Prospectus 2016

EDUCATION & TRAINING for all God’s people

Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of NSW & ACT
What are you looking for?

University qualifications

Certificate or Diploma courses

UCA ministry options

Continuing education
Welcome to the 2016 Prospectus, published for the Uniting Learning Network of the Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of NSW and ACT. Here are a few notes to help you make sense of what you’ll find inside.

This prospectus is focused on the education and training opportunities provided by staff at United Theological College, Uniting Institute of Education, Pastoral Counselling Institute, Barnabas Ministries, and by educators across NSW and ACT in Presbyteries and congregations. We’ve also included a section referring to our partners in other parts of Australia.

While this prospectus includes many course offerings that are run through the Synod’s Centre for Ministry in North Parramatta, Sydney, much of what we offer can be accessed across NSW and ACT, through local seminars, tutorial groups, and online distance education.

A core element of the Uniting Learning Network is the development of communities of practice, groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly.

Uniting’s Institute of Family Practice (IFP) is now known as Uniting Institute of Education, broadening their exploration of vocational education and training opportunities.

United Theological College is also going through a time of transition, with the additional strength provided by the UME Resourcing Team and Alan Walker College helping address the mission challenges faced by the Uniting Church.

UME is working closely with Uniting, the NSW/ACT Synod’s service arm, to invest in resources for leadership development, a healthy environment for innovation, and a full range of community involvement by local communities of faith.

As you read through this prospectus, remember that formation, education and discipleship are lifelong disciplines available to all members of the church, all employees of the church, and all staff of church agencies and schools.

This prospectus is for you.

Duncan Macleod

Uniting Learning Network Director
Uniting Church in Australia
NSW/ACT Synod
M: 0439 828 718
P: (02) 8838 8935
E: duncanm@nswact.uca.org.au
What are you looking for?

People want to learn for all sorts of reasons, and the Uniting Learning Network provides many learning opportunities for people at all stages of their lives.

You may be looking for support to teach a Sunday School class, or be at a stage of your life when you want to investigate your faith in a more intensive way, or you may be responding to a call from God to consider ordination in the Uniting Church. Whatever you are looking for, you can find options here.

University qualifications:
- Undergraduate degree 32-47
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UCA ministry options:
- Minister of Word, Deacon 15, 24, 27
- Pastor, Lay Preacher 15, 25
- Weddings, Funerals, Sacraments 15, 17, 25
- Working with Children, Young People, Families 11-13, 15, 25

Continuing education:
- Leadership, discipleship 6, 15-16, 22
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- Pastoral skills 19
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Exploring New Ministries

Continuing education for ministry is for a huge range of callings; for people in ministry positions, for people working in voluntary roles, for people who are ordained, for people who not ordained. Here are a few areas of ministry you could explore through the United Learning Network.

- Academic research and publishing
- Administration & Management
- Aged Care Chaplaincy
- Biblical Scholarship,
- Camping, Adventure, Venues
- Children’s Ministry – teaching, service,
- Church History Research
- Community Work, Community Organising, Community Development
- Counselling
- Creative Arts: Music, Film, Sculpture, Fine Arts, Creative Writing
- Disaster Recovery Chaplaincy
- Disability Ministry: service, advocacy
- Ecology/Environment
- Education: Primary & Secondary - SRE, Religious Education
- Education: Tertiary - lecturing, research
- Ethnic Ministry, intercultural relationships
- Executive leadership, business leadership
- Family Ministry, counselling
- Frontier Service Chaplaincy
- Funerals and Grief Support
- Hospital Chaplaincy - volunteers, hospice support
- Indigenous Resource Ministry
- Interfaith Dialogue, Research, Partnership
- Marriage Ministry – preparation, wedding celebrants, marriage counselling
- Media & Communication: Film, Television, Radio
- Military Chaplaincy
- Ministry Formation
- Music Ministry: song writing, recording, leadership
- New Church Development
- Pastoral Care
- Police Chaplaincy
- Preaching
- Presbytery leadership: administration, pastoral care, mission, education
- Prison Chaplaincy
- Property development, oversight
- Psychology
- Publishing: print & online
- Research
- Resource Ministry
- Retreat Leadership
- Rural Ministry, Chaplaincy
- School Chaplaincy
- Seniors Ministry
- Social Justice Advocacy
- Spiritual Direction
- Supervision
- Tertiary Chaplaincy, Mission Workers
- Theology – research, writing, teaching
- Tourism Chaplaincy
- Transition/Interim Ministry
- Worship Leadership
- Youth Ministry
- Young Adults Ministry
Is God leading you along new paths?

Look for ideas and options

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/new-paths
Growing in Faith

The courses offered as part of the ELM Exploring Our Faith Lay Preacher training series have been reformatted to encourage all Uniting Church members to explore more deeply the living of our faith. The courses can be completed independently of each other.

Some participants have gone on to complete their Lay Preachers’ qualifications, or have become Lay presiders, or have decided to continue on to more formal training in theology, biblical studies and pastoral care.

Living Our Faith

The Living Our Faith series seeks to equip and encourage an active faith in Christ’s disciples. Five subjects are explored alongside sessions on worship leading and preaching:

- Exploring the New Testament
- Exploring the Old Testament
- Exploring Theology
- Proclaiming Jesus Christ
- Living Our Values
- Worship Leading and Preaching

Schedule

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Each subject can be studied through intensives or weekly classes. The Exploring and Proclaiming courses are often delivered over two weekends, while Living our Values is usually run over two days. The subjects can also be run weekly, over five or ten weeks. They are available for presbyteries to deliver, but you are welcome to attend one that is convenient for you. Living our Values is recommended for church members, employees, Church Council members, elders, lay preachers, and leaders in the Uniting Church. Check the website for more information, or contact Bronwyn Murphy bronwynm@nswact.uca.org.au (02)8838 8920.
Peter and Sue Kaldor, members of the UME Resourcing Team, between them work three days a week for the NSW/ACT Synod of the Uniting Church in Australia. They run leadership workshops, provide coaching and supervision for Uniting Church leaders, and work collaboratively with others to develop Uniting Church capacity for leadership development. Peter and Sue also work with New River Leadership, an organisation offering leadership development to organisations across the social sector.

**One Day Leadership Workshops**

Peter and Sue run workshops across NSW and ACT for Uniting Church members and leadership teams. Workshops include Rethinking Leadership, Developing Shared Direction, Leadership in Times of Change, Discovering and Contributing our Strengths Together, Coaching and Mentoring, and Dealing with Conflict.

**Six Day Leadership Intensives**

Run over three 2-day blocks in Sydney and the Blue Mountains, the “Making a Difference” intensive is a learning experience involving visits, practical applications and preparatory readings. It is designed to help participants develop their leadership strengths, and their capacity to encourage others to do likewise. Participants will be equipped to navigate the complexity of change, grow firmer personal foundations and build a sense of purpose to stay the journey.

**Autumn Intensives**
Thurs 3rd - Fri 4th March, Thurs 7th - Friday 8th April, Thurs 5th - Fri 6th May

**Spring Intensives**
Dates to be confirmed, but they will be run in September, October and November.

Contact Sue Kaldor on 0425 209 231, suek@newriver.org.au

newriver.org.au

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/leadership-development
Practical Ministry Training

Whether you are administering baptism and communion, presiding at funerals or conducting weddings, these courses can provide you with practical opportunities for learning for those who will become ministers in the Uniting Church, or those who are involved in leading in their local churches.

Ethical Ministry

Those who offer leadership in the church need to be aware of what it means to be accountable within the Uniting Church in Australia. The Ethical Ministry course teaches about power, boundaries, pastoral responsibilities and the church’s Regulations and Code of Ethics. The two day course is complemented throughout the year by Ethical Ministry Refreshers facilitated by presbyteries.

February 2-3 Centre for Ministry
ume.nsw.uca.org.au/ethical-ministry

Presiding at Funerals

The practical skills offered in Presiding at Funerals include: dealing with loss and grief, visiting the bereaved family and talking sensitively of God and faith, relating with funeral directors, planning and conducting a service and engaging with cultural settings. We visit a funeral director, crematorium and cemetery as well as share our personal insights into this ministry.

October 24-26 Centre for Ministry
ume.nsw.uca.org.au/funerals

Understanding the Sacraments

While Understanding the Sacraments is a pathway that can lead to Presbytery authorisation as a Lay Presider, it is also an ideal opportunity for a small group, faith community, bible study group, or congregation to spend a block of time exploring the sacraments. The course is usually run over four days, but can be run as weekly sessions.

February 25-26 & March 17-18 Far North Coast
June 4-5 & July 2-3 Riverina Presbytery
November 15-19 Centre for Ministry
ume.nsw.uca.org.au/sacraments
Presiding at Weddings

For those seeking Synod approval as registered wedding celebrants, the 3-day *Presiding at Weddings* course begins with the Government and Church requirements for conducting a wedding before looking at dealing effectively with the initial enquiry, pre-marriage counselling, legal paperwork, Uniting Church liturgy, and how we speak of God in the context of bright celebration.

June 28 - 30  Centre for Ministry

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/weddings

Resource Ministry Training

*Resource Ministry Training* is a four day intensive for those interested in learning to build local leadership, and to help people rediscover active discipleship and meaningful connections with their local community. During our time together we will explore the rise and value of resource ministry; how to help a congregation change its culture and transition towards new models of ministry, community engagement, principles of adult education, conflict management, personal leadership skills and equipping others for leadership. Led by Karyn Burchell-Thomas & Graeme Gardener.

February 9 - 12  Centre for Ministry  

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/resource-ministry

Multi-cultural & Cross-cultural Racism Awareness

This two-day course, designed by the Uniting Church National Assembly Multicultural Ministry and the NSW/ACT Synod with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, builds participants’ skills in negotiating the tricky aspects of cross-cultural and multi-cultural interaction. An especially adapted workshop is also available for young people. Fie Marino and a team will be running this course across NSW and ACT in 2016.

