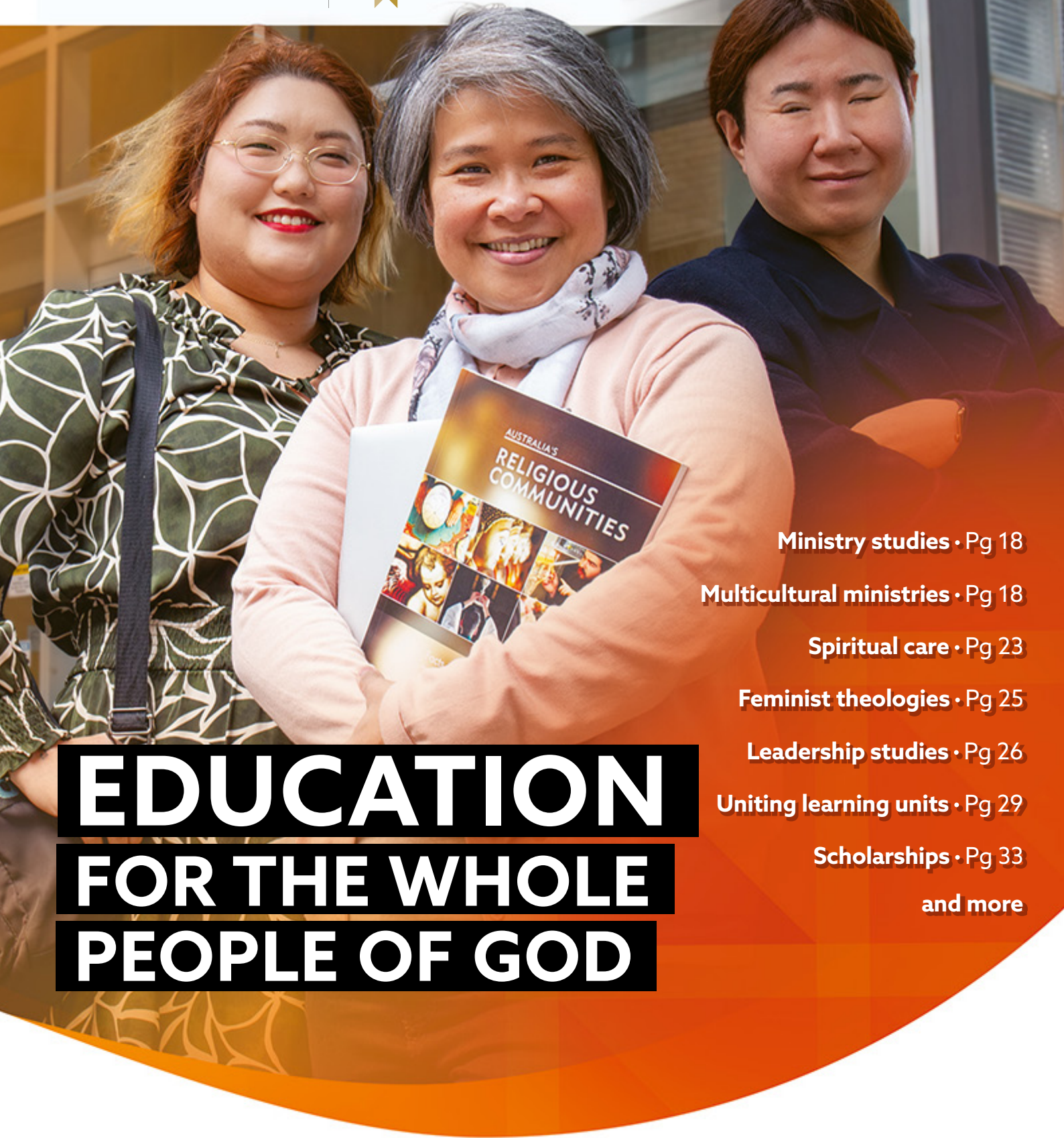




PILGRIM
THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE



UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY



EDUCATION FOR THE WHOLE PEOPLE OF GOD

Ministry studies • Pg 18

Multicultural ministries • Pg 18

Spiritual care • Pg 23

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and more

PILGRIM THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

COURSE GUIDE 2026



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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, Traditional Owners and custodians of the land on which we meet and pay our respects to their elders past and present. We acknowledge that the Church throughout this Synod meets on land for which First Peoples have ongoing spiritual sovereignty and custodianship, and we commit ourselves to respecting Country and to working for a more just future together.

Artwork

A call for action, 2021 by [Grace Williams](#).

Description: This artwork symbolises our shared responsibility to action justice, to listen deeply, and to speak truth. The centred cross reflects the life of the church through a cultural lens, placing culture at the heart as our compass. The two vibrant circles radiate justice and truth, while the twine illustrates what unfolds when we truly live out the covenant—First and Second Peoples becoming genuinely interwoven.

Special thanks to the members of the Pilgrim learning community featured in this year's course guide, especially:

Alisha Fung, Andreana Reale, Christopher Machar, Clare Brockett (guest speaker), David Landis-Morse, Deborah Lancaster, Duncan Turuva, Heather Hon, Janet Hualngo, Jane Yun, Jennifer Jacobs-Vandegeer, Jenny Soakai, Junior Manase, Justin Greenway, Kylie Sessa, Limisesi Taunga, Nigel Hanscamp, Paul Dau, Paul Minty, Penny Blackwell, Peter Whitefield, Ram Ramchhanthanga, Sarah Back, Sesi Taunga, Sione Hehepoto, Taumafai Komiti, Tanya Dunbar, Tanya Walker, Theresia Mulia, Yoojin Song.

Credits:

University of Divinity Melbourne Graduation. Photos by Chris Kapa (pp. 4, 31, 34).

Cover photography features [Australia's Religious Communities](#), published by the [Christian Research Association](#) (2012).



WELCOME TO PILGRIM THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

2026 COURSE GUIDE

Pilgrim Theological College has a purpose statement: To educate, form, and equip people to foster a just and compassionate world through creative and critical theological inquiry, practice and research.

The 2025-2030 strategic plan has four focus points that informs the ongoing work of the College.

1. Learning and teaching for intercultural church

- excelling in learning and teaching in line with our commitments to intercultural, inclusive and accessible education.

All of our subjects are designed to engage in learning from a wide range of cultural perspectives. Subjects addressing this directly include "Intercultural Leadership and Multicultural Ministry", and "Practicing a Missionary Church: Forming a Community of Christian Witness".

[See page 18.](#)

2. Liberative and contextual theologies - providing leadership in prioritising and learning from liberative and contextual theologies, as we acknowledge our location on stolen land. Creating space for generous dialogue and amplifying diverse perspectives, taking seriously the breadth of human experience and the need to pursue justice.

In 2026 we are offering a new subject: "Respecting Country: Deep history, the colonies, and the church", a unit that equips you to tell histories of the land on which your congregation lives and worships. [See page 15.](#)

3. Equipping the whole people of God - expanding the scope of the College's work to equip the whole people of God for changing contexts for ministry, mission and discipleship.

This Course guide reflects the growing scope of educational and formation opportunities being offered or promoted by Pilgrim. See the online Uniting Learning courses ([see pages 29 and 30](#)) that are designed for lay leaders and ministry staff. Once again we're introducing new professional development options for people serving in ministry, lay or ordained. We've included here the opportunities for clinical pastoral education, training in professional supervision, and leadership development, many offered in collaboration with other colleges and training groups.

4. Life-giving community - fostering an exemplary, flourishing, collaborative college community in which students and staff feel valued and empowered, supported by a healthy governance and management environment.

The quality of education is shaped by our experience in the classroom, in online tutorials, in the library, in the café, and in the one-on-one conversations with lecturers, facilitators and supervisors.

I encourage you to look through the 2026 Course Guide and contact Pilgrim Theological College by phone or email to explore your next step in your lifelong learning path.

While Pilgrim Theological College is a Uniting Church college that provides formation for ordained and lay ministries of the church, anyone from any background is welcome to study here. Who do you know that would value the opportunities provided here?

You can connect with us through the [Pilgrim Theological College website](#), where you can sign up to our monthly [Pilgrim enews](#), and find the links to the [Pilgrim Facebook page](#), and [Pilgrim Instagram page](#).



Duncan Macleod

Executive Officer,
Equipping Leadership for Mission (eLM)
Synod of Victoria and Tasmania
Uniting Church in Australia





About Our Courses

What would you like to study?

As a College of the University of Divinity, Pilgrim offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate awards, which can be undertaken on a full-time or part-time study load, to suit one's availability.

For undergraduate enrolment, committing to a full-time study load is equivalent to enrolling on four undergraduate units of study or 72 undergraduate points in one semester. A part-time load can be an enrolment in one unit of study a semester.

