



ONLINE OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Transforming Faith and Life

Study at
Yarra Theological Union
2025

Prospectus



UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY



We seek to promote and resource the participation of all people in the mission of God, for the building up of a healthy church and for the transformation of the world.

Tau Cross: crafted by Paul Shields, using four different Australian timbers (2015), reproduced with permission.

About Yarra Theological Union

Yarra Theological Union (YTU) is a College of the University of Divinity.

- A centre for theological education and ministerial formation for men and women and seminarians, especially religious and lay people;
- A College in the Catholic tradition, under the auspices of eight religious orders;
- Open to all who would wish to enrol from any background;
- A place of hospitality and welcome;
- Committed to being a community of scholarship, prayer and pastoral care.

Yarra Theological Union was originally founded in 1971 by the Carmelites, the Franciscans, the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart and the Passionists. Over the years other orders joined: the Redemptorists (Australian and New Zealand Provinces), Pallottines, Dominicans, Divine Word Missionaries, the Discalced Carmelites and the Blessed Sacrament Congregation. Graced by the generosity of the Franciscan Friars YTU is located at St. Paschal Friary.

On 18th January 1973, YTU was granted formal recognition as an institute of priestly formation by the then Archbishop of Melbourne, James Cardinal Knox. In September 1973, YTU, together with the Catholic Theological College in Clayton and the United Faculty of Theology in Parkville, was approved by the University of Divinity (then MCD) as a College with the right to teach for the degree of Bachelor of Theology. This was extended to approving the right to teach towards the postgraduate degrees of Master of Theology and Doctor of Theology in 1975.

Over recent years YTU, together with the other colleges of the University of Divinity (UD), has extended its teaching program to provide postgraduate units for candidates for the degrees of Master of Theological Studies, Graduate Diploma in Theology, Master of Theology (Coursework), Master of Education and Theology, and Doctor of Philosophy.

Why study theology?

People study theology for all sorts of reasons.

Some study theology to train for ministry whether lay or ordained. Some study theology to help clarify where God is calling them to be. Some study theology to gain a deeper personal understanding of their faith, of the scriptures, or of the traditions of the church. For some people, theological study is like study in the liberal arts, providing a training in thinking and argumentation, and in the breadth and depth of Christian culture.

All of these are valid reasons to study theology, and this list is not exhaustive!

Theological graduates use their qualifications as preparation for ministry, as further qualifications to enrich careers in teaching, pastoral care, educational leadership, mission, welfare and many other roles within the churches and beyond.

Whatever your reasons for wanting to study theology I encourage you to come and have a chat with us about how YTU can help you achieve your goals in theological studies.

Professor John McDowell (Academic Dean)

Which course is right for me?

Let's start by looking at two questions:

What entry qualifications do I have?

I finished high school and have the equivalent of the VCE.

Then you can start an undergraduate award such as a Bachelor's degree

I have a university degree.

Then you can take a postgraduate award in theology, even if your degree was in another field.

I didn't finish high school, and don't have the normal university entry qualifications.

Then you need to begin as a provisional student in a Diploma of Theology.

I don't have a degree, but I have a significant level of professional attainment.

If you have a minimum of five years of "relevant work experience or relevant professional attainment" then you can enter the postgraduate stream through a Graduate Certificate in Theology and articulate up to higher awards as you go. This may be especially useful for some professional awards like those in Pastoral Care. Contact the Academic Dean if you would like more information on this pathway.

What is the goal I am seeking in studying theology at YTU?

I want to prepare for ordained ministry in the Catholic Church (or another church).

Then you should start with the Bachelor of Theology degree

I am teacher and I need to be accredited to teach in a Catholic school

The Graduate Certificate in Teaching Religious Education is the course for you

I already have a GCTRE, and I want to equip myself further for my teaching. By deepening my understanding of scripture and theology.

One way would be to take the Master of Education and Theology, which works to integrate your study in education, and your study in theology

Another is to take some more theological units in one of our general awards. Which one will depend on how many you want to do. You could do a Graduate Diploma, or a Bachelor of Theology or a Master of Theological Studies. Talk to the Academic Dean about which one suits you.