Contact Fie Marino 0404 934 356 fiem@nswact.uca.org.au

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/multicultural-cross-cultural-mission

Training in Spiritual Direction

The *Listen Into Life* Spiritual Direction Formation Program, run part time over four years, is designed to assist both lay and ordained people in their spiritual lives and to train them in the important work of being soul-friends to others in their journey into the mystery and the justice of God.

February 26-28, May 27-29, August 26-28 & November 11-13  Kincumber  

rpsd.org.au
Reflective Practices

Supervision

A formal collaborative process to monitor, support and further develop the professional practice of those in ministry. The supervisory conversation focuses on what is being stirred within the person as they minister to others. Supervision is a relationship-based, formal process of conversation in which the ministry agent can explore and reflect on their ministry practice within a safe and supportive environment.

Supervision is intended to lead to the growth of the ministry agent in self-awareness, professional competence, pastoral understanding and in a commitment to the exploration and deepening of their spirituality. The aim of supervision is to enhance the quality of ministry.

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/supervision

Spiritual Direction

In spiritual direction, you will meet with a spiritual director regularly. During your time together, the director will accompany you on your journey and provide a safe environment for you to tell your story. They will facilitate the integration of all aspects of your life experience, and assist you to speak your experience of God.

Spiritual direction is suitable for anyone, and ideal for people who need space to reflect. A list of spiritual directors who are registered with the Australian Network for Spiritual Directors is available at:

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/spiritual-direction

Period of Discernment

The Period of Discernment is a process approved by the National Assembly in 1997 to enable the church and individuals together, to discern God's call on their life for future ministry and where our individual ministry lies. At the heart of this process is the understanding that discipleship and ministry is a calling on all people who have been baptised. This ministry may be expressed within the local congregation, in your workplace or the community, or within one of the specified ministries of the Uniting Church (see pages 24-25).

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/period-of-discernment

Mentoring

Mentoring is a relationship between two people who work with a process that affirms, challenges, advises, coaches, guides, helps and supports the learning or development of the person being mentored. The Mentoring Training package being developed by UME can be adapted to address particular tasks, e.g. discipleship, leadership, Period of Discernment. The Mentoring package will be available for download from February 2016.

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/mentoring
Retreats

A retreat provides an opportunity for a life-shaping experience. Prayer, worship, rest, silence, reflective input and individual accompaniment support those on retreat.

Overnight, weekend or longer retreats are available for individuals and groups. These can be theme-based or for development of a team like a parish council, music group, work colleagues and so on.

Spiritual retreats being held throughout NSW and ACT:

- Women in Specified Ministries, Kincumber  
  February 28-29
- Riverina Leaders Retreat, Galong  
  May 6-8
- Sydney North Ministry Retreat, Kincumber  
  August 3-6
- Parramatta Nepean Ministry Retreat, Mulgoa  
  August 25-28
- Georges River Ministry Retreat, Bowral  
  September
- Canberra Region Ministry Retreat, Galong  
  October 16-19
- The Hunter Ministry Retreat  
  TBA
- Illawarra Ministry Retreat  
  TBA

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/retreats
Next Generation Ministry

One Day Next Gen Courses

Next Gen Consultant, Bradon French, working with a network of trainers, offers short courses for professionals and volunteers who work with children, young people and tertiary students.

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/next-generations

School of Discipleship Conference

July 1 - 4 Naamaroo, Lady Game Drive, Chatswood. An annual four day Uniting Church young adults conference focusing on radical discipleship.

schoolofdiscipleship.org.au

Plunge Gap Year

Plunge is a year of focused biblical and spiritual engagement for 18-23 year olds looking to journey deeper into life and faith. You’ll grow your relationship with God, discover who you are, and connect with local and global communities. Plunge is provided by Morling College, in partnership with Uniting Mission and Education, and can lead to a Certificate IV or Diploma in Ministry.

The photo below shows two Plunge students discussing their experiences with Bradon French at the Beyond festival in Canberra. Enrolments for Plunge 2016 are open until early February.

plungegapyear.com.au
YURORA (NCYC) Is an activity of The Uniting Church in Australia

YURORA.com

15 - 19 Jan 2017
Sydney, Australia

Open to Delegates aged 16 - 25
Volunteers 26+

YURORA (NCYC) Is an activity of The Uniting Church in Australia
Godly Play

In most religious education people are told what God did. In Godly Play people discover who God is.

Godly Play is a Montessori method of telling Bible stories using parables, sacred stories and liturgical lessons about religious traditions using simple materials. Godly Play is used extensively with adults and children in many settings, from schools to hospitals, churches to aged care facilities. It invites the listener to connect faith stories with personal experience through wondering questions and open-ended response.

If you are interested in an introductory session or trained storyteller gatherings, contact Emma Parr at Uniting Mission and Education. Godly Play Core Training and Enrichment Training is facilitated in Australia by the Australian College of Godly Play Trainers who have been recognised by the Godly Play Foundation. godlyplay.org.au

Messy Church

Messy Church is a way for families to be church. It is Christ-centred and for all ages, embracing creativity, hospitality and celebration.

The Messy Church networks across NSW, Australia and internationally are growing stronger, as churches discover this way of being church in a different way, that helps connect the local community with the Christian community. Messy Church was founded in the UK and can be described as a fresh expression of church – a church community for those on the edges or outside the traditional church.

For more information about Messy Church contact Bradon French or Emma Parr, or visit one of these websites:

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/childrens-minstry
messychurch.org.uk

godlyplay.org.au

Children & Families

Children and families hold vital present and future roles in how we live out Christian ministry and mission in the world.

The responsibility for raising children in faith is something that church communities with families take an active role in. Equipping all the people of God to better understand the place of children and families is vital in order to follow the call of Jesus Christ to teach the faith in every generation.

From practical introduction sessions to more in-depth courses, Uniting Mission and Education can connect you with resourcing opportunities. Contact Emma Parr or Bradon French at Uniting Mission and Education.

childrensministry.org.au
Safe Church

As church leaders, we are acutely aware of being safe and welcoming places for those in our local communities. It is often when people are at their most vulnerable that they come to encounter the church.

Safe Church Awareness Workshops are essential safety and protection workshops for those in practical and pastoral leadership in congregations, including church council, elders, Ministers, Pastors, leaders in children and youth programs, leaders working with vulnerable people, and SRE teachers.

The course consists of a 6-hour introductory workshop, followed up every 3 years with a 3-hour refresher. Our Safe Church Awareness Workshops are part of the Safe Church Training Agreement (SCTA) of the National Council of Churches, Australia. As such, you can attend SCTA endorsed workshops with other denominations.

For more information about any of these courses contact Emma Parr:
M: 0439 110 065
E: emmap@nswact.uca.org.au

SafeChurches.org.au

Special Religious Education

Special Religious Education (SRE) in schools has a long history of providing education in faith for students in NSW and ACT public schools.

It can form an integral part of faith formation for children and young people as they have an opportunity to learn with peers and the guidance of a caring and supportive volunteer SRE teacher.

Special Religious Education teachers are committed people from local churches with a heart for caring for and sharing faith with children and young people. As part of our commitment to these teachers and students, all SRE teachers must complete initial and ongoing training relevant to teaching faith to children.

There are 6 SRE basic training modules, based on a common standard of quality teaching and endorsed by the ecumenical peak body on SRE in Schools the Inter-Church Commission on Religious Education in Schools (ICCOREIS).

SRE modules can be presented at different locations across the state and are open to people of any denominations to support SRE ministry in that area. Workshops presented by other denominations are generally also open to SRE teachers of any denomination (eg. Baptist Godspace, Presbyterian Youth, Anglican). While face-to-face is the preferred mode, other modes are available.

For more information, contact Emma Parr:
M: 0439 110 065
E: emmap@nswact.uca.org.au

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/safe-church

SafeChurches.org.au

ume.nsw.uca.org.au/sre
Community Engagemen

Community organising

Training in Community Organising is available for anyone wanting to learn how to work together to build relationships and discover common ground across diversity concerns.

Community Organising Topics
- Community Organising: the history and tradition of our religious, union and community organisations.
- Relational Organising: individual relational meetings, listening assemblies, research, negotiation and action.
- Strengthening our Organisations: building a culture that is relational, action oriented and reflective/learning.
- Using Relational Power in the public sphere to take collaborative action on common issues.

2 Day Foundations Training
7 - 8 April 9am - 5pm
NTEU, 1/55 Holt St, Surry Hills, NSW

6 Day Advanced Training
31 July - 5 August 9am - 5pm
Mt. St. Benedict College, 449 Pennant Hills Rd, Pennant Hills, NSW

Contact Raymond Joso
raymondj@nswact.uca.org.au
0418 866 388

Mission Learning

Uniting Mission & Education mission resourcing consultant Alison Bleyerveen and mission initiatives consultant Raymond Joso invite you to engage in action reflection learning in 2016.

You can start with appreciative enquiry, reflecting on your experiences of mission in the local community. Skilled facilitators and listeners can guide you to discover and tell your own story of mission, exploring leadership, beginnings, ending and transitions, resourcing challenges, and a deepening relationship with God through loving relationships with others.

You could join a community of practice focused on experiments in mission. One group meets on the first Wednesday afternoon of each month at the Centre for Ministry. You are welcome to join us, but if you can’t make Wednesday afternoons in Sydney, we are interested in facilitating similar processes in more convenient spaces and times.

A new workshop, exploring what it means to ‘Lead for Mission’ will be launched at Hunter Presbytery, 20/21 March, and will be further developed in response to participants’ feedback.

Contact Alison Bleyerveen, 0404 086 228
alisonb@nswact.uca.org.au
Introducing ...

Raymond Joso
Mission Initiatives

Raymond’s role is focused on processes and relationships that create and respond to new opportunities in mission and ministry. He nurtures leaders, centres and networks, initiates research and creative reflection, and contributes to leadership for missional thinking and new expressions for the church engaging with community. He also takes the lead in fostering Uniting Church partnerships with community organisations, particularly through the Sydney Alliance.