For those pursuing postgraduate studies, study programs from the Graduate Certificates to the Master's level, a full-time study load requires enrolment in three postgraduate units or up to a maximum of 72 points in a semester, and if a part-time study load is preferred, at least a unit enrolment per semester is required.

Take a look below and see which programme of study might be suitable for you.

Go to the University of Divinity website at www.divinity.edu.au/courses for more information about course outcomes, structure, duration, admission criteria and pathways to future study. If you are viewing the online course guide, click on the course name to access detailed information about each course listed in this section.

Undergraduate Awards

These awards are suitable for those who do not already have a degree, are keen to study theology at an undergraduate level, or have not studied at a university level for some time.

Undergraduate Certificate in Divinity

The Undergraduate Certificate in Divinity empowers students to delve into theological, philosophical, and ministry-related studies. This is an undergraduate qualification suitable for those exploring new knowledge or developing an existing one for vocational and professional pursuits.

Diploma in Theology

The Diploma in Theology is a good course to take if you want to study the Bible and Christian history and theology. It is an excellent entry point into further undergraduate studies.





[Advanced Diploma in Theology and Ministry](#)

The Advanced Diploma in Theology and Ministry builds on the Diploma of Theology by developing your knowledge and skills in Bible, history, and theology. The award also includes studies in Missiology, Liturgy and Ministry.

[Bachelor of Ministry](#)

This undergraduate degree focusses especially on skills relating to ministry practice.

[Bachelor of Theology](#)

This undergraduate degree provides an excellent introduction to theology across a range of areas of study. It is a good award to enrol in if you are committed to serving in the church, or deepening your understanding of Christian faith, discipleship, and mission.

Postgraduate Awards

These awards are suitable for those who already have a degree in theology or in another discipline.

[Graduate Certificate in Leadership](#)

The Graduate Certificate in Leadership is designed for both new and experienced leaders wishing to consolidate their learning, challenge their assumptions and underpinning knowledge and skills, and explore ways to develop their leadership influence skills in their teams and workplaces.

Study the core units in 2026:

[Self-Leadership](#)

Unit points:	12
Delivery:	Online
Duration:	5 weeks from Monday 23 February 2026

[Leading Others](#)

Unit points:	12
Delivery:	Online
Duration:	5 weeks from Monday 13 April 2026

Study electives:

Choose from a range of electives

Unit points:	Total 48
Delivery:	Online or In person
Duration:	New units coming soon in 2026

[Graduate Certificate in Spirituality](#)

This is a 72-point postgraduate program of study specifically crafted for Spiritual and Pastoral Carers, Chaplains and for those holding spiritual care responsibilities in congregational settings. Facilitated and taught by seasoned spiritual care practitioners, the course provides a strong foundation for advanced studies in spirituality and spiritual direction.

Study the core units in 2026:

Spiritual Care: Independent Practitioner

Unit points:	12
Delivery:	Online or In person
Duration:	3 Monday sessions: 27 April, 11 May and 25 May

Spiritual Care: Ritual, Meaning and Reflective Practice

Unit points:	12
Delivery:	Online or In person
Duration:	3 Monday sessions: 02 March, 16 March and 30 March

Study Electives:

Choose from a range of electives in the disciplines of Spirituality, Spiritual Care, and Spiritual Direction

Unit points:	Total 48
Delivery:	Online or In person
Duration:	Electives range from 3-day workshops to 12-week classes.

Recommended: Spiritual Care: Trauma and Moral Injury

Unit points:	12
Delivery:	Online or In person
Duration:	3 Monday sessions: 20 July, 03 August and 17 August

Graduate Certificate in Divinity

This award is ideal if you have studied theology before but want to update your knowledge, deepen your understanding, or develop expertise in one or more areas of theology. It provides significant flexibility in the choice of units.

Graduate Certificate in Research Methodology

This award is for those who are exploring the possibility of taking a Higher Degree by Research at the University. It equips students with cutting edge research skills applicable to identifying a research topic, developing and writing a research proposal, collecting and evaluating research material and writing a dissertation.

Graduate Certificate in Theology

The Graduate Certificate in Theology is a good course to take if you already have a degree but want to study the Bible and Christian history and theology. It is an excellent way to begin your theological studies, and you can use the credit you gain to enrol in a Graduate Diploma or Masters award.



Graduate Diploma in Divinity

This award is ideal if you have studied theology before but want to update your knowledge, deepen your understanding, or develop expertise areas of theology. It provides significant flexibility in the choice of units.

Graduate Diploma in Theology

The Graduate Diploma in Theology is a good course to take if you already have a degree but want to study the Bible and Christian history and theology. It is an excellent entry point into further postgraduate studies.

Master of Divinity

This postgraduate degree provides an excellent introduction to theology across a range of areas of study. It is a good course to take if you already have a degree and are committed to serving in the church, or deepening your understanding of Christian faith, discipleship, and mission.

Master of Theological Studies

This postgraduate award gives you a chance to develop a range of skills and depth of understanding in theological studies. It is for those who already have a degree in another subject but want a longer programme of theological study other than a Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma.

Master of Theology

This postgraduate degree is for those who have a degree in theology or ministry. It is aimed at those seeking to expand their knowledge in theological studies.





Higher Degree by Research Awards

These awards are for anyone who has completed theological studies and who meets the admissions criteria for a research degree. They are ideal for anyone who wants to undertake a substantial research project, under the supervision of Pilgrim's excellent Faculty.

Master of Philosophy

This research degree is suitable for those working in any theological field that can be completed in no more than 40,000 words.

Doctor of Philosophy

This research degree is suitable for those working on major research projects in any theological field that can be completed in no more than 100,000 words.

Reflections from our students

"Ministry formation at Pilgrim is much more than learning the 'ins and outs' of ordained ministry. It created a supportive environment to develop and articulate my own faith."

— Fiona Bottcher, Master of Theological Studies

"I have been privileged to be taught by lecturers who have encouraged critical thinking and to be able to explore my faith with classmates from whom I have learnt so much."

— Michal Butler, current student, Master of Theology

"I am the first woman clergy in the United Church of Solomon Islands to acquire a Master of Theology. I appreciate the wonderful privilege in being given the scholarship to study at Pilgrim Theological College. It is a blessing for me, my family, and my church."

— Lima Zama, Master of Theology (online)

"My studies at Pilgrim have provided me with deep theological understanding, practical pastoral tools, and a ministry shaped by compassion."

— Duncan Turuva, Bachelor of Theology

"From confronting complex problems in challenging situations to offering a non-anxious presence in chaotic and uncertain environments, my studies have undoubtedly equipped me to fulfill the responsibilities required in my work."

— Sunny Chen, Graduate Certificate in Leadership

"My studies have helped reshape my life. There's a great, inclusive community at Pilgrim, and I've been able to learn and experience new things. The faculty is very supportive and has given me many opportunities"

— Limisesi Taunga, current student, Bachelor of Theology



2026

PILGRIM THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE UNITS OF STUDY

SEMESTER 1			23 Feb – 29 May 2026
BA3020P/9020P	Psalms: Exegetical and Theological Study		pg 13
BN1010P/8010P	Introduction to New Testament: Stories, Texts, Beliefs		pg 13
BN3130P/9130P	The Book of Revelation: Evil, Empire and Eschatology		pg 14
CH1200P/8200P	Respecting Country: Deep history, the colonies, and the church		pg 15
CT2500P/8500P	Who and what is the Church?		pg 16
CT3000P/9000P	Trinity, Society and Solidarity		pg 17
DM1234P/8234P	Intercultural Leadership and Multicultural Ministry		pg 18
DP1071P/8071P	Care at Death's Door		pg 19
DP1072P/8072P	Care in a Grieving Church		pg 19
DP2061P/9061P	CPE and Therapeutic Pastoral Theology		pg 20
DP1011P/8011P	Spiritual Care: Independent Practitioner		pg 21
DS1021P/8021P	Spiritual Care: Ritual, Meaning and Reflective Practice		pg 22

SEMESTER 2			27 Jul – 30 Oct 2026
BN2030P/3030P/9030P	Mark's Gospel in Context		pg 14
BS3100P/9100P	The Bible and Ethics		pg 14
CH2060P/3060P/9060P	History of Peace and Justice		pg 16
CT1000P/8000P	Christianity's Big Ideas		pg 17
CT3001P/9001P	Queer Theology		pg 17
DM2500P/9500P	Practicing a Missionary Church: Forming a Community of Christian Witness		pg 18
DP1600P/8600P	Life Abundantly in Christ: An Introduction to Pastoral Theology and Pastoral Psychology for Ministry Practice		pg 20
DP9041P	Spiritual Care: Trauma and Moral Injury		pg 21
XX3330P/9900P	Capstone Integrative Project		pg 22

NON-ACCREDITED STUDIES		
DL (non-accredited)	Liturgy and Worship in Multicultural Contexts (workshops)	pg 18



Field A: Biblical Languages

Biblical Languages (AL)

Students at Pilgrim considering enrolling in Biblical languages benefit from the rich and diverse options available within the University of Divinity, as well as through Pilgrim's collaborative ties and partnership with other colleges.