I want to qualify to be a pastoral worker in a parish.

Start with the Graduate Diploma in Theology

I want to work in hospital chaplaincy

There are a number of courses you could take like the Graduate Diploma in Pastoral Care, or the Master of Pastoral Care. But the most important thing is to include the unit Clinical Pastoral Education in your program.

I don't know where this is going. All I know is that I want to explore my faith more, and see where that takes me.

Well then, it depends on the first question, about your entry qualification. You might like to start with the shortest course available at that level. Or you might be bold, and start with a longer one. You can usually take a "lower" or shorter option if you have had enough of a longer course.

Now take a look at our various courses. Further details can be found on the YTU website.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

Bachelor of Theology: 24 units; 3 year full time equivalent

This degree gives students opportunity for both breadth and depth in the range of theological disciplines.

Bachelor of Ministry: 24 units; 3 year full time equivalent

This degree is similar to the Bachelor of Theology, but has a greater emphasis on practical and ministry oriented subjects.

Advanced Diploma in Theology and Ministry: 16 units; 2 year full time equivalent

This is a shorter award in which a student undertakes some basic studies in the key disciplines, and extends those in areas of their choice.

Diploma in Theology: 8 units; 1 year full time equivalent

This course is a short award requiring basic study in scripture, theology and church history, together with opportunity to study other units according to choice. It is available as an entry point for those who do not have the usual university entrance requirements.

Undergraduate Certificate in Divinity: 4 units; one semester full time equivalent

This is our shortest undergraduate course. It is any 4 units for which you have the pre-requisites

Upfront Fees: \$2109.00 per 18 point unit of study

POSTGRADUATE COURSEWORK PROGRAMS

Many of these awards are available to those who are university graduates in disciplines other than theology. They allow students who have an undergraduate degree to study theology from the beginning, but at postgraduate level, in a way which honours their educational background and skill.

Graduate Certificate in Theology: 3 units; 6 months full time equivalent

This is a short award, which requires a student to take 3 foundational units in different disciplines, giving a basis for further study.

Graduate Diploma in Theology: 6 units; 1 year full time equivalent

This one year equivalent award is a good way to explore the basics of theology and delve deeper in a chosen area or areas.

Master of Theological Studies: 12 units; 2 year full time equivalent

This degree offers a great balance between laying a solid foundation for theological study and allowing a depth of study in chosen areas, without needing to cover the whole curriculum.

Master of Theology (Coursework): 10 units; 1.5 - 2 year full time equivalent

This award is open to theological graduates only, and provides an opportunity to further extend the range of studies already begun in one's primary degree. It is often used by seminarians to complete the range of study required by the church.

Master of Divinity: 18 units; 3 year full time equivalent

This is a postgraduate award somewhat similar in scope to the Bachelor of Theology degree.

Master of Education and Theology: 5-9 units (216 points with up to 108 points of credit –but effectively 96 points available); 1.5-4.5 years part-time

This award is designed for teachers as a coursework Master's degree. It offers a high degree of flexibility in the choice of units, and enables teachers to complement and extend their previous learning in both theology and education.

Upfront Fees: \$3268.00 per 24 point unit of study

Can I take units without doing assessment? Yes!

This is called an audit enrolment. No credit for a degree is available for these units. Most units are available for audit enrolment. The cost is \$650 per unit. Enquire for more details through the YTU Office. FeeHelp is not available for audit enrolments.

FEE HELP:

Students in any University of Divinity course who are Australian citizens, or hold a permanent humanitarian visa, can have their tuition fees met by a loan from the Commonwealth Government. The scheme – brought in under the Higher Education Support Act (HESA, 2003) – is called the Higher Education Loan Program: FEE–HELP for short (and applied for online as 'eCAF')

For further details of these awards, please consult our web site, www.ytu.edu.au

SPECIALISED PROGRAMS:

Graduate Certificate in Teaching Religious Education (GCTRE)

This is a specialised program designed to provide trained teachers with an introduction to theology and biblical studies for the purpose of gaining accreditation to teach religious education in Catholic schools. Four units are taken over a two year period, with each unit requiring 4 days of class time.

