



# Postgraduate study



[acu.edu.au/postgradstudy](https://acu.edu.au/postgradstudy)



# Acknowledgement of Country

In recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' deep spiritual connection to Country, and in continuing the university's commitment to reconciliation, it is customary to acknowledge Country as we pass through it. We acknowledge and pay our respects to the First Peoples, the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways where Australian Catholic University campuses are located, and we thank them for their continued custodianship.



# Postgraduate study at ACU

If you're ready to advance your career, change fields or explore an interest, postgraduate study at ACU can help.

We offer graduate certificate, graduate diploma, master's and PhD qualifications.

## Why choose us?



**Top 2%**  
UNIVERSITIES  
WORLDWIDE<sup>1</sup>



**5 stars**  
FULL-TIME  
EMPLOYMENT<sup>2</sup>



**Top 10**  
CATHOLIC  
UNIVERSITIES  
WORLDWIDE<sup>3</sup>

## SUBJECT SPECIALISATIONS

**1st in Australia,  
34th worldwide**

THEOLOGY, DIVINITY AND  
RELIGIOUS STUDIES<sup>4</sup>



**Top 150 worldwide**

PSYCHOLOGY<sup>5</sup>



**4th in Australia,  
top 50 worldwide**

EDUCATION<sup>5</sup>



**Top 300 worldwide**

ARTS AND HUMANITIES<sup>6</sup>



**6th in Australia,  
14th worldwide**

NURSING<sup>5</sup>



**Top 300 worldwide**

LAW<sup>5</sup>



1. *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings 2023. Percentage calculated as ACU's world rank as a proportion of the total number of universities in the world: *International Handbook of Universities 2019*, Palgrave MacMillan

2. *Good Universities Guide 2023*, postgraduate students

3. *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings 2023, ranked IFCU members

4. QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023

5. Shanghai Ranking, Global Ranking of Academic Subjects 2022

6. *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings by Subject 2023

# Our campuses

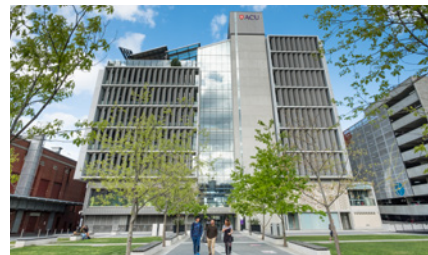
We've got seven campuses around Australia and a campus in Rome, Italy. We also have an online learning platform: ACU Online.

Each one is unique, but they're all dynamic, inviting and great places to learn.

To take a virtual tour of your campus, visit [acu.edu.au/tour](https://acu.edu.au/tour)



BALLARAT



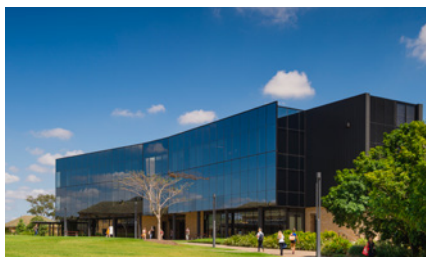
MELBOURNE



BLACKTOWN



NORTH SYDNEY



BRISBANE



STRATHFIELD



CANBERRA



ROME, ITALY

**“ACU values strongly align with my own, and I was looking for a course where I could evolve both personally and academically. I believe ACU facilitates this with morals and ethics ingrained in the course content, which in turn challenges students’ thoughts and perspectives on contemporary issues.”**

**Doug**  
Health administration

# Our people

Our academics are experts in their fields. They achieve research excellence, are engaged with industry, and are committed teachers and mentors.



## ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR RACHEL DRYER

Associate Professor Rachel Dryer is the Head of Discipline, Psychology and the Indigenous Perspective Coordinator in the School of Behavioural and Health Sciences at ACU's Strathfield Campus. She is a registered psychologist whose research and teaching expertise are in psychological assessment, health psychology, women's perinatal and postnatal wellbeing, and wellbeing of students with disability in higher education.