Alison Bleyerveen
Mission Resourcing

Alison’s role is focused on resources that support communities of faith as they begin and continue to do mission in their communities. She helps groups use an action-reflection cycle to explore their expression of God’s mission in their local communities. Alison keeps an eye on funding applications for local mission, and works with Uniting staff to foster the development of community hub partnerships. An important part of Alison’s role is supporting presbyteries.

Fie Marino
Multicultural Ministry

Fie is an Australian-born Samoan from Melbourne who brings theological insight, strategic vision and organising capacity, as well as a contagious passion for the work of the Uniting Church in Australia. He will be working to equip non-English and English speaking congregations and Presbytery leaders to help grow an inclusive, multicultural and missional church. He will focus on opportunities in multicultural contexts, and with second generation leaders, to grow ministry and leadership capacity. Fie starts work with the NSW/ACT Synod on January 18, 2016.
Pastoral Counselling Institute

The Pastoral Counselling Institute was started in 1992 by Peter Powell, focusing on training in pastoral care and counselling from a theological and Biblical perspective, and providing clinical psychological services.

Chaplaincy & Pastoral Counselling Intensives
Delivered in partnership with the Wesley Vocational Institute  RTO provider number 90091

Chaplaincy & Pastoral Counselling Program  CHC42315 Cert IV in Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care CHCSS00085 Pastoral & Spiritual Care Skill Set

This competency based part-time course is run as 9 or 10 day intensives with case studies and role plays. Four units can be taken as a Skill Set qualification. The seminars are run by Peter Powell, Sharon Van Doorene and Peter Oliver.

The dates for the Sydney-based seminars are: March 5-6, May 21-22, July 16-17, September 10-11, October 29-30.

Pastoral Counselling Advanced Program - CHC51712 Diploma of Counselling

This two year part-time course is self-paced with two intensives held during the two years.

Rural Pastoral Care Workshops

Peter Powell regularly visits rural churches across NSW and ACT to run one or two-day workshops on pastoral care for church members of all ages.

His workshops include listening skills, visiting, death and dying, qualities of leadership, and ministering with the stranger.

Schedule:

- Castle Hill in February
- Forbes in March
- Bathurst & Riverina in April
- North Coast in September
- Warnervale in October

Contact us at:
Pastoral Counselling Institute
02 9683 3664
pciuc@ihug.com.au
The UnitingCare Institute of Family Practice was created in July 2007, combining the highly regarded and respected training arms of UnitingCare: Unifam Training and Education, and the Burnside Training Program.

As part of the new branding of Uniting from November 25th, 2015, we have changed our name from the Institute of Family Practice to the Uniting Institute of Education.

Our unique new look is not only a modern reflection of who we are, it also brings together the many services of Uniting under the one banner, making us easily recognised by people in the community seeking our help, as well as educating the community on the breadth and reach of Uniting services.

Uniting is one of the largest employers in the Community Service sector in NSW and the ACT. The Uniting Institute of Education is Uniting’s classroom.

The institute that walks the talk

We teach what we do day in day out, so you learn at the forefront of current practice. We believe in practical training and development.

- Over 20 years of experience in professional development and qualification training

- Practical, job-ready courses taught by experts who work in the field

- An approved VET FEE-HELP provider with flexible learning options

- Registered training organisation (RTO) provider number 91739

"The whole experience, while definitely one of the most challenging of my life, has also been one of the most rewarding. This provided me the opportunity to meet some amazing people, especially trainers, who are now mentors in my life journey. I am a more confident person in working with people since starting this course."

Kamalini, Graduate Diploma of Relationship Counselling
If you are looking for a training and education provider with nationally recognised qualifications for counselling, mediation and community services, you are in the right place. We offer a varied learning approach, incorporating practical face-to-face workshops with online learning and work placement.

Get job ready with these qualifications

If you are in NSW and interested in studying counselling, community services, disability or aged care you may be eligible for state funding under the new Smart and Skilled funding allocation for the Certificate III, Certificate IV and Diploma courses below. For more information on Smart & Skilled, go to smartandskilled.nsw.gov.au.

Certificate III in Individual Support – Aged Care (CHC33015)
Certificate III in Individual Support – Disability (CHC33015)
Certificate IV in Community Services Work (CHC40708)
Diploma of Counselling (CHC51712)
Graduate Diploma of Relationship Counselling (CHC80208)
Graduate Diploma of Family Dispute Resolution (CHC80308)
Professional Development

Expand your career options, gain a competitive edge and fine tune your job ready skills with one of our professional development courses.

We offer a range of short courses to support those working in a range of professions from community work, education and health services to those in the financial, commercial and business sectors.

We deliver effective group training, with a tailored training package to meet your specific needs. No matter what work you do, we can tailor our training to suit your individual development requirements.

We’ll come to you

We deliver training Australia wide and can come to your workplace or a venue of your choice. We cater to all class sizes and provide a trainer who is an expert in their field; ensuring you learn the forefront of current practice.

Contact us

We can help you get qualified and job ready. Just contact us

02 8830 0755
info@ui.edu.au
ui.edu.au

Uniting Institute of Education, Level 4, 146 Marsden Street, Parramatta NSW 2150
Ministry in the Uniting Church

The Uniting Church affirms that God calls women and men to exercise the gifts of leadership through ministry and service to the church and the community. Leadership roles in the Uniting Church and its agencies encompass both ordained and lay ministries.

The church provides a wide range of training, discernment and development opportunities for people exploring a sense of vocation and a call to leadership. We believe that every member is called to participate in the mission of the church, supporting and encouraging each other as we seek to live as authentic faith communities.

Ordination

Ordination is the “setting apart” of baptised women and men whom the church has discerned to be called by God to serve as Deacons and Ministers of the Word. As a designated leader, authorised by the Uniting Church, ordination places the minister or deacon in a new relationship to others in the community. The Uniting Church maintains that this new relationship is with the whole church catholic, not just within the Uniting Church.

Minister of the Word

Minister of the Word is an ordained ministry within the Uniting Church, which sits alongside the Ministry of Deacon. Ministers of the Word serve the church in a variety of ways and give leadership to congregations in diverse settings. They also provide pastoral, missional and educational leadership in church agencies and schools.

Courses recommended for those preparing for Ministry of the Word include Bachelor of Theology from the United Theological College.

Ministry of Deacon

The Ministry of Deacon is an ordained ministry within the Uniting Church, sitting alongside the Ministry of the Word. Deacons are called to offer leadership amongst the people of the Uniting Church in a ministry of service to the world. Uniting Church deacons are to embody this ministry in their life and work, and are to equip and enable the diaconal ministry of all church members.

Courses recommended for the Ministry of Deacon include Bachelor of Theology, the Urban Ministry & Mission course at United Theological College, and the biennial Deacons Intensive (run nationally).
Ministry of Pastor

The Ministry of Pastor is an opportunity for lay people to serve the Uniting Church in pastoral ministry in a variety of ways, including: teaching the beliefs and practices of the Uniting Church, pastoral oversight of members and groups, and evangelism or service. People in the Ministry of Pastor are accountable to the Uniting Church for the exercise of their ministry, are supported by the Uniting Church and serve as its representative for a particular context and time.

To become a Pastor a person must have been a confirmed member of the Uniting Church or a member of an organisation in association with the Uniting Church in Australia, for 12 months prior to their appointment. A person can become a Pastor by applying for a position advertised by the church. Positions can be full-time or part-time, and may be salaried or voluntary. Courses recommended at the beginning of your ministry are Living Our Values and Ethical Ministry.

Lay Preacher

A Lay Preacher is a church member who is authorised to conduct worship services in their own congregation and at the invitation of any other congregation. For this ministry, people must be endorsed by their church council and presbytery as having the gifts and character to preach. They undertake a course of study combining academic and practical content, and are assessed on their competency to conduct worship services. They are accredited by the presbytery and commissioned by the congregation in which they will serve.

To become a Lay Preacher a person must become a candidate for this ministry with their Presbytery and take prescribed studies and supervised practical experience. Recommended courses include Living Our Faith, including Living Our Values, and Bachelor of Theology.

Chaplaincy

Chaplains serve in the general community as representatives of the care and compassion of the Christian community. Chaplains serve in hospitals, universities, prisons, colleges, aged-care facilities, secondary and primary schools, factories and work places, and with the police, armed forces, emergency services and sporting teams. Some chaplains will be pastors, others are ministers or deacons. They include paid professionals and volunteers.

Children and Youth Ministry

People of all ages serve in youth and children's ministry. Some are employed full-time or part-time, while others work in a voluntary capacity. They work in congregations, as school chaplains and with church agencies. This lay ministry can come within the specified ministry of Pastor, Minister of the Word or Deacon. Courses recommended for this field include Certificate IV and Diploma in Youth Work, provided by SU Queensland (Brisbane).
Readiness for Ministry

I came to UTC in January 2013 from previous roles in administration, retail and general church-nerdiness. I was freshly engaged to a fellow candidate for ministry, and I was energised and eager to be formed for ordained ministry myself. There is no denying that such excitement quickly turned into deer-in-the-headlights-who-am-I-where-am-I-somebody-hug-me. But, with some difficult internal conversations, academic study, and a large amount of coffee, I am now at the end of this intentional formation journey, deeply grateful for the last three years.

I have found it a blessing to be fully immersed in the UTC community, fostering life-long collegial relationships with my ministry peers. I have found UTC faculty members extraordinary in their passion and ability to integrate theological material with life and discipleship. I have found processes around field education, mentoring, pastoral care and ongoing accountability particularly useful in receiving wisdom from a large range of sources. And I have appreciated the constant encouragement: to be gentle with myself, to bathe all I do in worship, to be a mind-ful ministry agent, and not to take myself too seriously.

I can’t say that after three years at UTC, I’m set for life – but I believe I have been well-equipped with internal and external resources to be a better disciple and servant of Christ in the Church. Now as I head into ordained ministry at West Epping Uniting Church, I am still a church-nerd, I am now married to a fellow minister, and I am energised and eager as ever.