Upfront Fees:

GCTRE units: \$2451 per 18 point unit of study

Graduate Diploma in Spiritual Direction

This award is offered through the Siloam program at the Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual and Pastoral Formation. It may be done full time over one year or part time over two years.

RESEARCH AWARDS

Master of Philosophy

This degree consists of a 40,000 word thesis and attendance at 8 hours of postgraduate seminars per annum. 1-1.5 year's full time or 3 years part time (Maximum 4 years)

Doctor of Philosophy

This degree requires a major piece of directed research, usually through a thesis of 100,000 words.

Your rights as a University of Divinity student

As a student of the University of Divinity you have the rights and responsibilities outlined in the University's Code of Conduct. Please read them carefully. You risk suspension or exclusion if you contravene them.

You have the right to privacy.

Yarra Theological Union supports and endorses the National Privacy Principles contained in the Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Act 2000 and will comply with these principles whenever personal information is collected by us. In accordance with the National Privacy Principles:

- YTU will only collect personal information from you with your prior knowledge and consent
- YTU will only use personal information provided by you for the purposes for which it was collected
- YTU will not disclose your personal information to a third party without your consent
- YTU will not disclose your personal information to other institutions and authorities except if required by law or other regulation
- YTU will remove personal information from its records when it is no longer required (except where archiving is required)
- YTU will have processes and policies to protect the personal information that it has under its control from:
 - o unauthorised access
 - o improper use
 - o alteration
 - o unlawful or accidental destruction and accidental loss

Because YTU students are enrolled in University of Divinity degree and diploma programs, a certain amount of information needs to be exchanged between the YTU office and the Office of the Vice Chancellor, and on occasions other colleges of the University.

You have the right to the highest standards of teaching and learning.

In order to protect the high academic standing of your degree or diploma, all forms of cheating, plagiarism or other academic fraud (including illegitimate use of internet resources) are strictly forbidden, and anyone found engaging in them faces serious consequences. To assist with this, you are required to state on each assignment that it is your own work.

You have the right to be treated fairly in all academic and administrative matters.

If you feel this has not happened, you have rights under the appeals policy to lodge an appeal, or in some cases to lodge a grievance under the grievance policy. These policies, and the procedures which go with them, are available on the University website: <http://www.divinity.edu.au/university-of-divinity/governance/policies-and-procedures>.

You have the right to be safe, and to feel safe, in the university's environments. Harassment in any form – spiritual, sexual or discriminatory (e.g. on the grounds of race, gender, ethnicity, disability, theological outlook) – is wrong, and is not tolerated. There is provision for dealing confidentially, effectively, and justly with any harassment that may occur within YTU.

If you wish to discuss a concern in relation to these matters please contact:

YTU Academic Dean: John McDowell (03) 9890 3771: ext 3

YTU President: Chris Monaghan (03) 9890 3771: ext 2

YTU Chaplain: Jill O'Brien 0429 666 711

Or a Peer contact Officer: Please check YTU website or noticeboard for names and e-mails.

Any of these people will be able to refer you to an appropriate advisor or support person to assist you to explore and resolve your concern.

Finally, once you have commenced a degree or diploma with University of Divinity, you are assured that university educational and financial resources are in place to see you through to its completion. If the highly unlikely situation arises that the university cannot deliver a course for which you have paid fees, these will be refunded, or you can transfer to another provider, nominated for this purpose by the University.

2025 Timetable | Semester One

Monday 24 February – Friday 30 May

Non teaching period Monday 14 April – Friday 25 April

Monday		
9.30am	CT3/9341Y	Doing Justice in Theory and Practice
1.30pm	NN1000Y	Introduction to Tertiary Studies in Theology (Not for Credit)
6.00pm	DT2/3/9011Y	Major Issues in Contemporary Moral Theology

Tuesday		
9.30am	DL2/3/9423Y	Proclaiming the Word of God
	DP1/8001Y	Foundations for Pastoral Practice
6.00pm	BN1/8000Y	Entering the World of the New Testament
	CH2/3/922Y DS2/3/9322Y	Mystery as the Heart of the Church
	CT2/3/9010Y	Eschatology: Living in Hope