Associate Professor Dryer employs both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies in her work and is published in leading international journals. She has also authored and co-authored several book chapters, and her book *Pregnancy-related anxiety: Theory, research, and practice* was published as part of the Routledge Series in Women's Mental Health. This book examines theoretical, empirical and methodological perspectives regarding pregnancy-related anxiety. She and her research colleagues have also developed the Pregnancy-related Anxiety Scale (PrAS), a psychometrically sound psychological screening test that has now been translated and adapted for use in Germany, Indonesia, Turkey and Ghana.

Prior to ACU, Associate Professor Dryer held academic appointments at the Australian College of Applied Professions and Charles Sturt University.



## PROFESSOR MARY RYAN

Professor Mary Ryan is Executive Dean of the Faculty of Education and Arts at ACU. She is President of the NSW Council of Deans of Education and Chair of the Education Research Council for the Association of Independent Schools of NSW. She is a Principal Fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy and is the recipient of a national citation for outstanding contributions to student learning. Professor Ryan is currently leading Australian Research Council-funded projects in classroom writing and preparing reflective teachers for diverse classrooms. Her research is in the areas of writing pedagogy and assessment, reflective writing, teachers' work and professional learning, the enabling and constraining conditions for graduating students to manage the demands of their profession, and reflexive learning and practice.



## PROFESSOR SUSAN DANN AM

Professor Susan Dann is the National Head of the Peter Faber Business School. She previously held academic appointments at Queensland University of Technology, Griffith University and the University of Queensland.

As a former State President and National Deputy President of the Australian Marketing Institute, Professor Dann's expertise and research interest is in the strategic application of marketing to non-commercial organisations, with a specific interest in social marketing. Using this expertise, Professor Dann has spanned the boundaries of academia and industry through consultancies and external appointments. She has served as a director on a variety of governance boards, and has been a member of two key government tribunals. Professor Dann has more than 60 academic publications, including eight books, two of which have been shortlisted for awards.

Professor Dann is a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and was awarded Member of the Order of Australia in 2018 for contributions to business education.



## DR PETER IVERS

Dr Peter Ivers is the Postgraduate Course Coordinator and Senior Lecturer in Religious Education in the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy at ACU's Brisbane Campus. He has experience in a variety of leadership roles in different settings.

Before coming to ACU full-time, Dr Ivers was the Assistant Principal (Senior Years) at St Eugene College in the Archdiocese of Brisbane. He also worked for many years as the Assistant Principal (Religious Education). At the diocesan level, he has held senior roles in Brisbane, Rockhampton and Sydney, working both with Catholic schools and in contexts beyond Catholic schools.

Dr Ivers also worked as a sessional lecturer at ACU for a number of years. He has interests in religious education and leadership studies, and a particular interest in online learning platforms.

In 2010, Dr Ivers completed his doctoral studies through the Centre for Innovation in Education at Queensland University of Technology. His doctoral work investigated the emergence of educational discourses on religious education in the Archdiocese of Brisbane between 1984 and 2005.

# Our research institutes and centres

At ACU, we embrace the full life cycle of research, from knowledge creation to its translation and application towards real-world outcomes that provide social, cultural and economic benefit.

Grounded in our commitment to the common good, our research institutes and centres seek to create research impact through sustained collaboration and partnerships with industry, government, stakeholders, communities and colleagues in the academy.

## **INSTITUTE FOR POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATION**

The Institute for Positive Psychology and Education (IPPE) undertakes research in education, Indigenous education, human motivation and behaviour. We conduct multidisciplinary research to address critical educational and psychosocial issues and translate theory to inform effective policy and practice. Our work demonstrates how individuals, communities and organisations cannot just succeed but flourish and thrive.

[acu.edu.au/ippe](http://acu.edu.au/ippe)

## **INSTITUTE FOR RELIGION AND CRITICAL INQUIRY**

The Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry (IRCI) is a leading centre for the study of religion and theology in its historical and contemporary contexts. Our research comprises three collaborative and interdisciplinary programs: biblical and early Christian studies; medieval and early modern studies; and religion and theology.

[acu.edu.au/irci](http://acu.edu.au/irci)

## **INSTITUTE FOR LEARNING SCIENCES AND TEACHER EDUCATION**

The Institute for Learning Sciences and Teacher Education (ILSTE) undertakes studies in partnership to improve educational outcomes and life chances for all children and young people. Our areas of expertise include data analytics; assessment and learning; critical and creative thinking in STEM; English and literacy education, multimodalities, literacy and gender; teacher education and professional practice; and early childhood futures and digital play.