Radhika (Rads) Sukumar-White
Ministry Formation

Candidates for Ministry of the Word and Ministry of Deacon work through a formation program focused on church context, community, ministry, study, and the minister as person. The program usually takes three years. Each person in the program works with Carolyn Thornley, Dean of Ministry Formation, on a personalised track, taking into account previous experience and particular vocation.

Candidates meet with a wide range of people in the formation process, including field education supervisors, personal mentors and supervisors, Presbytery support people, the Dean of Ministry Formation and an academic supervisor. Often their most powerful learning experiences are in the context of field placements, clinical pastoral education in hospital and urban settings, and rural ministry experiences.

Candidates for ministry study subjects in biblical studies, church history, liturgical studies, mission, evangelism and apologetics, pastoral theology, theology, and Uniting Church Studies.

Knowing Self
A journey statement, reflection on life events, spiritual disciplines and practices, self identity in relation to family of origin, cultural settings and life experience, well being and resilience in ministry, group dynamics, collegiality and team ministry, inter-personal boundaries, and time management.

Knowing Church
Exploration of the Uniting Church in Australia Basis of Union, the Preamble to the Constitution and other key documents, UCA regulations, ecumenical relations, safe church training, ethical ministry training, working in teams, congregational responsibilities, Presbytery oversight, Synod oversight, Synod resources, Assembly resources, and using National Church Life Survey profiles.

Knowing Community
Social analysis, community development, community organising, rural orientation, interfaith relations, using National Church Life Survey community profiles.

Knowing in Ministry
Leadership development, adaptive leadership and change management, racism awareness and cross cultural orientation, conflict and peacemaking, reading congregational life, hospital orientation, funerals and bereavement support, weddings and marriage support, disaster training, baptism and communion, transitional ministry, alternative placements and starting fresh expressions of church.

For more information contact Carolyn Thornley, Dean of Ministry Formation carolynt@nswact.uca.org.au (02) 8838 8919
United Theological College is run by the Uniting Church in Australia, NSW/ACT Synod.

The college brings together four strands of learning:
- In partnership with Charles Sturt University, UTC offers undergraduate and postgraduate courses for full time and part time students.
- UTC provides a formation program for ordained and lay ministries in the Uniting Church.
- UTC’s Resourcing Team leads the church with research, consultancy, training and resource development.
- Camden Theological Library resources the whole church.

The next pages list courses and subjects offered through UTC and other colleges within the CSU School of Theology. The session dates are:

**Session 1** March 2 to June 19. Applications should be in by February 6.

**Session 2** July 13 to October 30. Applications should be in by June 26.

**Session 3** Intensives between Nov 16 & 12 Feb 2017.

UTC students come from all over the world, ranging from school leavers to mature aged, from those with no formal education to those undertaking research. All students are encouraged to share their ideas to develop their understanding of the Creator and how that expresses itself in relationships.

Most UTC subjects can be studied through distance education with St Mark’s, our partner in Canberra, and through Trinity College Queensland in Brisbane. All our subjects come with online learning support through the CSU Blackboard learning program, Interact. We are able to offer remote access to some classes in 2016 using video conferencing technology.

United Theological College
16 Masons Drive
North Parramatta
NSW 2151

P: (02) 8838 8914

utc.edu.au
The Camden Theological Library was a home away from home for me, during my studies. The very first day I was greeted by the Library Manager, Moira Bryant, and I knew I was in capable hands. The Library staff became a family to me and offered efficient training in the procedures of the Library and the finding of strategic resources. This is still the case now that I am a Minister of the Word.

Rev. Dr. Seforosa Carroll – Manager, Church Partnerships, Pacific, Uniting World

The library has been more than just a place of resource gathering for me. It is a place of inspiration – a place where I can go to read, to think and to write. But more than that, it is a place of encouragement and friendship. Moira and the library staff have encouraged and walked alongside me during my studies from undergrad to PhD. I was sustained with encouragement, a room in which to read, think and write, and help with finding or recommending resources.

Rev. Bridget Ocean, Minister of the Word, Ashfield Parish Mission
Camden Theological Library

Camden Theological Library is the library for the Uniting Church in NSW and ACT. It is based at the Centre for Ministry, North Parramatta, and the collections are available for borrowing in person and by mail.

The library is always open on Monday to Friday, from 10.30am to 5.00pm. When classes are in session the opening hours are extended to 6.30pm from Monday to Thursday. Anyone is welcome to come and use the facilities for study or research during this times.

As well as theological books and journals, there is a growing collection of children's books and story books that can be used as resources in children's ministry. In fact the library includes a multitude of resources that can be used in the preparation of sermons, services, Bible studies or for personal reflection.

For more information see the website below or contact the library manager, Moira Bryant, at (02) 8838 8940. The other staff, Gavin Glenn, Linda Glenn, Deanna Moore and Phoebe Kim, are also available to talk with you about borrowing books, booking study rooms or locating resources. Phoebe is also happy to work with Korean students, researchers and ministers who use the library resources.

Korean Collection

연합교단 내 재호 한인 학생과 교역자 그리고 모든 크리스천들을 돕기 위하여, 캉덴신학도서관은 특별히 설치되어 계속 발전되고 있는 한국어 서가가 있습니다.

3,000여권의 이 한국어 서가는 경건과 신학 등의 다양한 주제로 구성된 신간 서적들을 모두 포함하고 있으며, 최근에 기증받은 200여권의 청장년을 위한 소설책들도 소장하고 있습니다.

To support Korean students, ministers and all Christians in the Uniting Church, Camden Theological Library is building a growing collection of specialised Korean-language items. These 3000 works include the latest published titles in a wide variety of subjects, such as piety and theology, and over 200 young adult fiction books which were recently received as a donation.

Camden Library has been so much more than a library in the last three years of my academic life. It is rich with amazing resources in the theological and biblical fields, it is immaculately kept, and has a peaceful atmosphere that can calm even the most stressful of situations. The staff are always helpful and patient with faculty and students, particularly those whose primary language is not English. My only wish would be for more people within the church and wider community to realise that there is a gem of a library tucked away in North Parramatta.

Adi Mariana Waqa, third year student at United Theological College.

library.nsw.uca.org.au
Ian Robinson has been appointed as Alan Walker Lecturer in Evangelism, Mission & Leadership. He will be a member of the UTC faculty, teaching in the BTh, MMin and DMin programs, and a member of the college Resourcing Team, working with others across NSW/ACT and beyond to build capacity in the areas of evangelism, mission and leadership.

Ian Robinson is currently part-time Uniting Church Chaplain at the University of Western Australia, involved in inter-faith action, apologetics, systemic change and pastoral care. He moderates *Max Doubt* and several other websites for mission and evangelism. He has held many ministry roles in church and community, including church planter, evangelism consultant, senior pastor, executive officer.

Ian has a calling to help Christians to find fresh ways to be witnesses, disciples and church. He is known to be someone who gives honour to God. He has a capacity to identify the strengths in persons and programmes, think them through biblically, make them understandable to others, pass on the story and inspire action. He is skilled in empowering people, building networks and innovation in ministry.

Ian has established (working with others) several ministry groups, including Tall Trees ReSource, Spirit Journeys Australia, the Australian Research Institute for Desert Spirituality, Southcare, Help Street Foundation, Stolen Generations Alliance WA, and (within the WA Uniting Synod) PNEUMA (Pastoral Network of Evangelicals Uniting in Mission Action). Ian has led 40 pilgrimage journeys in the Australian deserts (Spirit Journeys) and the Holy Land.

Ian has authored several works, including *Gossiping the Gospel*, now revised as *Makes You Wonder*; *Streams in the Wasteland* (ed), *Stop Look and Listen*, *This Thirsty Heart*, *New Beginnings*, *Growing and Everyday Faith* (ed), *If Anyone Thirsts*, *Praying the Gospels* (3 vols), and *Burning Hope* - a progressive evangelical road to renewal.

Check out Ian’s website:

[utc.edu.au/ian-robinson](http://utc.edu.au/ian-robinson)
Why study Theology at UTC?

Gerard Moore is Academic Dean at UTC. He is responsible for overseeing the quality of teaching and learning, the professional development of staff, and the strategic development of UTC’s partnerships with Charles Sturt University and other colleges. Here he describes his experience of doing theology, and why doing formal studies can deepen faith.

When I first dipped my toe in the water I wasn’t sure what was going on. I soon discovered I had been doing theology already – that there was an implicit connection between the way I acted, what I believed, and the questions I already had within me. These questions came from my background, from my education, from my family, from my faith experiences. Doing theology helped me to bring them together as a cohesive set of questions, thoughts, wonderings, imaginings and allowed me to explore them.

I’ve been teaching at UTC for six years now, in worship, practical theology, preaching, introduction to theology, Christology and some of the masters subjects. My experience is that when you get a group together, people discover more about themselves. By hearing other stories and other ways of thinking we can reflect on the way God has been working in our lives and in the lives of others. Having a guide in the classroom is handy, because you have access to 2000 years of thinking. We get to be in conversation with others now, as well as being part of a longer term conversation.

UTC is committed to honouring people from a range of cultural and language backgrounds, as well as those from different parts of the church, so it’s ecumenical. The faculty put a lot of effort into teaching well, and we have great resources and a warm supportive environment in our library. Students are supported really well by teaching staff, library staff, admin and learning support staff.

If you are considering starting theological study at University level, come and have a talk with one of the advisors, and they will help you get started from your in a way that connects with where you’re at right now.

utc.edu.au/gerard-moore
Bachelor of Theology

CSU’s Bachelor of Theology enriches students spiritually and vocationally, equipping them for leadership and ministry in the life and work of the Christian church. This course is theologically and biblically rich, vocationally oriented, ecumenically sensitive and integrated with practical experience.

