

MASTER OF LEADERSHIP

AWARD SUMMARY

AQF Level 9 Masters (Coursework)

CRICOS: 107376A

Nomenclature: MLead

Entry Requirements Satisfactory completion of an AQF Level 8 award in the field of philosophy and religious studies (Australian Standard Classification of Education field 0917 – Philosophy and Religious Studies) from an institution recognised by Academic Board; OR Satisfactory completion of an award from a university or other tertiary institution, qualifications approved by the Student Support and Administration Committee as equivalent to such an award.

Desirable but not mandatory - at least two years' experience in a leadership role in an area aligned with the course's focus, for example: church leadership, educational leadership within a religious school, ministry, and social services provided by a religious organisation.

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

Attendance Type: Full-time, part-time.

Delivery Mode: Online

Structure: 72 credit points (8 units) including two compulsory units (18 credit points), three specified electives (27 credit points) from Schedule A, one specified unit (9 credit points) focused on leadership practice in the context of the candidate's place of work, ministry or mission and two electives (18 credit points). The course may be taken with or without a specialisation. A specialisation in the Master of Leadership comprises 54 credit points in the discipline of Christian Life and Ministry or one of its sub disciplines with at least two 9200-series units. The Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma entry award units may be used towards the 54 credit points required for the specialisation.

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

Candidates enrolled in the Master Leadership entering with a GradCertLead may exit with the GradDipLead, provided they have met the requirements of the award.

Candidates enrolled in the Master of Leadership entering from any other AQF 8 qualification may exit with the Graduate Certificate in Leadership (36 credit points), provided they have met 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 Master of Leadership is designed for those possessing a Graduate Certificate in the field of philosophy and studies in religion who wish to pursue a further qualification in an area of leadership focus as part of their continuing education for ministry.

The Master of Leadership focuses on building leadership capacity for people involved in a wide scope of religious, non-profit, community-focused enterprises. Students may be working for denominationally based organisations in education, welfare, aged care, local church or other ministries requiring specific leadership training for ministry or mission.

Graduates will have specialised knowledge and skills for further learning in professional practice and research and the ability to apply such knowledge and skills in a ministry leadership-related area leadership to their theological education to enhance their work in the religious sector.

Knowledge

Graduates will have:

- an integrated understanding of an advanced body of knowledge related to the practice of leadership particular to the management and governance of a complex religious, non-profit, ministry enterprise;
- an expert understanding of the principles of inquiry and methods applicable to leadership theory and their application to real-world ministry practice.

Skills

Graduates will demonstrate advanced specialised cognitive and technical skills in leadership within a ministry-related body of knowledge, so that they are able independently to:

- analyse critically, reflect on, and synthesise complex information, problems, concepts and theories associated with leadership in a ministry related context;
- implement with discrimination established leadership theories to provide solutions for the effective governance, management and operations of a religious, non-profit, community organisation;
- interpret and transmit transferable knowledge, skills and ideas through coherent and sustained leadership to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

Applications of Knowledge and Skills

Graduates will have the ability to:

- apply transferable knowledge and skills in a way that demonstrates initiative, autonomy, well-developed judgment, adaptability, and responsibility as leaders in religious, not-for-profit, community-focused enterprises;
- plan and execute an advanced research or field-based project in an area of work-based leadership.

Academic regulations for the Master of Leadership

1 Admission to Candidature

- 1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature into the Master of Leadership will:
 - 1.1.1 hold an AQF Level 8 award in the field of philosophy and religious studies (Australian Standard Classification of Education field 0917 – Philosophy and Religious Studies) from an institution recognised by Academic Board; OR
 - 1.1.2 hold, from a university or other tertiary institution, qualifications approved by the Student Support and Administration Committee as equivalent to such an award.
- 1.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation the Student Support and Administration Committee may require an applicant to demonstrate fitness for admission as a candidate for this degree by carrying out such work and/or sitting for such examinations as the Student Support and Administration Committee may determine.
- 1.3 In exceptional cases an applicant may be admitted as a candidate for a Master of Leadership, if the applicant submits evidence of other academic and professional attainments to the Student Support and Administration Committee.
- 1.4 A candidate for the Master of Leadership shall be designated as full-time or part-time. A candidate is designated as a full-time if enrolled in three units (27 credit points) or more in a teaching period or part-time if enrolled in less than three units (27 credit points) per teaching period.
- 1.5 Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally require:
 - 1.5.1 a minimum IELTS (or equivalent) score of at least 7.0 with no subcategory below 6.5.
- 1.6 Application for admission in the Master of Leadership program is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the program.

2 Course Structure

- 2.1 The Master of Leadership requires the completion of 72 credit points (8 units) from 8100 and 9200 series units of the University College accredited Units.
- 2.2 The eight units shall include:
 - 2.1.1 two compulsory units (18 credit points) P8155 Foundations of Christian Leadership and P8107 Non-Profit Governance for Ministry;
 - 2.1.2 three specified electives (27 credit points) taken chosen from Schedule A;
 - 2.1.3 one specified elective (9 or 18 credit points) focused on leadership practice in the context of a place of work, ministry or mission through research, self-guided study, or field study

(this may be a capstone unit, research project, research essay, independent guided study, site visit, field placement or action research project) chosen from Schedule B below;

- 2.1.4 further elective units (up to 36 credit points) from the 8100 and 9200 series in the University College accredited Units.
- 2.3 If either of the two compulsory units have been completed in the award used for admission into the Master of Leadership, they are to be replaced with one or two elective units respectively.
- 2.4 The program must include at least two 9200-series units.
- 2.5 A specialisation comprises 4-6 units (54 credit points), including at least two 9200 level units.
- 2.6 Units coded "A" are not counted towards a specialisation in any discipline or subdiscipline.
- 2.7 Units from the entry Graduate Certificate (or Graduate Diploma), if equivalent to units required for the award, may be considered for inclusion as specified electives and in the forming of any specialisation (54 credit points, including at least two 9200 level units) or sub-specialisation (36 credit points) within the Master of Leadership.
- 2.8 Candidates who have previously studied in an award of the University College, may not enrol in units with content similar to those covered in their previous studies.