[acu.edu.au/ilste](http://acu.edu.au/ilste)

## **MARY MACKILLOP INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH RESEARCH**

The Mary MacKillop Institute for Health Research (MMIHR) addresses critical public health issues by identifying and responding with innovative programs that work towards better health outcomes in Australia and around the world. The institute comprises three key research programs: exercise and nutrition; behaviour, environment and cognition; and bone health and fractures.

[acu.edu.au/mmihhr](http://acu.edu.au/mmihhr)

## **DIANOIA INSTITUTE OF PHILOSOPHY**

Dianoia is dedicated to ground-breaking research in the central areas of analytic philosophy, including metaphysics, epistemology, logic, ethics and metaethics, aesthetics, social and political philosophy, and the philosophy of mind, language, religion and science.

[acu.edu.au/dianoia](http://acu.edu.au/dianoia)

## **INSTITUTE FOR HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

The Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences (IHSS) continues our growth in the liberal arts. Spanning history, politics, sociology and literature, the institute's areas of research include gender and women's history; refugees, migration and humanitarian studies; social and political change; British empire and Atlantic world history; Australian colonialism and Indigenous history; political economy; and literary studies.

[acu.edu.au/ihss](http://acu.edu.au/ihss)

## **OTHER ACU RESEARCH CENTRES**

- Healthy Brain and Mind Research Centre
- Nursing Research Institute
- Sports Performance, Recovery, Injury and New Technologies (SPRINT) Research Centre
- Research Centre for Studies of the Second Vatican Council

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Learn more  
[acu.edu.au/research](http://acu.edu.au/research)

# Postgraduate study pathways

In general, postgraduate study falls into two main categories: coursework and research.

## Coursework

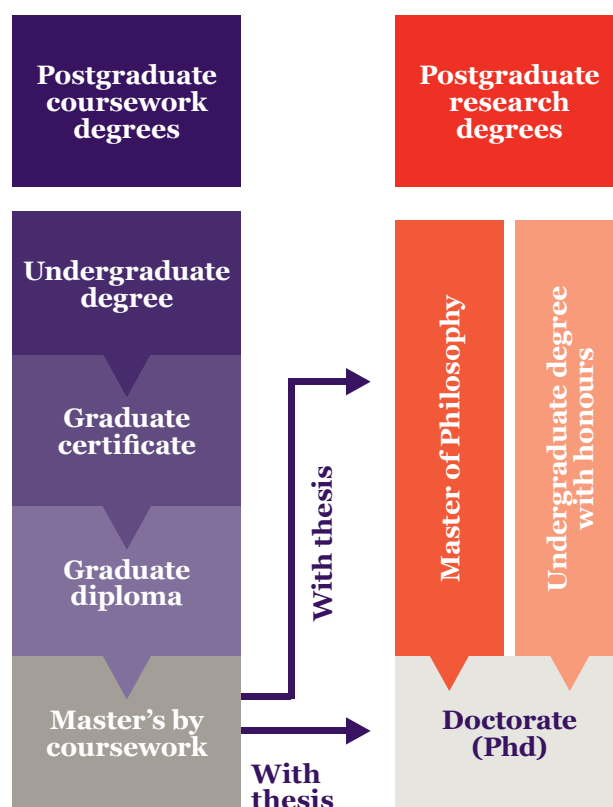
- Programs are generally six months to two years full-time (or equivalent part-time).
- You can expect to do classes (including online classes), units and set assessments, similar to an undergraduate degree.
- To apply, you usually need to have completed an undergraduate degree first. However, professional experience can also be considered.
- The graduate certificate, graduate diploma and master's degree are connected and can build on each other.
- If you're considering a master's degree but don't initially qualify, you may be accepted into the graduate certificate or diploma in the same area of study.
- If you choose to study a master's degree but your circumstances change, you may be able to exit the degree early with the relevant graduate certificate or graduate diploma.
- Coursework programs are ideal for gaining new skills and getting ahead in your career.