Admission to the BTh can be achieved through one of the following pathways:

- an ATAR of 65.00 or higher;
- successful study at university level (minimum two subjects);
- TAFE Cert III or higher VET qualification or equivalent industry qualifications;
- successful completion of TAFE Tertiary Preparation Certificate (TPC) or a bridging program;
- relevant industry experience of at least two years;
- partial completion of TAFE Diploma level study (minimum 50%).

The Bachelor of Theology (Honours) is designed to develop advanced research skills in theology and is a stepping stone to doctoral level research.

utc.edu.au/bachelor-of-theology

Graduate Diploma in Theology

CSU’s Graduate Diploma in Theology offers a graduate pathway into theological study for students with an undergraduate degree. It encourages and fosters the search for meaning and spiritual depth in the context of cultural and religious pluralism in contemporary Australia. Students will take 8 subjects at 400 level.

utc.edu.au/post-graduate-diplomas

Master of Theology

CSU’s Master of Theology offers depth and breadth in theological education. It provides advanced critical knowledge and skills in the theological disciplines, and their application to contemporary society and church. The course is also available as Master of Theology (Honours).

utc.edu.au/master-of-theology

Contact Jeff Aernie (L) to talk about the Bachelor of Theology or Graduate Diploma in Theology, and Anthony Rees (R) to talk about the Bachelor of Theology (Honours) or the Master of Theology. See page 55 for contact details.
Postgraduate Ministry Courses

Master of Ministry

This course is specifically designed for ministers, pastoral workers, chaplains and church leaders. Assessment and project tasks may be shaped by the student around their own ministry context. This provides an opportunity to bring new insight to the tasks of ministry and to apply critical enquiry to contemporary issues in ministry.

A Bachelor of Theology or a Graduate Diploma of Theology plus two years experience in ministry are the minimum entry requirements.

Course work involves two core subjects: MIN500 Theology, Church and Ministry and MIN502 Professional and Institutional Ethics in Ministry, followed by subjects at 400 or 500 level from two of the following streams: Research in Ministry, Pastoral Counselling, Ageing and Pastoral Studies, Institutional Chaplaincy, Christian Education, Church Leadership and Management, Cross Cultural Ministry, Mission and Evangelism, and Ministry Studies.

utc.edu.au/master-of-ministry

Research Degrees

Doctor of Ministry

CSU’s Doctor of Ministry aims to provide the opportunity for advanced critical reflection on professional practice in the discipline of Christian Ministry and closely related fields. Applicants for admission to the Doctor of Ministry program need to have at least five years of full time (or equivalent) practice in professional ministry, and appropriate qualifications in theology or ministry. Contact Rhonda White at rhondaw@nswact.uca.org.au to talk about enrolling for the Doctor of Ministry. There are more details about the program on pages 48-49.

utc.edu.au/doctor-of-ministry

Doctor of Philosophy

The Doctor of Philosophy through CSU’s Faculty of Arts offers graduates who have an excellent academic record and proven research skills the opportunity to conduct research at a level that is going to contribute to the knowledge base of their discipline. Applicants for the PhD program need to have appropriate qualifications and demonstrated ability in conducting a research project.

Contact Ben Myers at bmyers@csu.edu.au to talk about enrolling for the PhD program.

utc.edu.au/phd
Biblical Studies

Introduction to Old Testament Studies

THL105 (BTh)  THL408 (Grad DipTh)  Session 1  Thursday 6.30 - 9.40pm  Anthony Rees
A foundational introduction to the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible) and to basic scholarly tools and critical methods used in Old Testament studies. The formation of texts and issues of oral and textual transmission, historical and geographical context, religion and culture, genre and canon, exegesis, interpretation and diverse theological perspectives are examined.

Introduction to New Testament Studies

THL106 (BTh)  THL409 (Grad DipTh)  Session 2  Monday 1.45 - 4.35pm  Jeff Aernie
This subject introduces the various writings that comprise the New Testament. It does so with reference to their historical context and their literary and theological features. It introduces critical methods of New Testament interpretation, including basic exegetical skills. It looks at interpretive issues with regard to the Gospels, Acts, and Pauline and Johannine literature.

The Synoptic Gospels

THL208 (BTh)  Session 1  Wednesday 6.30 - 9.20pm  Jeff Aernie
The Gospels according to Matthew, Mark & Luke as literary expressions of the development of early Christianity from its roots in Judaism are examined. The Gospels are explored in historical, literary, socio-cultural & religious contexts, as sources for understanding Jesus.

Wisdom and Worship Traditions

THL209 (BTh)  Session 2  Wednesday 6.30 - 9.40pm  Anthony Rees
Israelite texts on living well & justly with one another (wisdom) & before God (worship) are examined, including Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Lamentations, Sirach, Wisdom of Solomon, focusing on literary features, context, & philosophical, religious & moral perspectives.

Judaism and Early Christianity

THL303 (BTh)  Session 1  Tuesday 6.30 - 9.20pm  Anthony Rees
This subject explores the rise of Judaism following the Babylonian exile (mid-sixth century BCE) to the second century CE. The rise of early Christianity within the context of formative Judaism and the competing responses of these two movements to the destruction of the temple in 70 CE are examined.

The Pentateuch

THL304 (BTh)  Session 1  Monday 1.45 - 4.35pm  Anthony Rees
This subject is a detailed investigation of the five books of the Pentateuch (Torah: Genesis to Deuteronomy). It examines the history of and contemporary perspectives on the Pentateuch through detailed exploration of various texts and the study of critical developments in Pentateuchal scholarship.
Contemporary Approaches to Biblical Studies

THL511 [MTh, BTh(Hon)]
Friday 9.40am - 12.35 pm
Session 1
Anthony Rees

This subject compares and contrasts major contemporary approaches to the study of the Old and New Testaments, and traces recent developments in Biblical Studies, both in a theoretical framework and through an analysis of a variety of Biblical texts. This subject is a pre-requisite for THL535.

Advanced Biblical Exegesis

THL517 [MTh, BTh(Hon)]
Session 1 & 2 Distance
Jeff Aernie

Detailed translation and exegesis of a portion of the Bible, at postgraduate level. Exegetical and hermeneutical exploration of a specific biblical passage. Examination of a range of critical issues as appropriate to the chosen passage, together with engagement with select hermeneutical questions raised by the passage.

Offered in 2017

Prophetic Literature

THL308 (BTh)
Semester 1
Anthony Rees

Critical study and interpretation of the prophetic writings against their historical, social, political and religious contexts. Also theological and ethical themes and their contemporary relevance.

Paul and His Letters

THL203 (BTh)
Session 1
Jeff Aernie

This subject investigates aspects of Pauline biography and theology through an exploration of both Acts and the epistles attributed to Paul, with a focus on exegesis on the epistles, 1 Corinthians and Romans.

Old Testament History and Narrative

THL202 (BTh)
Session 2
Anthony Rees

OT stories, key figures, events, sources, archaeological evidence, and ethical issues arising from conquest and settlement, the monarchy, the division of the kingdom and exile.

Johannine Literature

THL307
Session 2
Jeff Aernie

Intensives

Cross Cultural Ministry in Australia

THL230 (BTh)  
THL486 (Grad Dip Th)  
January 18-22, 2016  
Sef Carroll

Challenges and opportunities which arise in multicultural and cross cultural ministry settings. It enables students to become more familiar with critical issues relating to ministry and mission in multicultural contexts, with both theoretical understanding of cross cultural dynamics and practical skills in cross cultural relationships.

Sacramental Theology

THL314 (BTh)  
Intensive  
January 18-22, 2016  
Gerard Moore

Origins of sacramental theology from its Jewish origins, through New Testament texts, early church, the patristic period, medieval Western church and Reformation, to traditions and practices in contemporary churches. Includes challenges brought by the ecumenical movement and by liberation, feminist and ecological theology.

See website for details of these intensives to be offered in November

Creation and Ecology  THL211 (BTh), November 2016

Reflections on God as creator, and doctrines of creation, ecology and Trinity are examined and debated as they interact with theology and science.

Alternative New Testament Voices  THL301 (BTh), TBA

Examination of the genre, literary structure, provenance and distinctive theological features of Hebrews, James, 1 and 2 Peter, 1, 2 and 3 John and Jude.

World Religions  THL329 (BTh), November 2016

Examination of the religious context of Australia and the world, through study of scripture, history and practice of Indigenous and other religions.

Intensive courses are offered during the summer semester.

Check the website for more information.

utc.edu.au/calendar/intensives
Biblical Languages

New Testament Greek 1
THL101 (BTh) THL417 (Grad Dip Th) Session 1 Tuesday 1.45 - 4.35pm Jeff Aernie
This foundational subject develops the competence needed to begin to read the New Testament in Koine (Common) Greek. It does this by introducing students to the basic grammar and vocabulary of the Greek New Testament. The subject draws attention to the significance of New Testament Greek for Biblical and theological study.

Biblical Hebrew 1
THL102 (BTh) THL416 (Grad Dip Th) Session 1 Thursday 9.40am - 12.30pm Anthony Rees
Biblical Hebrew as a basis for enhanced study of the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible) and for further study of Biblical Hebrew. Primary focus is foundational Hebrew vocabulary, grammar and syntax. Translation of selected biblical texts into English.

New Testament Greek 3
THL302 (BTh) Session 1 Tuesday 9.40am - 12.30pm Jeff Aernie
More detailed and in-depth study of New Testament Greek grammar and syntax, translation from the Greek New Testament and other Koine Greek literature, and exegesis of Greek texts.

Biblical Hebrew 3
THL306 (BTh) Session 1 Thursday 1.45 - 4.35pm Anthony Rees
Selected texts from the Pentateuch, or the prophetic material engaged through translation, literary analysis, exegesis and interpretation, text-critical problems, grammar and literary qualities.