Wednesday		
9.30 am	DT1/8000Y	Introduction to Moral Theology: The Moral Life as a Call to Discipleship
	BA2/3/9010Y	Pentateuch: Exploring History and Faith
6.00 pm	AP3/9200Y CT3/9200Y	The Human Person as Neighbour: Towards a Theological Politics of Hospitality
	BN2/3/9011Y	Luke-Acts

Thursday		
6.00pm	CT2/3/9016Y	In search of a humbler church
	CH1/8003Y	'I am with you always': Introducing the History of the Church
6.00pm	CH1/8003Y	I am with you always: Introducing the history of the Church
	DM2/3/9011Y	A Comparative Study of Religions

Intensives

CH2214Y, CH3214Y, CH9214Y, DS2214Y, DS3214Y, DS9214Y Death, Dying and Grief: Through the Lens of Art & Spirituality

CH3217Y CH9217Y Women Doctors of the Church

DR9663Y Leadership for Mission in a Catholic School

2025 Timetable | Semester Two

Monday 29 July – Friday 1 November

Non teaching period Monday 22 September – Friday 3 October

Monday		
1.30pm	NN1000Y	Introduction to Tertiary Studies (not for credit)
6.00pm	CT3/9012Y	Triune God
	BN2/3/9017Y	Romans

Tuesday		
9.30am	DP3/9006Y	Professional Issues in Pastoral Ministry
6.00pm	DS1/8000Y	Foundations of Christian Spirituality
	AP2/3/9930Y CT2/3/9830Y	Objections to Christian Belief

Wednesday		
9.30am	XS3900Y	Undergraduate Capstone Project
6.00pm	CH2100Z	Cracking of Christendom: Histories and Theologies of the Reformation
	XS9992Y	Pastoral Leadership PG Capstone
	BA1/8000Y	Entering the World of the Old Testament: Survey and Method

Thursday		
9.30am	DM1/8330Y	Introduction to the Theology of Mission
6.00pm	CT1/8003Y	Beginning with Jesus
	CT2/3/9319Y	Signs & Gifts of God: Sacraments of Life and Church
	BN2/3/9013	The Gospel of John

Intensives

XS9907Z Masters Capstone: Enhancing Teacher Professional Learning for Religious Education

CH3320Y CH9320Y Mary in the Christian Tradition

CT2025Y CT3025Y CT9025Y Sent to Serve

BS9662Y Interpreting Biblical Texts

Graduate Certificate in Teaching Religious Education (GCTRE)

First year units in the GCTRE are offered collaboratively by faculty from Yarra Theological Union and Catholic Theological College.

First Second year units are offered by faculty from Yarra Theological Union for those who have successfully completed their first year of GCTRE studies.

Semester One

BS8610ZY 1st year	Introduction to the Bible for Teachers (Paul Creevey) Sat 1 Mar, Sat 15 Mar, Sat 3 May, Sat 17 May On-line: 9:30am–1:30pm
DR8663Y 2nd year	Foundations of Religious Education (Audrey Statham) Sat 22 Feb, Sat 8 Mar, Sat 3 May, Sat 17 May Face to Face or Synchronous – Box Hill 9:30am–3:30pm

Semester Two

CT8620Z 1st year	Introduction to Theology for Teachers (Jerome Santamaria) Sat 9 Aug, Sat 23 Aug, Sat 13 Sept, Sat 11 Oct On-line: 9:30am–1:30pm
DT8664Y 2nd year	Making our Moral Choices in Life: A Value-Added Approach Sat 19 Jul, Sat 2 Aug, Mon 22 Sept, Tues 23 Sept (Brendan Connell) Face to Face or Synchronous – Box Hill 9:30am–3:30pm
Fees 2025	\$2451 Contact: Associate Professor Michael A. Kelly Email: m.kelly@ytu.edu.au



Master of Education and Theology (MEdTheol)

Enrol in either face to face or online synchronous mode

Bendigo (De Campo Hall, CEO Office Bendigo, 120 Hargreaves St, Bendigo)