## Research

- Programs are generally two to three years full-time (or equivalent part-time).
- You can expect to do independent research and explore original ideas under the guidance of a supervisor.
- To apply, you need to meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the Higher Degree Research Regulations at [policies.acu.edu.au/research-regulations](https://policies.acu.edu.au/research-regulations)
- ACU offers supervised research at either master's or doctoral level.
- Research programs are ideal for making a new contribution to an academic field. They can be a pathway to research or an academic career, or help you get ahead at work.

Honours degrees are also available. These are one-year degrees for high-achieving students who have already completed a bachelor's degree, and allow you to build upon your knowledge, develop research skills, and work closely with an academic expert. The chief focus of the degree is to produce a research thesis under supervision from experienced academic staff. Some four-year bachelor's programs have honours embedded into the third and fourth years.

## EXAMPLE PATHWAYS THROUGH POSTGRADUATE STUDY



## Recognition of prior learning

If you're studying at another university and would like to switch to ACU, or you have relevant knowledge and skills acquired in the workplace, you may be able to get credit towards your degree. [acu.edu.au/priorlearning](https://acu.edu.au/priorlearning)

Current or former members of the Australian Defence Force may also be eligible for credit towards an ACU program. We formally recognise the courses you have completed and the rank you achieved during your service. [acu.edu.au/veterans](https://acu.edu.au/veterans)

# Applying to ACU

## Postgraduate coursework degrees

- 1 Choose the course you would like to study by browsing this guide and visiting [acu.edu.au/courses](https://acu.edu.au/courses) for more details.
- 2 Check important dates and application requirements carefully – some courses also require supporting documentation.
- 3 Check out the postgraduate scholarships available at [acu.edu.au/scholarships](https://acu.edu.au/scholarships)
- 4 Apply online directly to ACU at [acu.edu.au/courses](https://acu.edu.au/courses)
- 5 Accept your offer and enrol.

## Postgraduate research degrees

Application to ACU higher degrees by research, including the Master of Philosophy, Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) and Doctor of Ministry (DMin), is by direct application.

- 1 Choose the course you would like to study by visiting [acu.edu.au/research-students](https://acu.edu.au/research-students)
- 2 Check entry requirements, your eligibility and application requirements at [acu.edu.au/research-applications](https://acu.edu.au/research-applications)
- 3 Check out the research scholarships available at [acu.edu.au/research-scholarships](https://acu.edu.au/research-scholarships) and [acu.edu.au/scholarships](https://acu.edu.au/scholarships)
- 4 Discuss your research with a potential supervisor, who you can find at [acu.edu.au/research-supervisors](https://acu.edu.au/research-supervisors)
- 5 Follow the steps to prepare your application at [acu.edu.au/research-applications](https://acu.edu.au/research-applications) and submit your completed application.



For more information on how to apply for postgraduate coursework degrees, visit [acu.edu.au/postgraduate](https://acu.edu.au/postgraduate)

If you still have questions or need help with your application, visit [acu.edu.au/askacu](https://acu.edu.au/askacu)

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If you still have questions or need help with your postgraduate research application, contact the Candidature Services team at [res.cand@acu.edu.au](mailto:res.cand@acu.edu.au)



### Applying to ACU Online

Applying to ACU Online is easy. Simply visit [online.acu.edu.au/courses](https://online.acu.edu.au/courses), select 'Apply for this course' and follow the steps. If you need help, you can request assistance and one of our friendly staff will contact you.



# Fees and scholarships

There are many options to help you manage the cost of study. Tuition fees depend on the course you enrol in, and there are two placement offer types: a fee-paying place or a Commonwealth supported place (CSP).



## FEE-PAYING PLACE

A fee-paying place is not subsidised by the government, so you pay the full cost of the course. As a domestic fee-paying student, you may be eligible to defer payment of your fees through the FEE-HELP government loan scheme. Repayment of the loan occurs through the tax system once your income exceeds the minimum threshold. Your employer may also consider assisting with the cost of study if the course is related to your current position.

[studyassist.gov.au](http://studyassist.gov.au)



## COMMONWEALTH SUPPORTED PLACE (CSP)

A small number of postgraduate courses at ACU offer CSPs, where the government pays a proportion of tuition costs. The remainder of the fees are paid by the student, but eligible students can defer their payment through the HECS-HELP government loan scheme. