



## GRADUATE DIPLOMA OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### AWARD SUMMARY

**CRICOS:** None

**Nomenclature:** GradDipRelEd

**AQF Level 8 Graduate Diploma**

**Entry Requirements:** Satisfactory completion of a three-year AQF Level 7 undergraduate degree (or equivalent) from an institution recognised by Academic Board.

**Entry Pathways:** Students who have completed a three-year AQF Level 7 undergraduate degree will complete the full 108 credit point Graduate Diploma of Religious Education course.

Students may enter the Graduate Diploma of Religious Education directly, OR or enter the nested Graduate Certificate in Religious Education. Students will receive full credit for the units they completed within the Graduate Certificate in accordance with AUCD policy.

Students who have completed prior studies in relevant disciplines at AQF 8 and 9 may be eligible for credit. Credit will be considered according to AUCD policy. Students who have completed an undergraduate degree in theology satisfactorily will be granted an exemption from T8106 and may study an elective unit in its place.

**Duration:** 1 year full-time or 4 years (maximum) part-time.

**Attendance Type:** Full-time, part-time.

**Delivery Mode:** Online, face-to-face, or multi-modal.

**Structure:** 72 credit points (8 units).

## **English Proficiency**

Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally require a minimum IELTS (or equivalent) score of at least 7.0 with no subtest below 6.5.

## **Exit Points**

Students enrolled in the Graduate Diploma of Religious Education may exit with a Graduate Certificate in Religious Education, provided they meet the requirements of the award.

## **Enrolment**

Contact the Registrar of the Member Institution with whom you intend to study for enrolment and fee details.

## **Graduate Profile and Rationale**

The Graduate Diploma of Religious Education qualifies individuals who apply a body of knowledge in a range of contexts to undertake professional or highly skilled work and as a pathway for further learning.

## **Knowledge**

Graduates will have:

- advanced knowledge within a systematic and coherent body of knowledge that may include the acquisition and application of knowledge and skills in religious education or professional practice in the field.

## **Skills**

Graduates will have:

- cognitive skills to review, analyse, consolidate and synthesise knowledge in the field of religious education and identify and provide solutions to complex problems in this field;
- cognitive skills to think critically and theologically so as to generate and evaluate complex ideas;
- specialised technical and creative skills in the field of religious education;
- communication skills to demonstrate an understanding of theoretical concepts and theological principles;
- communication skills to transfer complex knowledge and ideas to a variety of audiences.

## **Applications of Knowledge and Skills**

Graduates will have the ability to:

- to make high-level, independent judgements in a range of technical or management functions in varied specialised contexts inclusive of religious contexts;
- to initiate, plan, implement and evaluate broad functions within varied specialised religious, technical and/or creative contexts;
- with responsibility and accountability for personal outputs and all aspects of the work or function of others within broad parameters.

## **Academic regulations for the Graduate Diploma of Religious Education**

### **1 Admission to Candidature**

- 1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature into the Graduate Diploma of Religious Education requires:
  - 1.1.1 satisfactory completion of a three-year AQF Level 7 undergraduate degree from an institution recognised by Academic Board.
- 1.2 A candidate for the Graduate Diploma of Religious Education shall be designated as full-time or part-time.
- 1.3 Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally require a minimum IELTS (or equivalent) score of at least 7.0 with no subtest below 6.5.
- 1.4 Application for enrolment in the Graduate Diploma of Religious Education program is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the program.