For guidance and tailored course recommendations regarding enrolment in Biblical Languages for 2026, please speak to the Registrar, who can provide advice and support.

"At Pilgrim, we stand in the Uniting Church tradition that claims the Bible 'contains the Word of God.' We recognise that scholarly skills help us interpret the Bible in ways that are faithful to its intention and mindful of how we speak to the contemporary world."

- Assoc Prof Robyn Whitaker





Field B: Biblical Studies

Old Testament (BA) | New Testament (BN) | Biblical Studies (BS)

[BA3020P/9020P](#)

Psalms: Exegetical and Theological Study

Field B – Old Testament (BA)

Lecturer:	M Melanchthon
Semester:	Semester 1, Weekly
Schedule:	Tuesday, 2 pm – 5 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Unit Description

The Book of Psalms is poetry which erupts at moments of emotional intensity; a transcript from real life; poetical accompaniment to real events and real experiences. The Psalms are human attempts to express thought, anger, joy, thanksgiving, lament, doubt, and more to God. Journey through the Psalms and learn about Hebrew poetic literature, poetic devices, the formation and development of the Psalter and the range of forms, structures and settings. Equip yourself with knowledge of the theological themes and explore the relevance, use and functions of the Psalms in today's context and for preaching.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in-person or online in real time at 2 pm – 5 pm on Tuesdays. Resources will be provided online. Students will normally have completed a unit of Old Testament study.

[BN1010P/8010P](#)

Introduction to New Testament: Stories, Texts, Beliefs

Field B – New Testament (BN)

Lecturer:	S Douglas
Semester:	Semester 1, Weekly
Tutorial Options:	In person: Tuesday, 11 am – 12.30 pm / Online: Tuesday, 7.30 pm – 9 pm
Points	18/24

Unit Description

Are you curious about why we have four Gospels? Would you like to explore some of the contradictions within the New Testament, and learn more about Paul's letters? In this course we study a range of New Testament texts, attending to the political and historical settings from which they emerge. We will investigate questions of context, literary style, gender, and audience and along the way we will engage with ancient and contemporary questions of interpretation. Whether you are a person of faith or an agnostic person, you are welcome to join us as we examine this astonishing collection of texts.

Unit Delivery Notes

Content will be delivered online for students to work through at their own pace, then students will attend a tutorial in-person at 11am – 12:30 pm Tuesdays or online 7.30 pm – 9 pm Tuesdays.

Resources will be provided online.

[BN3130P/9130P](#)

The Book of Revelation: Evil, Empire and Eschatology

Field B – New Testament (BN)

Lecturer:	R Whitaker
Semester:	Semester 1, Weekly
Schedule:	Tuesday, 9.30 am – 12.30 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Unit Description

The Book of Revelation is a highly political and justice-oriented text that speaks to a range of ancient and contemporary issues. This unit offers a close exegetical study of the Revelation in its historical and political setting. Particular attention will be given to the visual context of Revelation, noting how the author of Revelation utilises and critiques ancient statuary, visual rhetoric and imperial iconography to expose evil and offer an alternate vision of God's reign.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in person or online in real time at 9.30 am – 12.30 pm Tuesdays in semester 1. Resources will be provided online. Students should usually have completed at least 2 prior units in Biblical Studies.

[BN2030P/3030P/9030P](#)

Mark's Gospel in Context

Field B – New Testament (BN)

Lecturer:	S Douglas
Semester:	Semester 2, Weekly
Schedule:	Tuesday, 6 pm – 9 pm
Mode of Delivery:	Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Unit Description

This unit provides an in-depth study of Mark's Gospel. It will focus on exegesis of key passages in this gospel and equip students with the ability to critically engage with primary and secondary sources. Particular attention will be given to narrative and literary critical methodologies and their value for gospel and Markan studies. In addition, this unit will ground Mark's Gospel within various contexts. Consideration will be given to the contexts of Jewish and Greco-Roman history, culture, and worldviews in the first century CE. Particular



attention will be paid to issues of gender, power, cosmology, ethnicity, Christology, and soteriology.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend online in real time at 6 pm – 9 pm Tuesdays (AEST). Resources will be provided online. Students should usually have completed at least 1 prior unit in Biblical Studies.

[BS3100P/9100P](#)

The Bible and Ethics

Field B – Biblical Studies (BS)

Lecturer:	R Whitaker
Semester:	Semester 2, Weekly
Schedule:	Thursday, 6 pm to 9 pm
Mode of Delivery:	Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Unit Description

Can the Bible contribute meaningfully to contemporary discussions about a range of ethical or moral issues? This unit will examine how the Bible might inform ethical thinking about a range of issues such as family and marriage, health and (dis)ability, war, violence, decisions about the beginning and end of life, the environment, family and marriage, wealth, and social justice. We will consider how the biblical texts might have spoken about such issues in their ancient contexts and the hermeneutical complexities and constraints when it comes to applying biblical teachings to the modern context.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend online in real time at 6 pm to 9 pm every Thursdays (AEST). Resources will be provided online. Students should usually have completed at least 1 prior unit in Biblical Studies.



Field C: Christian Thought and History

Church History (CH) | Systematic Theology (CT)

[CH1200P/8200P](#)

Respecting Country: Deep history, the colonies, and the church

Field C – Church History (CH)

Lecturer:	K Handasyde and colleagues
Semester:	Semester 1, Intensive blocks
Schedule:	Fridays and Saturdays: 27 – 28 February, 27 – 28 March and 22 May, 9.30 am – 5 pm; and two evening sessions: 26 February and 29 April
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Unit Description

This unit equips you to tell histories of the land on which your congregation lives and worships.

It focuses on seeking understanding and on respecting Country. It examines the deep history of First Nations peoples, the recent history of colonial settlement, congregational history writing, and the challenges and hopes for the contemporary church on Aboriginal land.

You will be introduced to methods of historical research and the skills you need to interpret legal, theological, and local historical sources.

This unit walks with you as you research, write and reflect on the legacies of the past in the present.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in-person or online in real time at 7 pm – 9 pm on Thurs 26 Feb (Northey Lecture), 9.30 am – 5 pm on 27 – 28 Feb, 27 – 28 March and 22 May, and an online evening workshop 29 April.

Resources will be provided online.





CH2060P/3060P/9060P

History of Peace and Justice

Field C – Church History (CH)

Lecturer:	K Handasyde
Semester:	Semester 2, Weekly
Schedule:	Thursday, 2 pm – 5 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Unit Description

In this unit you will explore the history of peace and justice in movements led by women and lay people. The unit focuses on Australia and the Pacific in the 19th to mid-20th century but also considers transnational influences. It includes topics such as the rise of church-based welfare, labour, Temperance, pacifism, support for mothers and children, justice for First Nations peoples, and environmentalism.

You'll interpret diverse historical sources such as newspapers and advertising, poems and novels, theological text and archival records. Through historical research and theological reflection, you'll deepen your understanding of the work of women and lay people toward peace and justice.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in-person or online in real time at 2 pm – 5 pm on Thursdays in semester 2. Resources will be provided online.

CT2500P/8500P

Who and what is the Church?

Field C – Systematic Theology (CT)

Lecturer:	J Flett with D Macleod
Semester:	Semester 1, Weekly
Schedule:	Thursday, 9.30 am – 12.30 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Unit Description

This unit examines shifting and emerging perspectives on the church, comparing them with traditional formulations and narratives. It invites us to recognise how shifting religious allegiances in Australia and around the world have changed the nature of the church.

Amid observed change, it asks how we might explore calls for unity and ensure the church remains visible and relevant. We will explore the ways these questions have been asked in different times and places since the time of the apostles.

Ultimately, we will consider how the church continues to be a faithful witness to Jesus Christ in our time and place.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in-person or online in real time at 9.30 am – 12.30 pm on Thursdays in semester 1. Resources will be provided online.

CT1000P/8000P

Christianity's Big Ideas

Field C – Systematic Theology (CT)

Lecturer:	D Sihombing
Semester:	Semester 2, Weekly
Schedule:	Tuesday, 2 pm – 5 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Unit Description

In this unit you will discover Christian belief and doctrine is a lively and imaginative aspect of Christian faith. A great introduction to theology, you will encounter theologians from across many eras and contexts exploring how the different ideas generated by the gospel are articulated, developed and lived.

