPRP001 Develop and maintain networks and collaborative partnerships Networking for Ministry

There are two options to complete the (Online) units

1. Through our “Online Training Portal”. The portal provides students with a comprehensive and interactive learning and training program. Various assignments are presented to teach and determine competency in the units required. Detailed instructions and access are provided to students by VIC as they enter into the subject. A preview of the *Vision Colleges* Training Portal is available to students and prospective students. Student User Guide <https://vimeo.com/354141555/1a83c2082e>
2. If a unit is not available online, or if a student cannot access the internet or is uncomfortable with online learning, the unit is available in hard copy as a workbook with written assignments.

Students may request alternative practical theology units. For a list of alternative options, contact the Principal at Vision Colleges.

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

STUDENT FEES

In keeping with our policy of being affordable, our fees²² are inclusive of all study materials in .PDF files or online studies. Study material are 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	\$150.00

Subject Materials Per Unit

Study materials are provided online or by .PDF files

Certificate III.....	\$195.00
Certificate IV.....	\$299.00
Diploma.....	\$335.00
Advanced Diploma	\$360.00
Graduate Certificate and Diploma:	\$499.00
Optional hard copies of study materials.....	\$25.00

Advanced Standing

Academic Transfer per subject:	60% of unit Fee
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Recognised Prior Learning

Unit of recognition:	60% of Unit Fee
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Replacements Or Copies

Award:.....	\$35.00
Academic Transcript:	\$35.00
Replacement of ID Card:	\$35.00
Assessment.....	\$20.00
Study Helps and Hints.....	\$25.00
Student Handbook.....	\$25.00
Late Marking Fee ²³	\$35.00
Postage and Packing ²⁴	TBA
Graduation Ceremony ²⁵	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.

²² 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.

²³ Applied if a student takes 3 months or more to complete a subject

²⁴ *Vision Colleges* will always try to source the most economical method of delivery, however we are subject to the rates of Australia Post.

²⁵ 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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