Semester One

DR9663Y 1st year 9:30 am-3:30 pm	Leadership for Mission in a Catholic School (Michael Kelly) 2 Thursdays and 2 Fridays: 6 & 7 March, 8 & 9 May
DR9016C 9:30 am-3:30 pm	Catholic Pedagogy in Religious Education (Paul Sharkey) Thurs 7 Mar, Fri 8 Mar, 2 days asynchronous, Thurs 9 May, Frid 10 May

Semester Two

CT9013C 1st year	Doing Theology: Engaging with the Catholic Theological Tradition (Kevin Lenehan and Phillip Gleeson) 2 Thursdays and 2 Fridays: 7 & 8 August, 16 & 17 August
BS9662Y 1st year 9:30 am-3:30 pm	Interpreting Biblical Texts (Paul Creevey) 2 Thursdays and 2 Fridays: 31 July & 1 Aug, 4 & 5 Sept Lecturer: Paul Creevey
XS9907Z Final year Capstone 9:30 am-12:30 pm	Enhancing Teacher Professional Learning for Religious Education (Michael Kelly and Kevin Lenehan) Fri 2 Aug, Fri 11 Oct (Unit is online and these are plenary sessions) Plus asynchronous learning activities
Fees 2025	\$3268 per 24 point unit Ask us about our payment options, including FEE-HELP Contact: Associate Professor Michael A. Kelly Email: m.kelly@ytu.edu.au

Important dates for students - 2025



13th January	YTU Office reopens
20th January - 14th February	Enrolments period
21st February	Student Orientation
1st Semester commences 24th Feb	
7th March	Inaugural Eucharist (St Paschal Chapel)
18th March	Main Census date S1
21st March	Graduation Ceremony Melbourne
14th April - 25th April	Non Teaching period (Easter)
30th May	End of Semester 1 classes
Last date to withdraw from unit	
2nd June - 6th June	Study Week
9th June - 13th June	Exam Week
16th June - 27th June	Semester 2 Enrolment period
16th June - 25th July	Mid Year Vacation
11th July	Student Results published
2nd Semester commences 28th July	
19th August	Main Census date S2
22nd Sept - 3rd October	Non Teaching period
31st October	End of Semester 2 classes
3rd Nov - 7th Nov	Study Week
	Last date to withdraw from units
10th Nov - 14th Nov	Exam Week
12th Nov	YTU Information Session for study in 2026
21st Nov	End Of Year Eucharist & Supper (St Paschal Chapel)

Enrolments for 2025 Academic Year

All students need to enrol personally by appointment through the Yarra Theological Union Office.

Phone: 03 9890 3771
 email: admin@ytu.edu.au

Coursework (Domestic) students' enrolment dates for 2025 academic year:

15 November – 20 December 2024
 20 January 2025 – 14 February 2025

Coursework (International) students' enrolment dates for 2025 Academic year:

First semester: 15 November 2024
 Second semester: 15 April 2025

Higher Degrees by Research Enrolment Dates

Admission applications are open throughout the year for February, May, August and October intakes.

Please email or phone to make an appointment for an alternative time.

How to apply:

Forms: Admission: <https://divinity.edu.au/documents/admission-form-domestic-coursework-students/>
 Readmission: <https://divinity.edu.au/documents/reenrolment-form-gctre/>
 Readmission: <https://divinity.edu.au/documents/reenrolment-form-coursework-students-domestic-overseas/>



A place of
hospitality
and welcome



Want to find out more?

Visit our website at www.ytu.edu.au

COURSEWORK ENROLMENTS

Professor John McDowell (Academic Dean 2024)
dean@ytu.edu.au

RECEPTION

Nicole Ross
Katherine Blyth

GCTRE AND METH ENROLMENTS

Reverend Associate Professor
Michael Kelly CSsR
m.kelly@ytu.edu.au

CONTACT US

03 9890 3771
admin@ytu.edu.au

RESEARCH ENQUIRIES

Br Dr Paul Creevey FMS
p.creevey@ytu.edu.au

OUR LOCATION

PO Box 79, Box Hill, Victoria 3128
98 Albion Street, Box Hill, Victoria 3128

REGISTRAR

Sandra McDowell
registrar@ytu.edu.au

YTU SOCIAL MEDIA

Please like or follow us on
Facebook @yarratheologicalunion
Twitter @ytuadmin