Christianity's Big Ideas will help you to develop your understanding of pivotal doctrines of God, Christology, Pneumatology, Creation, humanity, salvation, church and hope.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in-person or online in real time at 2 pm – 5 pm Tuesdays. Resources will be provided online.

CT3000P/9000P

Trinity, Society and Solidarity

Field C – Systematic Theology (CT)

Lecturer:	D Sihombing
Semester:	Semester 1, Weekly
Schedule:	Thursday, 2 pm – 5 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Unit Description

This unit will explore the origins and contemporary significance of the doctrine of the Trinity. Key historical developments in the Eastern and Western traditions will be surveyed. Against this historical background, the re-emergence of the doctrine of the Trinity in the twentieth century will be explored. Attention will be paid to the role which this doctrine is playing in the global church's encounter with modern atheism, religious pluralism, global inequality and issues around gender and sexuality.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in person or online at 2 pm – 5 pm on Thursdays. Resources will be provided online.

CT3001P/9001P

Queer Theology

Field C – Systematic Theology (CT)

Lecturer:	J Inkpin and P Jones
Semester:	5-day Intensive
Schedule:	9 – 10 and 13 – 15 July, 9.30 am – 5 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Unit Description

This unit explores queer theology as it has emerged from queer theory, LGBTIQ justice struggles, and faith development and practice. It will acquaint students with the history and challenges of the term 'queer', and introduce the multiplicity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and queer Christian theologies that have emerged in recent decades. It will seek to analyse and critique theological loci and motifs of Christian theology, including the queering of scripture and hermeneutics and key theological doctrines. Exploring intersectional approaches, including postcolonial perspectives, queer art, action and contemporary reflection, participants will be enabled to assess critically the value and possibilities of queer theology for faith and society today.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in-person or online in real time between 9.30 am and 5 pm daily. The lecturers will organise the schedule for the online evening seminars in consultation with the participants' availability. Resources will be provided online.





Field D: Theology Mission and Ministry

Liturgy (DL) | Missiology (DM) | Pastoral Care (DP) | Spirituality (DS)

Liturgy and Ministry Workshops

Stay tuned for regional workshops on worship in multicultural contexts in 2026, and for academic units in 2027.

Lecturer: S Burns and D Sihombing

[DM1234P/8234P](#)

Intercultural Leadership and Multicultural Ministry

Field D – Missiology (DM)

Lecturer:	J Flett with D Kim
Semester:	Semester 1, Weekly
Schedule:	Wednesday, 9.30 am – 12.30 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person
Points	18/24

Unit Description

This unit introduces “cultural competency” in both theory and practice. It first focuses on the cognitive, affective, behavioural, and linguistic skills basic to cultivating intercultural understanding and relationship. Second, it explores the changing religious and cultural demographics shaping contemporary Australian society and Christianity. This helps us to think about changes within theological formation, church structure and polity, and in its worship life.

The goal is to develop and practice skills of intercultural engagement, and to produce resources which inform the processes of multicultural ministry.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in person from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm on Wednesdays in semester 1. This unit is open to ministry candidates and ministry leaders, both lay and ordained, for professional development. Resources will be provided online.

[DM2500P/9500P](#)

Practicing a Missionary Church: Forming a Community of Christian Witness

Field D – Missiology (DM)

Lecturer:	J Flett with S Brodine
Semester:	Semester 2, Weekly
Schedule:	Wednesday, 6 pm – 9 pm
Mode of Delivery:	Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Unit Description

This unit explores practices of Christian witness within post-Christendom, secular, and religiously plural societies. It pays attention to the major cultural movements which have defined the Australian church,



and especially the processes of secularisation, globalisation, and multiculturalism. It traces various theological and ecclesiological responses to this shifting context, including “missional church” and “Fresh Expressions.” This will include a careful evaluation of their contributions. Attention shifts to communal practices, such as hospitality, evangelism, liturgy and proclamation, as forms of discipleship in witness. The unit intends to give both theoretical and practical direction for the development of congregational witness and all-age growth.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend online in real time from 6 pm to 9 pm on Wednesdays in semester 2. Resources will be provided online.

DP1071P/8071P

Care at Death's Door

Field D – Pastoral Care (DP)

Lecturer:	S Burns
Semester:	Semester 1, three-day intensive
Schedule:	Sunday 19 April, 3 pm – 9 pm; Monday 20 April, 9.30 am – 5 pm; Tuesday 21 April, 9.30 am – 3 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person
Points	9/12

Unit Description

In a context shaped by increasing religious disaffiliation and marked by an uptick in ‘spiritual but not religious’ self-identification, the prospect and purpose of a Christian funeral is no longer obvious even to members of churches.

This unit explores the space between a Christian funeral and its secular humanist counterpart while focusing on understanding needed to be able to offer

to others, officiate and speak at Christian funerals in a secularizing enveloping culture; as well as to engage skilfully in practices of pastoral care that surround the funeral, before and after.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students are required to attend in person according to the following schedule: Sunday 19 April, 3 pm – 9 pm; Monday 20 April, 9.30 am – 5 pm; Tuesday 21 April, 9.30 am – 3 pm. Resources will be provided online.

DP1072P/8072P

Care in a Grieving Church

Field D – Pastoral Care (DP)

Lecturer:	S Burns
Semester:	Semester 1, three full days
Schedule:	Monday 4 May, 18 May, 1 June, 9.30 am – 3 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	9/12

Unit Description

Many Christian churches offer preparation classes for both baptism and marriage, but death preparation classes are much less common. Yet death is inevitable and grief abounds, not only as persons face the loss of loved ones but as grief shapes the culture of ageing churches in which elders have ‘golden memories’ of ‘better days’ in ‘former times’ of congregational life.

This unit engages grief narratives in search of memento mori (‘remember that you will die’) in personal voice and connects that quest to wise pastoral engagement in a mood that can mark congregations.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend either in person or online in real time on three scheduled Mondays: 4 May, 18 May, and 1 June. The class sessions will run from 9:30 am to 3 pm. Resources will be provided online.





DP2061P/9061P

CPE and Therapeutic Pastoral Theology

Field D – Pastoral Care (DP)

Lecturer:	S Burns
Semester:	Semester 1, four evenings + a full day
Schedule:	Wednesday evenings 25 February, 4 March, 11 March, 18 March, 6 pm – 9 pm, and then in person for a whole day on Saturday 18 April, 9.30 am – 5 pm
Mode of Delivery:	Online Synchronous and one day in person
Points	9/12

Unit Description

Many pastoral and spiritual carers engage Clinical Pastoral Education as a part of their theological education and practical training. Yet not all are introduced to the biography and theology of Anton Boisen (1876-1965), the US Presbyterian minister with whom CPE originates.

This unit enquires into Boisen's experiences shaping his theological convictions — including that people are to be revered as scripture — and explores their expression in practices still used in CPE and other care setting, as well as evaluating the 'therapeutic tradition' of pastoral care which CPE exemplifies.

If you have an interest in CPE, then this unit is for you.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend online in real time from 6 pm to 9 pm on four scheduled Wednesdays: 25 February, 4 March, 11 March and 18 March. The concluding session will be held in person on Saturday 18 April, during which students are expected to be present for a full-day class, 9.30 am – 5 pm. Resources will be provided online.

DP1600P/8600P

Life Abundantly in Christ: An Introduction to Pastoral Theology and Pastoral Psychology for Ministry Practice

Field D – Pastoral Care (DP)

Lecturer:	J Calder with F Barber
Semester:	Semester 2, three full days, then another three full days
Schedule:	2 – 3 and 5 October, 30 – 31 October and 2 November, 9.30 am – 5 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person
Points	18/24

Unit Description

In this unit of study, you will explore the important connections between the Christian vision of the human person and the pastoral practices required to ensure the provision of this vision. This will include examining the skill of attending (listening) and practical ways of engagement in order to support and uphold God's vision for the human person.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in person from 9.30 am to 5 pm on the following days: Friday and Saturday, 2 – 3 October; Monday 5 October; Friday and Saturday 30 – 31 October; and Monday 2 November.

This unit is open to ministry candidates, ministry leaders, both lay and ordained, and chaplains for professional development.

Resources will be provided online.



DP1011P/8011P

Spiritual Care: Independent Practitioner

Field D – Pastoral Care (DP)

Lecturer:	L Mosso and colleagues
Semester:	Semester 1, three full days
Schedule:	Monday 27 April, 11 May, and 25 May, 9 am – 4 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	9/12

Unit Description

Especially for chaplains and spiritual care workers, this unit contributes to equipping you as an Independent Practitioner in the provision of spiritual care. You will explore recent trends in the theology of spiritual care and be encouraged to reflect on practice in a range of settings. With an awareness of professional and ethical requirements, this unit will help equip you to serve in diverse organisational workplaces. Taking a practical approach with expert input from a range of practitioners in the field, this unit will help you develop practical and reflective skills in a complex ministry.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in-person or online from 9 am – 4 pm on Monday 27 April, 11 May, and 25 May. Resources will be provided online.