3 Period of Candidature

- 3.1 The period of candidature for the Master of Leadership shall normally be 1 year full-time or 4 years part-time.
- 3.2 In certain circumstances the Student Support and Administration Committee may grant extensions.

4 Leave of Absence

- 4.1 The Student Support and Administration Committee may grant leave of absence from the Master of Leadership. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the Master of Leadership.
- 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 University 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 Policies and Regulations of the University College.

6 Credit

- 6.1 Articulating students with an AQF 8 Graduate Diploma in Leadership from the University College will receive credit of 36 credit points in the Master of Leadership.
- 6.2 Candidates from other institutions or with other awards may seek credit up to a maximum of 18 credit points in the Master of Leadership, in accordance with the University College Credit Policy.
 - 6.2.1 Credit will be granted for units that are from an equivalent award or institution and have outcomes, content, demand hours, and assessment equivalent to that of units in the Master of Leadership.
- 6.3 Credit for Recognised Prior Learning may be granted subject to a successful application, assessed in accordance with the University College Credit Policy.

7 Saving Clause

- 7.1 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.

SCHEDULE A

Specified Electives (THREE to be chosen)

C8103	Psychology and Leadership
C8166	Well-being and Resilience for People Helpers
P8106	Administrative Gifts for Ministry
P8108	Financial Management for Ministry
P8132	Framework for Church Planting
P8156	Professional Coaching Practice 1
P8157	Professional Coaching Practice 2
P8158	Working in a Ministry Team Setting
P8161	Developing Ministry Leaders
P8162	Administrative Leadership and Management for Ministry
P8163	Spiritual Leadership
P8172	Practice of Pastoral Supervision
S8101	Formation in Christian Leadership
S8103	Personal Transformation
C9222	Solution Focused Brief Therapy and Positive Psychology
E9271	Business and Professional Ethics
P9221	Managing Crisis in Ministry
P9222	Change Management for Ministry
P9258	Strategic Thinking and Decision Making
P9259	Leading the Larger Church
P9260	Personal Growth for Leadership
P9261	Transformational Leadership in Ministry
P9279	Human Resources and Organisational Culture in Non-profit Settings
S9262	Leadership and Spiritual Discernment

SCHEDULE B

Specified electives focused upon Leadership Practice (ONE to be chosen)

Units focused on leadership practice in the context of a place of work, ministry or mission through research, self-guided study, or field study:

M8128 Engaging in Inter-Cultural Ministry (9 credit points)

X8194 Fieldwork in [discipline] (9 credit points)

X9290 Capstone Unit in [discipline] (9 credit points)

X9292 Seminar in [Topic] (9 credit points)

X9293 Minor Independent Guided Study (9 credit points)

X9294 Major Independent Guided Study (18 credit points)

X9295 Action Research Project (18 credit points)

X9296 Minor Research Project (9 credit points)

X9297 Major Research Project (18 credit points)

X9298 Minor Research Essay (18 credit points)

Version	Date and Governance	Changes
1.0	7/5/2017 Academic Board	Approved
2.0	4/3/2024 Academic Board	IELTS admission requirements updated
3.0	13/5/2024 Academic Board (Standing Committee)	Schedule of Core Units updated with: P8156 Professional Coaching Practice 1 P8157 Professional Coaching Practice 2 P8132 Framework for Church Planting
4.0	Schedule change update from Academic Board decision 2019	Core Units Changes from <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P8561 Spiritual Direction to P8161 Developing Leaders through Mentoring; • S9665 Leadership and Spiritual Discernment to S9262 Leadership and Spiritual Discernment; • C8548 Well-being and Resilience for People Helpers to C8166 Well-being and Resilience for People Helpers; • C8525 Solution Focused Brief Therapy and Positive Psychology to C9222 Solution Focused Brief Therapy and Positive Psychology; • P8504 Practice of Pastoral Supervision to P8172 Practice of Pastoral Supervision
5.0	Schedule change update from Academic Board Curriculum Review 2022	P8572 to P8163, Spiritual Leadership P8583 to P8158, Working in a Ministry Team Setting P8584 to P8107, Non-Profit Governance for Ministry P8589 to P8108, Financial Management for Ministry P9661 to P9221, Managing Crisis and Conflict in Ministry P9662 to P9222, Change Management for Ministry P9663 to P9258, Strategic Thinking and Decision Making P9664 to P9259, Leading the Larger Church P9665 to P9261, Transformational Leadership in Ministry P9667 to P9260, Personal Growth for Leadership C8506 to C8103, Psychology and Leadership S8501 to S8101, Formation in Christian Leadership E9670 to E9271, Business and Professional Ethics
6.0	30/6/2025 Academic Board	A) Update of Course Structure and Credit plus additions to Schedule A and B. B) 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
7.0	18/11/2025 Discipline Coordinator (CLM)	Added the following unit to Schedule A: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P9279 Human Resources and Organisational Culture in Non-profit Settings