



BBI Academic Courses

BBI – The Australian Institute of Theological Education has developed all of its courses on theological foundations.

BBI is a leading provider of theological education, specialising in online learning. We excel in the delivery of this through Higher Education, Professional Development, and in Research and Publications.

The work is grounded in the Catholic Tradition, and we do it in collaboration and partnership with others.

BBI – Postgraduate Specialist

Applications to study at BBI are welcome from anyone who has an undergraduate degree in any discipline. We will provide you with the foundations to make the transition into the world and language of theology and associated disciplines.

‘Theology Connected’

is the driving force shaping the four new exciting academic course areas offered by BBI.

Theological Studies

- Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies
- Graduate Diploma in Theological Studies
- Master of Theological Studies

Governance & Canon Law

- Graduate Certificate in Governance & Canon Law
- Graduate Diploma in Governance & Canon Law

Religious Education

- Graduate Certificate in Religious Education
- Graduate Diploma in Religious Education
- Master of Religious Education

Leadership & Theology

- Graduate Certificate in Leadership & Theology
- Graduate Diploma in Leadership & Theology
- Master of Leadership & Theology



Religious Education

21st century Australia is a fascinating context within which to teach Religious Education.

Rising religious diversity, disaffiliation and secularism make the Religious Education (RE) classroom a place of fertile – and challenging – questioning and exploring.

In designing its new academic offerings in the area of RE, BBI has built on its rich history of practical engagement with and listening to RE teachers and leaders to craft academic courses which truly meet their needs. Underpinned by our foundational unit in theology and biblical studies, BBI's RE units provide teachers and leaders in RE with opportunities to learn about everything from classroom practice, to key thinkers in the discipline, to curriculum design, to capacities for undertaking research related to RE.

BBI's teaching staff is comprised of international experts in the field, who will work with students to make connections between the most recent scholarship in the area and their own classroom practice.

Accreditation

Catholic Education/Schools Offices across Australia have categories of accreditation for teaching and leadership staff. The Graduate Certificate in Religious Education is a pathway of choice for those seeking accreditation to teach in a Catholic primary school and for those who wish to teach Religious Education in high school.

The Master of Leadership & Theology and Master of Religious Education fulfils the criteria for accreditation into Senior Leadership in the Catholic education system, which includes : Principals, Assistant Principals, RE and Mission Leaders, Director of Schools, Assistant Director of Schools, Consultants, and Leaders of CSO Educational Teams. These degrees may provide a competitive advantage for advancement within the Catholic or Christian School systems.

SAMPLE OF UNITS

Core Units:

THEO800:
Foundations for Theological Studies

REDU800:
Foundations for Religious Education - Theory and Practice

REDU801:
Religious Education in the Contemporary Classroom

REDU900:
Advanced Studies in Religious Education for the 21st Century

REDU901:
Contemporary Pedagogies and Classroom Practices in Religious Education

REDU902:
Research and Praxis in Religious Education

REDU903:
Capstone Project in Religious Education



Prof Richard Rymarz

Head of Religious Education & Associate Dean – Research

Teaching into BBI's academic units

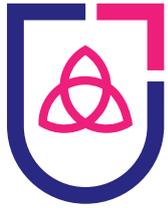
Assoc Prof Katherine Engebretson

Dr Brendan Hyde

Emer Prof Terry Lovat

Dr Peter Mudge

Prof Graham Rossiter



Theological Studies

Theological and Biblical Studies are disciplines which deeply connect with everyday life.

These disciplines engage participants in the kinds of critical thinking and research required to grapple with the big questions facing individuals and society today.

Our units and courses are about theology connected with life. They connect with some of the important questions that we are often ill-equipped to reflect on and to engage with, in sustained and respectful public discourse. The units offered in theological studies develop skills and provide solid foundations for critical thinking not only about the topics under consideration but reflection on: church, the relationship between religion and society and challenging social issues today.

These units were designed with a diverse group of people in mind. The units develop the capacity of professionals working in church health, social care and education sectors, or parishes and dioceses, just as much as they meet the needs of those who want to explore theology and biblical studies for their own personal growth and development. Completion of courses in Theological Studies may also meet accreditation requirements in some Church organisations.

SAMPLE OF UNITS

Core Units:

THEO800:
Foundations for
Theological Studies

THEO801:
Biblical Studies
- Themes and
Interpretation of the
Bible

THEO802:
Theological Studies:
Themes, Thinkers and
Methods

THEO900:
Advanced Studies in
Theology for the 21st
Century

THEO901:
Research and Praxis
in Theological Studies

THEO902:
Capstone Project in
Theological Studies
(20 credit points)



Rev Dr Anthony Gooley
Head of Theological
Studies

Teaching into BBI's academic units

Emer Prof Terry Lovat

Dr Antoinette Collins

Rev Noel Connolly SSC

Dr Zachariah Duke

Mr Mike Foley

Dr Rachelle Gilmour

Dr John Honner

Dr Veronica Rosier OP

Dr Catherine Thom RSJ

Dr Michelle Jones



Leadership & Theology

It has never been more challenging to be a leader than in our current context.

The constellation of time management, staff leadership, caring for the wellbeing of self and others and delivering on strategic goals, all while being in contact with the world 24/7 through the internet, make leadership in any organisation both exciting and demanding.

In educational contexts, the challenges take on a whole new level of complexity, as leaders are also expected to understand the religious tradition of which their school or system is a part, build their leadership from this tradition, and in many cases act as leaders for the tradition itself.

Typical responses tend to compartmentalise leadership and tradition, leading to organisations which proclaim a religious identity on the one hand but act contrary to it on the other. BBI's suite of leadership and theology courses are designed to give students the knowledge and skills to be able to navigate this complex environment in a manner informed by best practice in leadership theory and cutting edge theological studies.