DP9041P

Spiritual Care: Trauma and Moral Injury

Field D – Pastoral Care (DP)

Lecturer:	L Mosso and colleagues
Semester:	Semester 2, three full days
Schedule:	Monday 20 July, 3 August, and 17 August, 9 am – 4pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	12

Unit Description

Especially for chaplains and spiritual care workers, this unit focuses on advanced spiritual care techniques to care for people who have experienced trauma and/or moral injury. You will further develop your ability to offer a non-anxious presence through informed reflective practice. You will deepen your personal and professional integration while developing particular skills built on trauma-informed care principles and recent developments moral injury care.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in person or online in real time from 9 am to 4 pm on three scheduled Mondays: 20 July, 3 August and 17 August. Resources will be provided online.





[DS1021P/8021P](#)

Spiritual Care: Ritual, Meaning and Reflective Practice

Field D – Spirituality (DS)

Lecturer:	L Mosso and colleagues
Semester:	Semester 1, three full days
Schedule:	Monday 2 March, 16 March, and 30 March, 9 am – 4 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	9/12

Unit Description

Especially for chaplains and spiritual care workers, this unit focuses on meaning making in diverse spiritual care settings through the use of the spiritual and liturgical resources. With reference to a range of spiritual practices, you will reflect on spiritual and ritual resources that sustain and nourish throughout the journey of life of individuals and their communities.

You will have opportunity to consider the place and practice of rituals and spiritual practices in the delivery of holistic and integrated spiritual care. With awareness of the need for self-regulation, you will be introduced to self-care resources and develop skills in reflective practice. You will consider a range of strategies to enable integration of reflective practice into professional practice.



Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in person or online in real time from 9 am to 4 pm on three scheduled Mondays: 2 March, 16 March and 30 March. Resources will be provided online.

Capstone

[XX3330P/9900P](#)

Capstone Integrative Project

Lecturer:	S Burns and J Flett
Semester:	Semester 2, four workshops
Schedule:	Thursdays, 9.30 am – 12.30 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Unit Description

This unit enables you to take a deep dive into a project close to your heart in the final year of study. You will research and present on a topic of your choice that integrates learning across theological disciplines.

You will be encouraged to improve your writing through constructive collegial feedback and supportive seminars. The Capstone Integrative Project helps you to hone your skills in communicating theological ideas creatively and effectively as you conclude your degree.

Unit Delivery Notes

Students will attend in person or online in real time from 9.30 am – 12.30 pm on four scheduled Thursdays: 30 July, 20 August, 17 September, and 22 October, and one individual session with a lecturer at a mutually convenient time.

Resources will be provided online.



Specialisations

Expertise and pathways in Care and Feminist Theologies.

Specialise in Spiritual Care, Pastoral Care and Chaplaincy

Study with professional, skilled and experienced practitioners to develop your expertise in Spiritual Care, Pastoral Care and Chaplaincy. Our units encompass many aspects of Spiritual Care, helping you work toward professional accreditation or deepen your understanding of Uniting Church perspectives on spirituality.

Whether you are a professional seeking to upgrade your qualifications for continuing practice or someone looking to develop capacity and expertise, we encourage you to explore the Spiritual and Pastoral Care units offered at Pilgrim for 2026. The full details of these units can be found on pages 19 to 22 of this course guide.

Spiritual Care Units

[DP1011P/8011P](#)

Spiritual Care: Independent Practitioner

Field D – Pastoral Care (DP)

Lecturer:	L Mosso and colleagues
Semester:	Semester 1, three full days
Schedule:	Monday 27 April, 11 May, and 25 May, 9 am – 4 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	9/12

[DS1021P/8021P](#)

Spiritual Care: Ritual, Meaning and Reflective Practice

Field D – Spirituality (DS)

Lecturer:	L Mosso and colleagues
Semester:	Semester 1, three full days
Schedule:	Monday 2 March, 16 March, and 30 March, 9 am – 4 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	9/12

[DP9041P](#)

Spiritual Care: Trauma and Moral Injury

Field D – Pastoral Care (DP)

Lecturer:	L Mosso and colleagues
Semester:	Semester 2, three full days
Schedule:	Monday 20 July, 3 August, and 17 August, 9 am – 4pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	12



Other available Pastoral Care and Spirituality units

[DP1071P/8071P](#)

Care at Death's Door

Field D – Pastoral Care (DP)

Lecturer:	S Burns
Semester:	Semester 1, three-day intensive
Schedule:	Sunday 19 April, 3 pm – 9 pm; Monday 20 April, 9.30 am – 5 pm; Tuesday 21 April, 9.30 am – 3 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person
Points	9/12

[DP1072P/8072P](#)

Care in a Grieving Church

Field D – Pastoral Care (DP)

Lecturer:	S Burns
Semester:	Semester 1, three full days
Schedule:	Monday 4 May, 18 May, 1 June, 9.30 am – 3 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	9/12

[DP2061P/9061P](#)

CPE and Therapeutic Pastoral Theology

Field D – Pastoral Care (DP)

Lecturer:	S Burns
Semester:	Semester 1, four evenings + a full day
Schedule:	Wednesday evenings 25 February, 4 March, 11 March, 18 March, 6 pm – 9 pm, and then in person for a whole day on Saturday 18 April, 9.30 am – 5 pm
Mode of Delivery:	Online Synchronous and one day in person
Points	9/12

[DP1600P/8600P](#)

Life Abundantly in Christ: An Introduction to Pastoral Theology and Pastoral Psychology for Ministry Practice

Field D – Pastoral Care (DP)

Lecturer:	J Calder with F Barber
Semester:	Semester 2, three full days, then another three full days
Schedule:	2 – 3 and 5 October, 30 – 31 October and 2 November, 9.30 am – 5 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person
Points	18/24



Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is a program of education and formation for the professional work of pastoral and spiritual care practitioners. You can take CPE units for credit towards a University of Divinity award.

The units are aimed at those studying for ministry accreditation or ordination, pastoral and spiritual carers working in hospitals, aged-care agencies, schools, the justice system, prisons, and more.

Through Pilgrim, you can access the CPE units offered with colleagues through the University of Divinity in partnership with ASACPEV Inc. (the Association for Supervised Clinical Pastoral Education in Victoria Incorporated) and ANZACPE (Australia and New Zealand Association for Clinical Pastoral Education Ltd).

CPE can be taken at the Uniting Church's John Paver Centre, or other providers.

Specialise in Feminist Theologies

Focus your study on feminist theologies. Pilgrim is a leading advocate for feminist theological scholarship within the University of Divinity and many of our units have a feminist component or core.

Develop a Diploma or Certificate centred on feminist theology units. In 2026, you can choose feminist biblical studies, theology or history.

[CT3001P/9001P](#)

Queer Theology

Field C – Systematic Theology (CT)

Lecturer:	J Inkpin and P Jones
Semester:	5-day Intensive
Schedule:	9 – 10 and 13 – 15 July, 9.30 am – 5 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Please refer to [page 17](#) for full details of this unit.

[CH2060P/3060P/9060P](#)

History of Peace and Justice

Field C – Church History (CH)

Lecturer:	K Handasyde
Semester:	Semester 2, Weekly
Schedule:	Thursday, 2 pm – 5 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

The full details of this unit can be found on [page 16](#).





Graduate Certificate in Leadership

Developing leadership skills for church, community, and workplace

The Graduate Certificate in Leadership is designed for both new and experienced leaders wishing to consolidate their learning, challenge their assumptions and underpinning knowledge and skills, and explore ways to develop their leadership influence skills in their teams and workplaces.

Students undertake a series of coursework units which may include a project unit, integrating critical thinking and engagement with theoretical, religious, and spiritual beliefs with a body of knowledge and lived experience. This is done through enquiry-based studies, case studies from leading professionals to address workplace problems and issues, that may lead to practical applications for change in their professional context.

Two core units, Self Leadership and Leading Others, are provided online each year through Uniting College Theology and Leadership, Adelaide. Two elective units complete the Graduate Certificate, including Pilgrim's Intercultural Leadership (2026), Uniting Church Theology and History (2027), and Spiritual Care: Senior Practitioner / Grief and Conflict.

The Synod of Victoria and Tasmania will be offering significant scholarships for Uniting Church leaders enrolled in the Graduate Certificate in Leadership in 2026.

Further details are available upon enquiry with the [Pilgrim Theological College Registrar](#).