Offered in 2017

New Testament Greek 2
THL204 (BTh) THL443 (Grad Dip Th) Session 2 Jeff Aernie

Biblical Hebrew 2
THL241 (BTh) THL457 (Grad Dip Th) Session 2 Anthony Rees
The Rise of Christianity to 600 CE

THL131 (BTh)  
THL410 (Grad DipTh)  
Session 1  
Monday 6.30 - 9.20 pm  
Damian Palmer


Uniting Church Studies

THL319 (BTh)  
THL441 (Grad DipTh)  
Session 1  
Monday 9.40am - 12.35pm  
Damian Palmer

Explores the history and theology of the Uniting Church in Australia within the international network of United and Uniting Churches and the broad catholic tradition of the Church. It traces the history of Church Union in Australia, the creation of the Basis of Union in 1971 and union of the three denominations (Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregationalist) to form the Uniting Church in 1977 before looking at how it has changed since then.
Church History Methodology
THL513 [MTh, BTh(Hon)]
Session 1
Friday 9.40 to 12.35 pm
Patricia Curthoys

Aims to foster a self-critical religious historiography by exploring how and why history is written and re-written principally within Christian traditions in the modern era. Seeks to identify the dominant concerns and emphases of past and recent historiography to uncover widely recognised criteria for good history writing; to focus on perennial methodological issues in religious history writing; to survey critically recent Australian religious history writing; and to demonstrate the central part that history as a discipline plays within theological studies.

The European Reformation, 1400-1700
THL132 (BTh)
THL419 (Grad DipTh)
Session 2
Thursday 6.30 - 9.20pm
Damian Palmer

Fifteenth-century Western Christianity and society. Scholasticism, Christian humanism and novel nationalism. Reformations in continental Europe and reform movements in Roman Catholicism; radical reformations, inquisitions and plight of religious minorities; English and Scottish reformations from Henry VIII to Elizabeth I; Puritan influence; Stuart, Commonwealth and Restoration settlements. Long-term legacies, broader context of early modern world, socio-cultural issues such as gender and sexuality, death, witchcraft and moral discipline.

Global Christianity since 1700
THL330 (BTh)
Session 2
Monday 6.30 - 9.20pm
Patricia Curthoys

Exploration of global Christianity over time as it expanded as a world religion between 1700 and today, concurrently with European colonisation and the modern missionary movement. Taking historical, theological and sociological perspectives, themes in non-western, Anglo-American and European Christianity are examined including: inculturation, dialogue with other faiths, poverty, social justice, diversity, fundamentalism and revivalism.

The Philosophy of Religious History
THL533 [MTh, BTh(Hon)]
Session 2
Friday 9.40 to 12.35 pm
Patricia Curthoys

Explores the development of historical thought and method from classical Greece to the present day, with reference to both religious history and the discipline of history. Students will analyse historical writing, as well as the methods, models and interpretations employed by different historical schools and traditions. They will examine trends in recent historical thought and practice, and explore the influence of theology, sociology and anthropology on religious history, as well as of movements such as postmodernism, feminism and post-colonialism.

Offered in 2017

Christianity in Australian History
THL231
Session 2

Examines the history of Christianity in Australia since 1788. Drawing on historical and sociological studies of Christian churches in Australia, this subject considers immigrant religious traditions and how these changed according to Australian factors, including interaction between Christianity and Indigenous spiritualities.
Liturgical Theology

THL115 (BTh)
THL490 (Grad Dip Th)
Session 1
Tuesday 9.40am - 12.30pm
Gerard Moore

History and practice of worship across a variety of Christian traditions including contemporary and blended worship. The subject centres on the effects and interrelationships of rites, symbols, words, music, gesture and space in facilitating worship. Key issues include liturgical forms, symbol, language, music, architecture and mission. In the context of human ritual activity, the importance of worship in the formation of Christian identity is analysed.

Christian Ministry

THL218 (BTh)
Session 1
Tuesday 1.45pm - 4.35pm
Rhonda White

This subject explores the praxis of Christian ministry, both lay and ordained, through theological reflection upon leadership and spirituality. This exploration takes into account changing paradigms of ministry. Topics cover essential components of responsible ministry (in the church and the world), including theological reflection, ethics, spirituality, worship, pastoral care, education, social justice and mission. Assumed knowledge: THL115 & THL120

Contemporary Issues in Practical Theology

THL519 [MTh, BTh(Hon)]
Session 1
Wednesday 6.30 - 9.20pm
Rhonda White

In this subject, students engage critically with the foundational theoretical and practical texts underpinning the discipline of Practical Theology. Students are enabled to apply cross disciplinary research, critical perspectives and a variety of methods to examine issues and questions of church practice, with a view to developing new approaches and understandings.

For information about Practical Theology & Postgraduate Ministry programs (pages 48-49) contact Rhonda White rhondaw@nswact.uca.org.au (02) 8838 8925
Pastoral Care

THL228 (BTh)
Session 2
Thursday 9.40am - 12.30pm
Rhonda White

Pastoral ministry in community and church contexts. A model of pastoral care intervention will underpin skills development, alongside an understanding of human development and interpersonal process. Communication and interpersonal skills relating to specific pastoral situations involving such factors as crisis, fear, anxiety, suffering, grief and loss. Assumed knowledge: THL115 & THL120.

Mission, Evangelism & Apologetics

THL238 (BTh)
THL438 (Grad Dip Th)
Session 2
Monday 9.40am - 12.30pm
Ian Robinson

Historical, biblical, and theological perspectives on these themes. Particular focus is given to the relationship between the gospel and culture, and recent discussion regarding the missional nature of the church. Attention is also given to issues relating to the practice of mission, evangelism and apologetics.

Homiletics

THL320 (BTh)
Session 2
Tuesday 9.40am - 12.30pm
Peter Davis

This subject introduces students to the principles and practice of homiletics. It explores issues of biblical interpretation in the homiletic context, the theology of proclamation and the spiritual and vocational orientation of the preacher. This subject will also provide students with analytical tools for evaluating homilies.

Public Theology

THL540 [MTh, BTh(Hon)]
Session 2
Friday 9.40am - 12.30pm

How theological perspectives inform contemporary public contexts. Students develop appropriate, coherent and meaningful expressions of theologically derived insights in contexts often characterized by conflict and disagreement over such contributions in theological discussion of common public and political issues beyond the community of the Christian church, and will analyse modes of engagement between theology and contemporary social life.

Offered in 2017

Christian Education

THL366 (BTh)
Session 2

Philosophical, psychological, theological, ethical & biblical bases of Christian education.

Youth, Culture & Mission

THL354 (BTh)
Session 1

The capstone for the study of mission in an often post-Christian context. Students will explore youth cultures and implications for communication and self-understanding.
Introduction to Christian Theology

THL111 (BTh)
THL460 (Grad DipTh)
Session 1
Monday 1.45 - 4.35pm
Ben Myers

The Apostles’ Creed has been used throughout the church’s history in baptism, worship, and as a pattern for Christian belief. This subject explores the theology of the creed as well as its continuing relevance to contemporary Australian society.

God, Humanity & Difference

THL245 (BTh)
Session 1
Thursday 6.30 - 9.20pm
Ben Myers

This subject explores a theology of the human person as the image of God - created, fallen, and redeemed in Christ. The human vocation is explored in relation to themes of sin, death, grace, sanctification, and eschatological transformation. Insights from feminist, postcolonial, ecological, queer and liberation theologies are included.

Classic Texts in Christian Theology

THL545 [MTh, BTh(Hon)]
Session 1
Thursday 9.40am - 12.30pm
Ben Myers

In 2016, this advanced seminar will explore the theology of one of the church’s most influential thinkers, Origen of Alexandria. The seminar will involve a detailed study of Origen’s theological, exegetical, and mystical writings, including his commentaries on John and the Song of Songs. It will also consider Origen’s continuing importance in modern and contemporary theology.

Being The Church

THL113 (BTh)
THL461 (Grad DipTh)
Session 2
Thursday 9.40am - 12.30pm
Ben Myers

What is the nature and mission of the church? This subject explores biblical models of the church, as well as the four traditional marks of the church - one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. It lays a theological basis for understanding the mission and ministry of the people of God today, with special focus on the challenges of a pluralist society.

Jesus the Christ

THL215 (BTh)
THL407 (Grad DipTh)
Session 2
Tuesday 6.30 - 9.20pm
Ben Myers

Christians confess that Jesus Christ is truly divine and truly human. This subject explores the origins and development of this confession, starting with Israel’s messianic beliefs and the New Testament message that Jesus is Lord and Messiah. The subject considers the three offices of Jesus as Prophet, Priest, and King. It develops a theology of the atonement, an attempt to explain how salvation comes through Jesus’ death and resurrection.

Theological Ethics

THL326 (BTh)
Session 2
Monday 1.45 - 4.35pm
Chris Budden

Connections between Christian theology & practice, philosophical & ethical ethics, ethical discernment in contemporary society. Biblical, theological, ecclesial, philosophical & scientific resources used to address a range of ethical issues such as politics, economics, war, environment, medicine & spirituality.
Contemporary Theology in a Global Context
THL512 [MTh, BTh(Hon)]
Session 2
Friday 9.40am - 12.30pm
Ben Myers

This subject engages critically with major figures and movements in the twentieth and twenty-first century theology, including authors in the four major fields of Protestant Theology, Catholic Theology, Contemporary Critical Theology and Contextual Theology. Students will engage critically with a selection of these theologies in relation to their contexts, tasks and methods.

Offered in 2017

The Triune God
THL316 (BTh)
Session 1

Development of Christian understanding of God as Trinity, relationship to worship, faith & doctrine. Biblical witness to revelation of God in Jesus Christ.

Christian Spirituality
THL216 (BTh)
Session 1

History of Christian spiritual traditions, & contemporary interest in spirituality. Relationship between spirituality & theological issues.

Interfaith Dialogue
THL334 (BTh)
Session 1 or 3

History, beliefs, practices and thought of different religious traditions, examining Islam in depth. Focus on principles of dialogue.
Electives

New Religious Movements, Cults & Sects

THL242 (BTh)
Session 2
Distance
Canberra

Beliefs and identifying characteristics of various new religious movements, cults and sects. It also explores major religious, social, legal and ethical issues raised by the presence of such groups within the Australian context. Examines responses from churches, media and government, welfare and police agencies.

World Religions

THL329 (BTh)
THL 487 (Grad Dip Th)
Session 2

Christianity within the broader religious context of Australian society and the contemporary world through a study of the sacred texts, history and contemporary expressions of the major world religions. Reference to Indigenous religion and new religious movements in Australia.

Reasoning Values & Communication

COM120 (BTh)
Session 1
Thursday 1.45 - 4.35pm
Ennis Macleod

This subject is useful for students who wish to increase their skills in academic thinking and writing, and their use of interactive technology. It focuses on skills and knowledge relevant to the composition of an academic essay and has four elements: the fundamentals of argument and critical thinking; skills in writing and grammar; generic study skills, such as academic referencing, the use of library databases, how to avoid plagiarism, and how to determine reputable sources; and ethical topics, upon which they will focus for their assessment.

Contact Ennis Macleod, (left) pictured with theology student, Lena Logan (right), for information regarding COM120 ennism@nswact.uca.org.au (02) 8838 8981
Theology Masters Subjects

Theology & Spirituality in Contemporary Engagement
THL544 [MTh, BTh(Hon)]
Session 2
Internal & Distance
Canberra
This subject considers, at an advanced level, the changing fortunes of spirituality and its relationship with theology. It addresses: the historical separation of theology and spirituality; the origins and nature of Christian mysticism; questions of experience and theological knowing; spiritual texts and hermeneutical issues; and the integration of theology and spirituality.

Guided Research
THL341 (BTh)
THL427 (Grad Dip Th)
Session 1 or 2
Jeff Aernie
Exploration of an approved topic in a chosen theological subdiscipline, determined in consultation with Subject coordinator. Students demonstrate use of appropriate methodology, research, writing and communication skills, normally through the presentation of a major essay.

Independent Guided Research & Theology Honours Project
THL501 (MTh)
THL555 (BTh Hons)
Sessions 1 & 2
Anthony Rees
In consultation with their supervisor, students will select an appropriate topic and write a research essay demonstrating competence in the use of methodology and written and oral communication skills through the preparation and presentation of substantial research.

Masters Coursework Dissertation
THL650
Sessions 1 & 2
Anthony Rees
Students conduct approved research under supervision, and present the results of their research for examination in an academically conventional form. The student will be expected to demonstrate advanced knowledge of the scholarly debate relevant to the field chosen and a capacity for both critical analysis of and constructive contribution to that debate.

Hermeneutics
THL514 [MTh, BTh(Hon)]
Session 1
UTC Distance
This subject explores the history of hermeneutics, ranging from Ancient and Biblical through to Contemporary Philosophical Hermeneutics. The subject addresses the interpretation of texts, the issue of meaning, and the question of what it is to understand. Hermeneutics occupies the place between epistemology and methodology, and, studied at the advanced level, will equip students with the capacity to locate themselves in relation to their critical reading of texts.

Seminar in Biblical & Theological Interpretation
THL535 [MTh, BTh(Hon)]
Session 2 Distance
Focused seminars, and in-depth research of people, movements, events, eras, topics, and themes in Biblical interpretation and theology, recent developments in Biblical Studies, and methods of contemporary Biblical scholars are examined.
Master of Ministry

Foundations of Church Ministry

MIN500 (MTh, MMin)  
Extensive  
March 10-11, 31-April 1,  
May 12-13  
9.40am - 4.00pm  
Rhonda White  

This subject is the core theology unit in the Master of Ministry program and complements the practical orientation of other units. It focuses on ecclesiology as the interpretive key for understanding the task of theology and the nature of ministry in contemporary Australian society. Students examine methodologies for reflective practice, drawn from the discipline of Practical Theology, as tools to strengthen their own practice, facilitating a critique of prevailing patterns of institutional life in Church and wider society. In this context the nature and character of the Church’s ministry in its various forms are reassessed.

Applied Principles of Church Leadership

MIN521 (MMin)  
Extensive  
March 3-4, April 7-8,  
May 5-6  
9.40am - 4.00pm  
Rhonda White & Peter Kaldor  

This subject introduces students to advanced leadership practice, which is founded in Biblical and theological principles, together with a critical review of church practice. Particular models of church leadership are addressed together with their critical application within a given ministry context. Students will be challenged to develop and implement more effective models of leadership for ministry in the Australian context.

Advanced Seminar in Mission and Evangelism

MIN522 (MTh, MMin)  
Extensive  
July 14-15, August 11-12,  
September 8-9  
9.40am to 4.30pm  
Ian Robinson  

Introduction to advanced study in mission and evangelism founded in Biblical and theological principles, together with analysis of the history of mission in Australian, Asian and the Pacific. Particular models of mission and evangelism are addressed together with their critical application within a given ministry context. Students will be challenged to develop a personal ethical approach to contemporary mission and to implement more effective models of mission and evangelism relevant to their cultural and ecclesial context.

Guided Research in Ministry

MIN501 (MMin)  
Session 1 or 2  
Rhonda White & Ian Robinson  

Research on an approved topic in a chosen field of professional ministry. The student will be expected to demonstrate the use of appropriate research methodology, critical reflection, and written and oral communication skills through the preparation and presentation of a substantial research paper.
Doctor of Ministry

Approaches to Enquiry in Ministry
MIN540 (MMin)  
MIN740 (DMin)  
Session 1  
Rhonda White

Research strategies and methods of data collection most suited to the field of Christian Ministry and its sub-disciplines. Overview of contexts within which enquiry is undertaken. Role & potential of research in specific disciplines of Christian Ministry, history and practice. Research using qualitative and quantitative methods relevant to the field of Christian Ministry.

Reflective Practitioner Perspectives in Ministry
MIN541 (MMin)  
MIN741 (DMin)  
Session 1 or 2  
Rhonda White & Ian Robinson

Work as reflective practitioners within the collaborative, pastorally oriented settings of Christian ministry. Outcomes are negotiated on an individual basis between students and supervisors. Projects are likely to be critical investigations of a particular approach to an identified pastoral issue in a nominated area of practice, undertaken to understand thoroughly its strengths and weaknesses.

Literature Review in Ministry
MIN742 (DMin)  
Session 1  
Mark Hillis

Theory and skills involved in developing a literature review in ministry at the doctoral level. It requires candidates to be thoroughly conversant with the literature of the subject they intend to study, and to understand the major theories, methodological assumptions, key concepts, data-collection techniques, issues, problems, areas of neglect, and newly acquired knowledge within their selected and related disciplines. The literature review provides a rationale for research and a justification of its value and significance for the professional practice of ministry.

Research Proposal in Ministry
MIN743 (DMin)  
Sessions 1 & 2  
Work with supervisors

Issues and questions which arise from the candidate’s professional practice in ministry provide the basis of the research project. From these an extended research proposal is developed by the candidate in a collaborative learning environment and is defended by presentation to the faculty of the School of Theology and professional practitioners in the candidate’s proposed area of research. Candidates also complete a research proposal (HD3-M) and ethics approval (if required) for submission to the University.

Doctoral Thesis
MIN744 (DMin Fulltime)  
MIN745 (DMin Part time)

Issues and questions which arise from the candidate’s professional practice in ministry provide the basis of the research project. From these an extended research proposal is developed by the candidate in a collaborative learning environment and is defended by presentation to the faculty of the School of Theology and professional practitioners in the candidate’s proposed area of research. Candidates also complete a research proposal (HD3-M) and ethics approval (if required) for submission to the University.
The Master of Arts (Religious & Values Education) is offered in distance mode through Charles Sturt University.

We recommend this course to teachers in all disciplines, particularly teachers in Uniting Church schools and teachers of religious education and studies of religion. It is also valuable for ministers and chaplains who want to further their understanding of education in their own context.

The course offers a series of in-depth learning experiences, beginning with a study of recent national and international trends in religious and values education. A set of subjects then focuses on recent developments in major curriculum areas within the broad field of religious and values education including teaching the Bible, teaching philosophy of religion, teaching religious ethics, and teaching world religions.

Students complete a semester of reflective professional practice before proceeding to advanced studies in either philosophical and ethical enquiry, or in media, popular culture and the arts. The capstone subject for the course is an individual research project in religious and values education.

Prerequisite for the Master of Arts (RaVE) course is a degree in education or equivalent.

Find more and enrol

The Master of Arts (Ageing and Pastoral Studies) is offered in distance mode through Charles Sturt University.

The program prepares graduates from a variety of backgrounds in aged care, including health professionals, pastoral workers and ministers of religion, to apply advanced knowledge and skills to a range of professional residential and community based aged care contexts.

It prepares students to further develop their skills and apply knowledge at various levels in the field of Ageing and Pastoral Studies. The course includes knowledge of research principles and methods in the field and is designed for those with a background in a variety of aged care settings including health professionals, pastoral workers and ministers of religion.

The program prepares graduates for leadership and management positions providing pastoral and spiritual care in community settings and the aged care industry. The programs also serve as a pathway to further learning.