The courses were designed in consultation with academic experts and practitioners following a long period of discernment on the needs of the sector. Far from an approach to study which considers theory alone, each unit within the course includes the opportunity for critical reflection on practice, related to students' own leadership contexts.

SAMPLE OF UNITS

Core Units:

THEO800:
Foundations for Theological Studies

LEAD800:
Leadership: Scripture and Theological Foundations

LEAD801:
Leadership: Mission, Identity and Community

LEAD900:
Advanced Studies in Leadership for the 21st Century: Models of Leadership

LEAD901:
Pluralism and Cultural Leadership

LEAD902:
Leading Self, Leading Others

LEAD903:
Leader as Explorer, Guide and Meaning-maker

LEAD904:
Leadership and Justice

LEAD905:
Independent Directed Study (Leadership)



Professor Therese D'Orsa
Head of Leadership & Theology

Teaching into BBI's academic units

Rev Noel Connolly SSC

Dr Jim D'Orsa

Prof Massimo Faggioli

Dr Jill Gowdie

Dr Patricia Hindmarsh

Emer Prof Terry Lovat

**Flexible,
affordable
online study**



Governance & Canon Law

Where theology is often defined as 'faith seeking understanding', canon law can be defined as 'faith implemented in practice'.

As a society of the faithful, the Church is arranged socially and visibly. Such arrangement necessitates rules that maintain this visible structure, as well as the Church's divine functions and the mutual relationships of Christ's faithful. Canon law therefore governs both the structure and regulation of the Catholic Church.

Governing bodies and leaders of Church-based organisations globally are aware of the complex interface between the demands of corporate governance and canon law. BBI's governance and canon law offerings provide students with an opportunity to study with leaders and practitioners in these fields. The degrees are designed to provide the skills and knowledge for those in positions which demand good governance and a capacity to work within canonical frameworks to do so effectively.

SAMPLE OF UNITS

Core Units:

THEO800:
Foundations for Theological Studies

GOVC800:
Introduction to Governance for Mission, Ministry and Work in the Church

GOVC801:
Introduction to Canon Law and General Norms

GOVC803:
Stewardship of Resources in Church Organisations

GOVC804:
Work, Employment and Governance

GOVC809:
Lay Leadership in the Church

Teaching into BBI's academic units

Dr Maria Casey RSJ

Rev Brian Lucas

Emer Prof Francis Morrisey OMI

Br John-Henry Thornber CFC

Mr Michael Thornber

A broad spectrum of electives is available across areas of study

Flexible, affordable online study

When you study with BBI, you'll benefit from nearly 40 years' teaching experience as a theological provider. You will be in the hands of first-class lecturers with a reputation for outstanding pedagogy, experienced with teaching mature-aged students and specialised skills for teaching online. You can fit study in, around work and family commitments.

We bring leading educators to you

As a specialist online provider, BBI is able to reach out across Australia and offer the same opportunities to students in rural and urban settings, in every state and territory. The Institute currently works in partnership with Catholic Education Offices across many Dioceses and BBI academics regularly travel to regional areas to deliver intensive seminars.



Multiple modes of delivery

BBI offers online, seminar and blended modes, depending on the unit. Each unit is delivered online over the BBI Trimester but some of the core units are delivered via intensive face-to-face seminars onsite.

Credit Transfer and Recognised Prior Learning Policy

In response to sector needs, BBI has introduced a 10-year rule for recognition of prior study, which may articulate into BBI's degrees. Those whose study period may fall outside the 10-year rule, will be considered on a case by case basis. Check Credit Transfer and Recognised Prior Learning Policy: goo.gl/5OH0Kn. Call BBI Student Services to discuss your study options: 02 9847 0030.

Electives

In order to provide maximum flexibility and choice for students with a broad spectrum of interests, BBI allows students to select electives from other disciplines taught at The Institute.

Units may be chosen from BBI's offerings in the areas of Governance and Canon Law, Theological Studies, Leadership, Religious Education or an Immersion Experience.

Recognition of previous qualifications

All of BBI's new courses are nested, meaning that they build on one another, ensuring that students receive credit for courses previously accomplished and reducing the total number of units which must be completed to attain the qualification. Students who have completed relevant study elsewhere may also be eligible for recognition of this prior learning, which would reduce the overall length of their course with BBI. Each postgraduate course has its own criteria for credit and Recognition of Prior Learning. Please review the course you are interested in on BBI's website.

Religious Education



This diagram is illustrative of the other disciplines, which are all nested. For more information, visit the higher education pages on BBI's website.

Some Dioceses offer scholarships and part funding for study, please contact your Catholic Schools Office to find out what may be available to you.

How to Apply

Our students are at the heart of everything we do at BBI and our Student Services team is dedicated to helping and supporting you while you are a student. We invite you to call and discuss your interest with:

Student Services Manager,
Ms Cheryl Martin on +61 2 9847 0540
or cmartin@bbi.catholic.edu.au

Student Services Assistant Manager,
Dr Lucie Breingan on +61 2 9847 0538
or lbreingan@bbi.catholic.edu.au

To apply online, please go to:



To register your interest or to discuss eligibility for recognised prior learning, please call BBI's Student Services team on: 02 9847 0030.

Course Fees

Each unit carries 10 points.

Grad Cert, Grad Dip & Master of Theological Studies
\$1925 per unit (THEO)

Grad Cert, Grad Dip & Master of Religious Education
\$1925 per unit (REDU)

Grad Cert, Grad Dip & Master of Leadership & Theology
\$2000 per unit (LEAD)

Grad Cert & Grad Dip of Governance & Canon Law
\$2200 per unit (GOVC)

FEE-HELP
available