Course learning outcomes

Graduates of the Graduate Certificate in Leadership will be able to

1. Analyse and synthesise relevant information and concepts that may include perspectives from religious beliefs and spiritual traditions.
2. Articulate specialised knowledge of leadership theories and frameworks that may include perspectives from religious beliefs and spiritual traditions to inform leadership practice in complex contexts.
3. Communicate, both orally and in writing, leadership ideas and decisions in logical, relevant ways.
4. Critically reflect on and respond appropriately to theological, religious, social, cultural, ethical and / or sustainability issues from a leadership perspective.
5. Participate, contribute, and actively collaborate with other professionals to facilitate healthy organisational development and transformation.





Graduate Certificate in Professional Supervision

Empowering supervisors in ministry, health, education, and leadership

Graduate studies in Professional Supervision equip you to practice as a professional supervisor of individuals and groups who work in caring professions such as ministry, health, education and leadership.

Through experiential learning, you develop skills in professional supervision to create a relationship of trust and transparency in which those being supervised can review their work practices. Using a range of knowledge and techniques, professional supervision can enable the supervisee to develop self-awareness, resilience, ethical understanding, accountability, and effectiveness.

At Pilgrim, you can pursue a Graduate Certificate in Professional Supervision as part of an innovative collaboration between colleges of the University of Divinity. This program is recognised as a Registered Supervisor Training Program by the Australasian Association of Supervision (AAOS).

Students have the choice between enrolling in Professional Supervision or the Professional Supervision for Spiritual Directors (Emmaus Stream). The units of study are available either in-person or online via Zoom.

The Graduate Certificate in Professional Supervision can be completed part-time over a maximum of two years, while the Graduate Certificate in Professional Supervision (Emmaus Stream), designed for those supervising Spiritual Directors, can be completed part-time within one year. Graduates of either program can continue their studies toward the Graduate Diploma in Professional Supervision.

For more information, contact our Registrar, Ms Erlinda Loverseed, study@pilgrim.edu.au, 03 9340 8892.





Period of Discernment

A time to explore vocation and theological study

In the Uniting Church in Australia, people discerning God's call in their lives are referred by their congregations and presbyteries into a Period of Discernment (POD). During this time, that sense of call is explored and clarified. A POD can lead in a variety of directions, and typically includes some form of theological study. Talk to your POD Mentor or your Minister about choosing one of these units or a Uniting Learning unit and find out what it's like to study theology for ministry.

[BN1010P/8010P](#)

Introduction to New Testament: Stories, Texts, Beliefs

Field B – New Testament (BN)

Lecturer:	S Douglas
Semester:	Semester 1, Weekly
Tutorial Options:	In person: Tuesday, 11 am – 12.30 pm / Online: Tuesday, 7.30 pm – 9 pm
Points	18/24

The full details of this unit are found on [page 13](#).

[CT1000P/8000P](#)

Christianity's Big Ideas

Field C – Systematic Theology (CT)

Lecturer:	D Sihombing
Semester:	Semester 2, Weekly
Schedule:	Tuesday, 2 pm – 5 pm
Mode of Delivery:	In person and Online Synchronous
Points	18/24

Please turn to [page 17](#) for the full details of this unit.

To learn more about the Period of Discernment and the process of heeding your call, reach out to the Minister of your congregation or contact your Presbytery directly and please explore the information on this [webpage](#).





Uniting Learning Units

Courses designed for discipleship and leadership development

Uniting Learning units are Synod-accredited units designed to provide formation and learning for anyone in the Uniting Church wishing to grow in their understanding and skills around the Bible, theology, preaching and worship. The units offer education pathways for all people, including those engaged with the Ministry of Lay Preacher and Ministry of Pastor. They provide a low intensity entry into theology and ministry education for anyone wanting to learn more without the commitment of a longer tertiary education award.

In 2026, Pilgrim will be expanding these offerings with new units designed to support people in pastoral care, and organisation and administration roles. These units are taught remotely via Zoom, with written material, videos and interactive activities provided on the online Uniting Learning platform.

Pilgrim provides certificates of participation (for audit) and certificates of completion (for assessment). We work collaboratively and consultatively with Presbyteries and congregations across the Synod, as well as working closely with the Synod's Lay Preacher Association.

- ULVT1 – Orientation to Uniting Learning
- ULVT2 – Understanding the UCA
- ULVT3 – Exploring New Testament
- ULVT4 – Old Testament
- ULVT5 – Exploring Theology with the UCA
- ULVT6 – Exploring Christology
- ULVT7 – Exploring Worship in the UCA
- ULVT8 – Exploring Preaching in the UCA
- ULVT9A – Code of Ethics for Lay Preachers
- ULVT9B – Code of Ethics for Ministry Practice
- ULVT10 – Sacraments
- ULVT11 – Pastoral Care
- ULVT12 – Making Decisions in the UCA

ULVT1

Introduction to Uniting Learning

Dates:	Monday February 23, Monday July 27 (Orientation to Uniting Learning platform, Dalton McCaughey Library)
Cost:	Free

This session is a free introduction to the online learning environment.

ULVT2

Understanding the UCA

Lay Preacher • Ministry of Pastor • Continuing Education • Worship Leaders • Period of Discernment • Ministers and staff new to the UCA

Dates:	Tuesday nights, February 24, March 17, April 21, May 19 / Tuesday nights, July 28, August 18, September 15, October 20
Time:	7 - 9 pm via Zoom, with access to learning materials on Uniting Learning.
Cost:	\$50

This Uniting Learning unit addresses the core competency "Work within the doctrine, ethos and polity of the Uniting Church" from the Assembly Standards and Competencies for the specified ministries of Lay Preacher and Ministry of Pastor, and is a useful introduction to ministers new to the Uniting Church. It covers history of the formation of the UCA, theological foundations of the Basis of Union, the place and role of key aspects of the Church's life and witness, understanding the councils and ministries of the UCA, understanding the UCA's commitment to First Nations people and intercultural ministry.



ULVT3

Exploring the New Testament

*Lay Preacher • Deepening your Faith • General Interest •
Worship Leaders • Period of Discernment*

Dates:	Monday nights, March 2, 9, 16, 23, April 13, 20, 27, May 4
Time:	7 - 9 pm via Zoom, with access to learning materials on Uniting Learning.
Cost:	\$50

This Uniting Learning unit is an invitation to participants to deepen their response to and faith in God as Trinity. Participants are introduced to the various witnesses to Jesus and more generally to the writings of the New Testament. It also acts as a foundation for subsequent study of the New Testament and the exegesis of Scripture. The Unit is closely integrated with the study of the life the early Christian community of faith as well as historical and contemporary scholarship.

ULVT4

Exploring the Old Testament

*Lay Preacher • Ministry of Pastor • General Interest •
Synod staff • Period of Discernment*

Dates:	Monday nights, August 3, 10, 17, 24, September 14, 21, 28, October 5
Time:	7 - 9 pm via Zoom, with access to learning materials on Uniting Learning.
Cost:	\$50

This Uniting Learning unit is an invitation to participants to deepen their response to and faith in God as Trinity. The Old Testament describes God and how God acts in history and creation. Major themes that impact on Christianity find their beginning in the words of the Old Testament scripture. The unit is closely integrated with the study of the life of Israel as a community of faith as well as historical and contemporary scholarship.

ULVT9A

Code of Ethics and Ministry for Lay Preachers

Lay Preacher • Worship Leaders • Period of Discernment

Dates:	Tuesday June 9, 16, 23
Time:	7 - 9 pm via Zoom, with access to learning materials on Uniting Learning.
Cost:	\$50

This Uniting Learning online course covers the scope of the UCA understanding of gifts, ministry and service, the behavioural and boundary issues involved in ministry conduct and accountability in both personal discipleship and professional ministry.

ULVT7

Exploring Worship in the UCA

*Lay Preacher • Ministry of Pastor • General Interest •
Synod staff • Period of Discernment*

Dates:	Mondays, October 26, November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Time:	7-9 pm via Zoom, with access to learning materials on Uniting Learning.
Cost:	\$50

This Uniting Learning unit introduces participants to an understanding of worship and its biblical and theological warrant, patterns of worship in the church and in the Reformed and evangelical tradition (Uniting Church). Participants will look at elements of worship in constructing a service, exploring and choosing resources for worship (Uniting in Worship 2, video, book and online resources). The unit includes approaches and contexts for worship including multi-sensory and multi-intelligence, communicating effectively, and ethics and knowing yourself as a worship leader.



Continuing Education

Seeking a heart of wisdom at Pilgrim

The Uniting Church is committed to life-long continuing education for all members and, in particular, for all those called into leadership ministries. UCA leaders are encouraged to develop the ability to engage the tasks of ministry with critical imagination, courage, emotional maturity, theological judgement and self-reflection. Continuing education helps people grow in articulating Christian faith in contextually appropriate ways. Pilgrim Theological College is committed to equipping people as they help the Church be faithful to its identity and mission in a rapidly changing and diverse cultural and social context.