### **2 Course Structure**

- 2.1 The Graduate Diploma of Religious Education comprises four compulsory units (36 points) one specified elective unit (9 points), and three elective units (27 points).
- 2.2 Four compulsory units (36 credit points):
  - 2.2.1 T8106 - Foundations for Theological Studies
  - 2.2.2 D8120 Foundations for Religious Education: Theory and Practice
  - 2.2.3 D8121 Religious Education in the Contemporary Classroom
  - 2.2.4 D9220 Theology of Religious Education
- 2.3 Once specified elective unit (9 credit points) chosen from the following list:
  - D8192 Issues in Religious Education
  - D9224 Religion and Young People in Australia and Abroad
  - D9225 Godly Play, Religious Education, and the Future
  - D9231 Contemporary Pedagogies and Classroom Practices in Religious Education
  - D9232 The Early Years in School-Based Religious Education
  - D9233 Research and Praxis in Religious Education
  - D9234 Teaching Scriptures in the Classroom
  - D9291 Issues in Religious Education for the 21st Century
  - D9293 Independent Guided Study (Religious Education)
  - S9240 Travelling Inwards, Travelling Outwards: Exploring Spiritual Growth for Teachers
- 2.4 Three Elective Units (27 credit points), chosen from the subdisciplines of Pastoral Theology (P), Mission (M), Systematic Theology (T), Worship and Liturgy (L), Biblical Studies (B), Education (D), or Spirituality (S), coded within the 8100 and 9200 series
- 2.5 Other units which are at AQF 8 or 9, whether from the AUCD or completed with another recognized provider, may be applied either as specified or unspecified credit in accordance with the AUCD Credit Policy.

### **3 Period of Candidature**

- 3.1 The period of candidature for the Graduate Diploma of Religious Education shall normally be 1 year full-time and up to 4 years part-time.
- 3.2 In certain circumstances the Director of Student Service may grant extensions.

### **4 Leave of Absence**

- 4.1 The Director of Student Services may grant leave of absence from the Graduate Diploma of Religious Education. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the Graduate Diploma of Religious Education.
- 4.2 The period of leave shall normally be one teaching period after which a candidate may apply for a further period of one teaching period or will be required to complete candidature.

### **5 Assessment**

- 5.1 The assessment of units shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board in line with the College's established guidelines for assessment packages.
- 5.2 Students may be required by the Academic Board to present themselves for oral examination.
- 5.3 Academic and non-academic misconduct will be penalised in accordance with the regulations of the University College.

### **6 Credit**

- 6.1 Articulating students with an AQF 8 Graduate Certificate in Religious Education award from the University College will receive credit of 36 credit points in the Graduate Diploma of Religious Education.
- 6.2 6.2 Candidates from other institutions or with other awards may seek credit up to a maximum of 36 credit points in the Graduate Diploma of Religious Education, in accordance with the University College Credit Policy.
  - 6.2.1 Included in this 36 credit points a maximum of 18 credit points may be awarded for Recognition of Prior Learning within the Graduate Diploma of Religious Education. Applicants for Recognition of Prior Learning must submit an application as required by the AUCD Credit Policy
  - 6.2.2 Applications for Recognition of Prior Learning will be assessed in accordance with the University College Credit Policy.

### **7 Progress to Further Awards**

- 7.1 The Graduate Diploma of Religious Education articulates with the Master of Religious Education. Credit will be given within the higher award for all units completed within the lower award.

### **8 Exit Points**

- 8.1 Students enrolled in the Graduate Diploma of Religious Education may exit with a Graduate Certificate in Religious Education, provided they have met the requirements of the award.

## **9 Saving Clause**

- 9.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Academic Board of the University College may, in any case in which it may deem it appropriate to do so, vary, dispense with, or suspend any requirement or prescription by these regulations, and report forthwith to the Council of the University College.

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date and Governance</b>	<b>Changes</b>
1.0	9/10/2023 Academic Board	Approved
2.0	4/3/2024 Academic Board	IELTS admission requirements update
3.0	26/8/2024 Academic Board	Change in titles and lists of schedules.
4.0	30/6/2025 Academic Board	Universal Revisions: 1) Delete Prohibition of enrolling in two awards simultaneously 2) Extend Part-time duration of study to FOUR TIMES (4x) the full-time duration 3) Remove requirements for compulsory admission interviews 4) Replace 'semester' with 'teaching period' 5) Remove: 'whose stipulations are severe' in relation to Academic Integrity breaches
5.0	27/10/25 Academic Board	Revisions include: 1) Entry from a THREE [not four] year AQF 7 award. 2) Clarification of Entry and Exit pathways 3) Amended course structure from 4 compulsory units (36 points) and four core units (36 points) to 4 compulsory units (36 points), one specified elective (9 units) and three elective units (27 points). 4) Update credit clauses modelled on the GradDipLeadTh 5) Removal of Schedules