



Graduate Certificate in Religious Education (GCRE)

Start date

March 2025

Duration

2 years (part-time)

Delivery mode

Units will be delivered online across the 12-week semester period.

Contact

For information about the Graduate Certificate in Religious Education, including applying and enrolling, please contact: Faculty of Theology and Philosophy: ftp.pg@acu.edu.au

For information about sponsorship, including the sponsorship application process, please contact Catholic Education Ballarat (CEB): scrowe@ceoballarat.catholic.edu.au

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In partnership with:

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OF
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CATHOLIC
EDUCATION
LIMITED



CATHOLIC EDUCATION BALLARAT

“...above all with your life be witnesses of what you communicate...”

Pope Francis

Catholic Education Ballarat (CEB) is partnering with the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy at Australian Catholic University (ACU) to offer teachers the opportunity to enrol and engage with the Graduate Certificate in Religious Education (GCRE) as a means of attaining accreditation to teach religious education.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

This is a two-year part-time program comprising of four academic units. Each unit progressively builds towards defined course level learning outcomes through a series of readings, resources, reflective learning activities, online engagements and assessments.

ASSESSMENT

Participants in this course are recognised as adult learners who develop a deep understanding when their learning is relevant to them and connected to the context in which they lead others to learn. Assessment tasks in all units are designed to facilitate the integration of theory and practice through study, action, analysis, application and reflection.

LEARNING RESOURCES

Learning resources and activities will be hosted via the ACU online learning environment to support private study and the completion of assessments.

FURTHER STUDY

The GCRE provides a pathway to other postgraduate offerings at ACU, including the Master of Religious Education and Master of Theological Studies. Credit towards other ACU master's programs will be reviewed in line with the relevant course rules. Please consult the course coordinator for more information.

FEES AND SPONSORSHIP

In 2025 the tuition fee is \$2,100 per unit, and you will also be responsible for the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) (\$131 per half year for part-time students). Fees are subject to review on an annual basis.

Sponsorship is available through CEB. Please contact CEB (scrowe@ceoballarat.catholic.edu.au) for information regarding sponsorship and the sponsorship application process.

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UNIT 1, 2025

Introducing Theology

Semester 1

This unit introduces students to the major beliefs of the Christian faith, particularly as those beliefs have been articulated in the Catholic tradition. Students will be required to bring this knowledge and understanding into critical dialogue with their own belief stance, to assess its implications for their work in Catholic schools, and to demonstrate skills to communicate it to a variety of audiences.

UNIT 2, 2025

Introducing the Scriptures

Semester 2

This unit lays the foundation for an appreciation of the Bible in the life of the Catholic Church. It explores the Bible's cultural, geographical, literary and historical contexts. The unit introduces course participants to the principles of biblical interpretation and to various approaches and methods of interpretation. The course also invites participants to explore the links between the Bible and their professional world and the relevance that the Bible has for them today.

UNIT 3, 2026

Teaching the Catholic Tradition

Dates TBC

This unit will focus particularly on those aspects relevant to the work of Catholic religious educators, namely the teaching of scripture, the sacraments, Catholic social teaching and thought, and the history and development of the Church. The aim of this unit is to enable teachers and others working in ministry to be well versed in the tradition of the Catholic Church.

UNIT 4, 2026

Change and Continuity in Religious Education

Dates TBC

This unit is an introduction to the various contexts of contemporary religious education and the different teaching methodologies associated with the discipline. The nature and purpose of religious education has undergone many changes in Australia since the Second Vatican Council. The National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) describes the aim of religious education in the 21st century this way: "Religious education in Australian Catholic schools develops students' knowledge and understandings of Christianity."