Pilgrim offers a wide array of courses suitable for ongoing professional development and continuing education, including postgraduate programs. It is also possible to audit a unit, at a reduced cost, which means you attend the lectures/seminars and participate fully, except for completing assessment tasks. Invite a colleague or two to join you, and commit to meeting in a peer learning group afterwards for 3-6 months to reflect on your learning in the context of your ministry practice (details in the next column).

We offer a range of programs, many online, most in-person, and some in your region. We can help you tailor a course or program for your Presbytery or region. We can also help you learn more about your learning styles, or help you plan your own continuing education. We encourage people in ministry, ordained and lay, to join peer learning groups where they can encourage each other in their learning and ministry.

We offer a wide range of grants and scholarships. Some are focused on people enrolling in University of Divinity courses at Pilgrim Theological College, both undergraduate and postgraduate. The Uniting Church also has a range of grants and scholarships for members, ministers and pastors undertaking continuing education, whether that be informal or formal study.

See more scholarships on the [Pilgrim Theological College website](#) and the [Uniting Church Synod of Victoria and Tasmania website](#). Visit the [Pilgrim Theological College Lifelong Learning page](#) for more information on courses and peer learning groups.





Clinical Pastoral Education Program

Clinical pastoral education at Uniting CPE – The John Paver Centre

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) programs offer pastoral/spiritual care formation through an action-reflection-action model of peer group experiential learning. We offer CPE courses at Pilgrim through Uniting CPE – The John Paver Centre. [Current program](#) information can be found on the Synod Website.

Contact: Rev Lauren Mosso, CPE Centre Director email Lauren.mosso@victas.uca.org.au phone 0400 569 330.

Students may choose from a variety of CPE programs to meet their educational and logistical needs. Each CPE program has its own application process and deadlines and students need to apply to each program directly. Once accepted into a program, students who wish to complete CPE as part of an academic degree need to contact the Academic Registrar to enrol and let the CPE Centre Director know of their plans for billing purposes.

Please see the [ASACPEV Inc. website](#) for a list of current CPE programs in Victoria. For CPE programs in Tasmania please see [TASPE website](#).

"As a quiet person and a non-native English speaker, I began the course with self-doubt about my ability to contribute and connect."

However, the face-to-face CPE sessions and my field placement provided a safe, inclusive, and encouraging environment for growth. With the support of the CPE group and the Pilgrim community, I found my voice and gained greater confidence in caring for others with compassion and authenticity."

- Sesi Taunga

"I am impressed with my first experience at The John Paver Centre as I progress with my second unit of CPE / special focus in palliative care. Lauren (course coordinator/centre director) and Dora (supervisor) offer a calm and safe space in which to further develop my skills in spiritual care."

The course outline and one-on-one supervision provides the students with gentle challenges and cultivates our learning areas and goals. This CPE unit has helped grow my skills and my work with peers in class, those on my placement, and most importantly with those I offer spiritual care. I am grateful to all involved for this motivating CPE unit at The John Paver Centre."

- Cath Nitschke





Educational Grants and Scholarships

Funding opportunities for study, formation, and ministry

UCA Grants and Scholarships

There are many grants and scholarships available for individuals (ordained and lay) and groups in relation to...

- lay education
- continuing education
- theological education
- theology and the arts
- youth and children's ministry
- regional ministry (educational resourcing)
- tertiary education
- children of soldiers
- bursaries for ministers' children (primary and secondary)

Grants for Ministry Education and Practice

- **Grants for Lay Education** – through the Centre for Theology and Ministry and other sources.
- **Grants for Youth Ministry** – development of Youth Ministry - education, events and programs.
- **Continuing Education Fund** – ordained and lay people in placement – for informal qualifications.
- **Regionalisation Fund** – rural and regional areas – local initiatives in education and resourcing.
- **Thanksgiving Scholarship for Women Workers** – tertiary education of women who do/will serve the church.

Arts Memorial Fund

The Kirk Robson Theology and the Arts Memorial Fund (applications in 2026 for 2027)

Artists and projects engaging faith through the arts. Art projects characterised by Community Cultural Development principles and practice, and an artistic engagement with theology. Reconciliation with Aboriginal people is a significant focus of the Fund. Contributes toward academic research projects with an arts based outcome.

Grants Application deadlines vary. [Refer website.](#)

Coursework Scholarship Application Closure Dates:

Semester 1 study – 20th February

Semester 2 study – 20th July





Pilgrim Theological College Scholarships

Undergraduate Grants for Studies in Theology

UCA Under-35 Theological Scholarships – Pilgrim Theological College - Diploma in Theology or Graduate Diploma in Theology (full time, part-time or online).

Current UCA congregation faith community Grants for Tertiary Education in Theology – Studies in the theological disciplines or recognised courses related to ministry with Pilgrim Theological College

Annie Henry Scholarship – to support undergraduate study at Pilgrim Theological College.

Postgraduate Grants for Further Studies in Theology

Isabel Pond Scholarship – to assist any Pilgrim students to undertake post graduate studies in theology.

Beth Smith Bequest – supports overseas students from Fiji, Samoa, or Tonga to undertake postgraduate study in Australia (Masters or PhD level). Applicants should be in good standing with their home church and be able to meet the academic requirements of the University of Divinity.

Florence and Alexander Yule Memorial Scholarship

– post-graduate theological study at an overseas college or university. The scholarships are open to graduates of Pilgrim Theological College

Robert James Brown Postgraduate Scholarships

– postgraduate study at the University of Divinity. Two years duration and are open to Pilgrim Theological College graduates, candidates for UCA ministry or a UCA ordained person.

For more information visit the [Pilgrim scholarship webpage](#). Enquiries and applications email: scholarships@pilgrim.edu.au.

Other Grants for Theological Education and Research

Beverley Bellinger Fund – to support women in Theological study at Pilgrim Theological College.

Donald Macrae Scholarship – to support any current or former Pilgrim Theological College (formerly UFT) student in study at Pilgrim Theological College.

Frederick George Knight Scholarship Fund (NEW) – for Theological students, resident in Tasmania

For more information visit the [Grants webpage](#) on the Synod website: Enquiries and applications email: grants@victas.uca.org.au



Discover the Depths of Theological Knowledge at The Dalton McCaughey Library

Pilgrim Theological College students are granted membership to The Dalton McCaughey Library (DML) as part of their studies with the College.

The DML is co-owned by the Uniting Church in Australia Synod of Victoria and Tasmania and the Australian Jesuits; Trinity College is a partner in the library as well. The DML provides access to one of the larger theological library collections (both print and electronic) in the Southern

Hemisphere. Materials are purchased in support of units that are taught at Pilgrim College and Trinity College Theological School and that are of subject interest to the Jesuits. Our professional librarians are available to assist you with your information needs, in-person and at-a-distance. For the catalogue, opening hours, and further information, please visit dml.vic.edu.au.

Graduates of Pilgrim and Trinity may purchase a lifetime membership to The Dalton McCaughey Library (DML) for a one-time fee of \$95.



**DALTON McCAUGHEY
LIBRARY**

The Dalton McCaughey Library is located at the **Centre For Theology and Ministry**.

P. +61 3 9340 8888 | **E.** library@dml.vic.edu.au

Facebook: [/DaltonMcCaugheyLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/DaltonMcCaugheyLibrary)

Discover the Northey Lectures

A Pilgrim Tradition of Engaging Theological Conversations!

Come along to the Northey Lectures and take part in theological conversations that enrich and inform. These free, public events enable you to hear from leading theologians who visit Pilgrim from around Australia and the world.

For details of the 2026 Northey Lectures, see [Pilgrim's events page](#).

PAST SPEAKERS



Jeorg Rieger



Nasili Vaka'uta



Kristel Clayville



**Miguel
de la Torre**



Frequently asked questions

Common questions about programs, support, and enrolment at Pilgrim

What can I study at Pilgrim?

At Pilgrim Theological College you can study for either a University of Divinity award or a Pilgrim Certificate.

Uniting Learning subjects will lead to Pilgrim Certificates. Studies in Pilgrim's University of Divinity units will enable you to complete a University of Divinity certificate, diploma, or degree including a Masters or PhD. The subjects include Biblical Studies, Ministry, History, Theology, Philosophy, Liturgy, Missiology, Spirituality, Pastoral Care and more.

There are three ways to engage with these offerings. You can enrol in a full award (a certificate, diploma or degree), choose a single subject for academic credit, or "audit" for full participation without formal assessment requirements.

Please visit pilgrim.edu.au/courses/ to explore the full range of accredited undergraduate and postgraduate programs offered by Pilgrim.