Find more and enrol
csu.edu.au/courses/master-of-arts-ageing-and-pastoral-studies
Partner Colleges

St Mark’s National Centre of Theology, in Canberra, is Uniting College’s partner in the CSU School of Theology. St Mark’s is associated with the Canberra Goulburn Anglican Diocese and focuses on theological education, ministry formation, counselling, ageing and pastoral care, religious and values education, through courses ranging from VET sector certificate courses through to PhD. St Mark’s has established partnerships with Anglican dioceses across NSW and has affiliates in Brisbane (St Francis Theological College) and Adelaide (St Barnabas Theological College).

stmarks.edu.au

Trinity College Queensland, in Brisbane, is the official theological education provider for the Synod of Queensland. Trinity became an affiliate with CSU in 2016 under the auspices of UTC, and offers university degrees, diplomas and doctorates in association with UTC. The College provides a Certificate IV in Pastoral Care, through Wesley Vocational Institute in Sydney, designed for the training of chaplains in UnitingCare Queensland. Lifelong Learning, the equivalent of UTC’s Living Our Faith series, is run online through Trinity OLÉ, the college’s online Moodle portal.

trinity.qld.edu.au

Centre for Theology and Ministry, in Melbourne, is the official theological education provider for the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania. CTM includes Pilgrim Theological College, which offers theological courses through University of Divinity. Education for lay ministry, continuing education, and resourcing for children and youth ministries, are also offered by staff at CTM.

ctm.uca.edu.au & pilgrim.edu.au

Uniting College of Theology and Leadership, in Adelaide, is the official theological education provider for the Synod of South Australia. UCTL offers the BTh, MTh, PhD and DMin programs through Flinders University, and the Cert IV, Diploma and Bachelor of Ministry courses through a registered training organisation, Adelaide College of Divinity. UCTL is shaping courses around the SA Synod’s current focus on pioneering leadership and mission.

unitingcollege.org.au

Perth Theological Hall is the official theological education provider for the Synod of Western Australia. The college offers formation for ministry and contributes to Perth College of Divinity, the theology program at Murdoch University.

unitingchurchwa.org.au/pth

Nungalinya College, in Darwin, is a recognised theological education provider for Uniting Aboriginal & Islander Christian Congress (UAICC). Nungalinya is a partnership between the Uniting, Anglican and Catholic churches. Registered as an RTO, Nungalinya offers a Certificate in Theology, an Associate Diploma of Theology, Advanced Diploma of Ministry, Certificates in community organising, community and family services, textile art (Aboriginal Enterprise), as well as cross-cultural awareness courses for non-indigenous people.

nungalinya.edu.au
Registered Training Organisations

Uniting Institute of Education in Parramatta, is a registered training organisation managed by Uniting (previously UnitingCare NSW). UIE offers a range of nationally recognised qualifications, including several that attract Smart and Skilled funding from the NSW government, as well as professional development courses. (RTO Provider Number 91739).

Wesley Vocational Institute is a registered training organisation managed by Wesley Mission. In partnership with WVI, the Pastoral Counselling Institute runs the Certificate IV in Chaplaincy & Pastoral Care and the Diploma of Counselling. Trinity College Queensland in Brisbane also offer the Certificate IV in Pastoral Care under WVI (RTO Provider Number 90091).

UME has a training agreement with Morling College, cooperating in the running of Plunge, a one-year urban mission, theology and discipleship program, part of a Certificate IV and Diploma in Ministry course offered through Vose Seminary, Perth (RTO Provider Number 0145).

Presbytery Contacts

Canberra Region
Geoff Wellington, 0400 831 445, presbyterymane@tpg.com.au

Georges River
Grant Bilbey, 0418 160 163, grantbilbey@optusnet.com.au

Illawarra
Glenys Biddle, 0437 779 965, glenysbiddle@bigpond.com

Korean
Shin Goo Lee, 0405 484 858, kopuca@hotmail.com

MacQuarie Darling
Karyn Burchell-Thomas, 0417 215 701, revkaryn@bigpond.com

Mid North Coast
John Squires, 04108 024 642, johntsquires@bigpond.com
Lindsay Cullen, 0408 000 165, linz@lindsaycullen.com

New England North West
Bill Fischer, 0438 296 333, fischerbi@iprimus.com.au

Far North Coast
Presbytery office, 02 6621 5639, fnccooffice@gmail.com

Parramatta Nepean
John Cutts, 0408 205 499, johncc@pnp.unitingchurch.org.au

Riverina
Darren Wright, 0438 380 007, djwright@netspace.net.au

Sydney
Joanna Drayton, 0419 632 888, joanna@sydneypresbytery.org.au

Sydney North/Kuringai
Graham Perry, 0404 089 321, revpez@gmail.com

The Hunter
Jan McGeachie, 4959 1723, janmcmgeachie@hunterlink.net.au
United Theological College Fees

The following information was correct at the beginning of 2016, but check the CSU website for changes that may occur during the year: futurestudents.csu.edu.au/help-with-costs/fees-payment

Fee Help, available for Australian and NZ citizens and permanent visa holders, is provided for Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP) for particular courses of study, including the Bachelor of Theology. CSPs are offered to domestic undergraduate and postgraduate students, but postgraduate places are limited.

The Government pays a contribution directly to the University for the tuition fees and you, as the student, are liable for the remainder, which is known as the ‘student contribution.’ For a BTh the first year student contribution is $6,240; an average of $780 per 8 point subject. This is an estimated fee based on a full-time study load (eight 8 point subjects). Should you be studying fewer than eight subjects in your first year, the fees would be decreased proportionally.

If you receive a CSP you can choose to pay your fees as you go, or study first and pay later via the HECS-HELP loan system, which is only available to Australian citizens.

- Graduate Diploma of Theology, Master of Theology, Master of Ministry, Master of Arts (Ageing & Pastoral Care), Master of Arts (Religious and Values Education), Master of Pastoral Counselling: $1700 per 8 point subject, $2200 for international students.
- Doctor of Ministry is $2300 per 8 point subject and $2800 for international students.
- Single 8 Point subjects in 2016 are $1000 for levels 100 to 400 (Undergraduate), and $2200 for levels 500 and 600 (Postgraduate). The fees are doubled for 16 point subjects.

You will also have to pay the Student Services & Amenities Fee of $36 per 8 point subject, with a maximum annual fee amount for 2016 capped at $288 per student. You can choose to defer this, but you must complete the appropriate application form to do that.

utc.edu.au/course-fees

Scholarships

Uniting Mission and Education administers a range of scholarships available to both lay and ordained members of the Uniting Church for education and training. The purpose of the scholarships is to support the ministry and mission of the church, with particular focus on theological and lay training, and continuing education. The scholarships range from support for short courses or workshops, to undergraduate study, to helping with long-term postgraduate study.

Short-term Education Grants provide up to a maximum of $500 per application. These applications may be referred to UME for immediate assessment. Applications for larger amounts for continuing education and undergraduate study are dealt with by the UME Scholarships Committee which meets to consider applications once per semester, in April and August.

Application forms are available to download on the UME website below.

Contact Rohan England, Administration Assistant
(02) 8838 8912      rohane@nswact.uca.org.au
Uniting Mission and Education
Rohan England, UME Administration Assistant 02 8838 8912, rohane@nswact.uca.org.au
Duncan Macleod, Uniting Learning Network Director 0439 828 718, duncann@nswact.uca.org.au
Kath Merrifield, UME Executive Director 0409 650 118, kathom@nswact.uca.org.au
Charmaine Plane, UTC/UME Secretary 0288388915, charmainep@nswact.uca.org.au

United Theological College
Jeff Aernie, New Testament 02 8838 8930 jeff.aernie@gmail.com
Renee Kelly, Jenny Stockton, Student Enquiries 02 8838 8914 studentadmin@utc.edu.au
Ennis Macleod, Study Skills Tutor 02 8838 8914 ennism@nswact.uca.org.au
Gerard Moore, Dean of Academic Studies 02 8838 8958 gerardm@nswact.uca.org.au
Ben Myers, Systematic Theology 0412 442 703 bmyers@csu.edu.au
Anthony Rees, Old Testament 0401 801 932 arees@csu.edu.au
Ian Robinson, Alan Walker Lecturer, Mission & Evangelism, 0417 687 746 ianr@nswact.uca.org.au
Joanne Stokes, Course Administration Officer 02 8838 8967 joannes@nswact.uca.org.au
Rhonda White, Practical Theology 0411 503 718 rhondaw@nswact.uca.org.au

Ministry Formation
Carolyn Thornley, Dean of Ministry Formation 0407 108 328 carolynt@nswact.uca.org.au

Resourcing Team
Alison Bleyerveen, Mission Resourcing 0404 086 228 alisonb@nswact.uca.org.au
Bradon French, Next Generations Ministry 0409 557 375 bradonf@nswact.uca.org.au
Jason John, Uniting Earth Ministries 0430 830 848 jasonrobertjohn@gmail.com
Raymond Joso, Mission Initiatives 0418 866 388, raymondj@nswact.uca.org.au
Peter Kaldor, Leadership Development 0419 279 745 pk@newriver.org.au
Sue Kaldor, Leadership Development 0425 209 231 suek@newriver.org.au
Fie Marino, Multicultural Ministry 0404 934 356 fiem@nswact.uca.org.au
Bronwyn Murphy, Lay Education, Rural Ministry 0428 411 830 bronwynm@nswact.uca.org.au
Emma Parr, Safe Church & SRE Training 0439 110 065 emmap@nswact.uca.org.au
Miriam Pepper, Uniting Earth Ministries 0447 730 772 miriamp@nswact.uca.org.au
Suzanne Stanton, Presbytery Resourcing 0408 659 702 susannes@nswact.uca.org.au

Camden Theological Library
Moira Bryant, Library Manager 02 8838 8940 library@nswact.uca.org.au

Pastoral Counselling Institute
Fiona Fernandez, Program & Office Manager 02 96833664 pciuca@ihug.com.au
Peter Powell, Executive Director 02 8838 8916 revdrpeterp@iinet.net.au

Uniting Aboriginal & Islander Christian Congress
Hazel Leano, Administration Officer 02 8838 8980, hazelL@nswact.uca.org.au
Ray Minniecon, Resource Worker 0477 769 373 raym@nswact.uca.org.au
Ivan Roberts, Resource Worker 0478 075 101 ivanr@nswact.uca.org.au

Uniting
Joseph Abad, Pastoral Education Coordinator 0467 744 573 jabad@uniting.org
Chris McAlpine, Community Development 0448 640 050 cmcalpine@uniting.org
Jon O’Brien, Social Justice Advocacy 0477 725 528 joobrien@uniting.org
Katherine Newton, Uniting Institute of Education 02 8830 0755 info@uie.edu.au
Stay a while.

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northparramatta.org.au
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