Who will teach me?

Pilgrim's academic faculty is a dynamic, multidisciplinary, ecumenical team. Their expertise is well-respected both locally and internationally.

Passionate about teaching, they stay up-to-date in their field and participate in professional development around innovation in teaching adult learners.

They have an ongoing commitment to serving the church and are esteemed members of their respective fields with numerous publications and a strong presence at national and international conferences, professional workshops, and church events.

Please refer to the [Pilgrim team webpage](#) for a detailed list of their areas of expertise and interests.

What are classes at Pilgrim like?

We educate, form and equip people through challenging and inspiring classroom experiences. We aim to ignite your critical thinking skills, stir your imagination, and foster deeper understanding. We help you connect your learning to contemporary issues to make a just and compassionate world.

You will learn alongside colleagues with a wide range of religious and ideological viewpoints and diverse cultural heritages. Some may be delving into a subject to expand their faith or professional interest, while others are driven by intellectual curiosity. You will find yourself in a secure and friendly environment that values independent thought and encourages the exploration of different perspectives. Whether you're participating in classes online or on campus, the focus is on fostering meaningful interactions that lead to successful learning experiences for every student.

You can look forward to weekly classes scheduled in the morning, afternoon, or evening throughout the semesters or as intensives that are scheduled over a shorter period. Most classes are designed for in-person or online interaction, and all are supported by online resourcing and our fantastic library facilities.

Units of study are available in-person or online.

In-person: Students attend the campus at the scheduled time.

Online: Students attend the class remotely via Zoom at the scheduled time.

Some classes are offered as both online and in-person, so students will engage with one another using the large screens in our well-equipped classrooms.

The timetable shows the method of delivery for each unit and sometimes offers multiple options, allowing you to choose the mode that is most convenient for you. If you need more information or guidance, the Registrar's Office is more than happy to provide assistance.

What is a Pilgrim Learning Hub?

The Pilgrim Learning Hubs are vibrant, collaborative learning communities that provide invaluable face-to-face support for online students residing in the same geographical area. These hubs were initiated by UCA congregations in suburban Heidelberg. Envisioning a broader reach, Pilgrim hopes to establish similar hubs across the Synod.

If you are eager to connect with a local hub or are interested in establishing a hub in your vicinity, please reach out to the Registrar for more information and assistance.

What support will I receive if I enrol in University of Divinity units?

As a student, your learning will be supported by the Dalton McCaughey Library (DML), the University of Divinity Library hub. Additionally, through a partnership with the University of Melbourne, you can access printed resources at the University of Melbourne libraries.

Pilgrim offers a wide range of online resources and in-person support to help with specific study skills and provide guidance on assessments. In addition, individual assistance is available via the DML and, for longer-term assistance, via a Student Support Plan.

To enhance the learning experience, Pilgrim, through the University of Divinity, utilises a web-based Learning Management System called ARK. This platform is tailored to efficiently organise and oversee unit resources, promote student interactions, foster active participation, and simplify the process of submitting assessments. For assistance, contact the Registrar's office, email: study@pilgrim.edu.au, direct line: **03 9340 8892**.

For financial assistance, see below.

How much will it cost?

The Uniting Learning subjects are available for \$50, apart from the free introduction session.

As a college of the University of Divinity, the Pilgrim course fee for University units follows the university's fee schedule and all associated provisions on fees, as outlined in the university's [Fee Policy](#).

In 2026, the cost of an 18-point undergraduate unit is A\$2,184, and a 24-point postgraduate unit is A\$3,384. Both international and domestic fees are the same, however, an additional application fee of A\$300 applies to international students. For detailed information about the [2026 Schedule of Student Tuition Fees](#).

Australian citizens can use the Higher Education Loan Program or Fee-Help to cover the tuition fees. To check the criteria and your [eligibility to use Fee-Help](#), please visit the website by following the link.

Full-time domestic students may qualify for *Austudy* through Centrelink. For [Austudy eligibility](#) and conditions, please visit the Department of Human Services website by following the link provided.

Pilgrim's units of study are open for professional development or personal enrichment through audit enrolment. Auditing a unit means undertaking the study program without completing formal assessment. In 2026, the audit fee is \$450 for individuals or a fee of \$1000 to cover up to 6 audit enrolments at a hub.

Are there bursaries or scholarships?

A number of bursaries and scholarships are available through the University of Divinity and the Uniting Church in Australia.

For details:

[University of Divinity grants and scholarships](#)

[Uniting Church in Australia grants and scholarships](#)

Please get in touch with the Registrar's Office for more information.

Where can I find more information?

We would be delighted to meet you either in-person or via video call to help you get acquainted with us and find the right starting point for your theological studies at Pilgrim. Come and visit us at the Centre for Theology and Ministry, 29 College Crescent, Parkville. If an in-person visit is not possible, please feel free to contact the Registrar's Office by phone or email to discuss your study options. The Registrar can also connect you with the appropriate Course Coordinators or the Academic Dean for personalised guidance.

The Registrar's Office is open every weekday from 9am to 5pm. You can contact us by phone at 03 9340 8892 or via email at study@pilgrim.edu.au.

KEY DATES

ENROLMENTS OPEN

1 November 2025

SEMESTER 1

23 February – 29 May 2026

WINTER INTENSIVE

9 July – 15 July 2026

SEMESTER 2

27 July – 30 October 2026

GET IN TOUCH

03 9340 8892

study@pilgrim.edu.au

 [/PilgrimTheologicalCollege/](https://www.facebook.com/PilgrimTheologicalCollege/)

 [/pilgrimtheolcol/](https://www.instagram.com/pilgrimtheolcol/)

#PilgrimTheological

Information in this course guide was correct at the time of printing. Pilgrim Theological College reserves the right to change course offerings, arrangements, and all other aspects without notice. Up-to-date information is available at pilgrim.edu.au/.

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How do I enrol?

To become a Pilgrim student, the first step is to get in touch with us.

If you're interested in Uniting Learning subjects, continuing education and professional development options, get in touch with us via email: study@victas.uca.org.au.

For further information about Uniting CPE programs and application closing dates contact Rev Lauren Mosso, CPE Centre Director via email Lauren.Mosso@victas.uca.org.au or phone **0400 569 330**.

To enrol in University of Divinity units, contact our Registrar Erlinda Lovegood. She will talk you through the options. If you are interested in coursework studies, she will advise you or put you in touch with the Academic Dean. For those pursuing a Higher Degree by Research, the Registrar will connect you with the Research Coordinator or a potential supervisor in your field of study.

In the next phase of the enrolment process, you will have an opportunity to participate in a personalised interview. This interview is designed to assist you in discerning your options and to help you determine your fit with the programs available, as well as to clarify and refine your educational and career objectives. The interview can be conducted over the phone or via video call, or in-person.

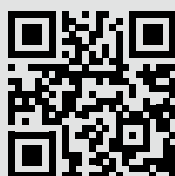
We'll ensure that you select a course that aligns with your individual needs and interests, while also meeting the requirements of your selected program of study.

Finally, the third step includes completing and submitting the application form, along with the required supporting documents. Throughout this stage, the Registrar will offer guidance and support. After your application has been thoroughly reviewed and approved, you can expect to receive a confirmation email and a comprehensive information about studying at Pilgrim to aid you in your theological studies.

Enrolment opens on **1 November 2025** with most classes running between February and November 2026. You can view the [2026 timetable](#) by visiting the Pilgrim website.

Please feel free to reach out to us to explore the ways in which we can assist you in your journey:

03 9340 8892 | study@pilgrim.edu.au.



pilgrim.edu.au/



Come stay with us

Looking for a place to stay in Melbourne?

Maclean House offers a peaceful and safe retreat in Parkville, just minutes from the city. With convenient access to Centre for Theology and Ministry events, Pilgrim Theological College, and public transport, it's the perfect place for UCA members, Pilgrim students, and guests of the UCA community.

Come stay in a charming, historic home surrounded by beautiful gardens, away from the hustle and bustle of the city. Prices start at \$75, with special discounts available for Pilgrim students.

For bookings call **03 9340 8800**
or MacleanhouseCTM@victas.uca.org.au

29 College Crescent, Parkville VIC 3052



MACLEAN HOUSE

AN AFFORDABLE HOME
AWAY FROM HOME



PILGRIM THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Centre for Theology and Ministry
29 College Cres, Parkville, Victoria, 3052, Australia

Telephone: 03 9340 8892 | Facsimile: 03 9340 8805

General email: study@pilgrim.edu.au

www.pilgrim.edu.au

TEQSA Provider: PRV12135 | CRICOS Provider 01037A

View this course guide online by scanning the QR code or visit
pilgrim.edu.au/courses/2026-course-guide/

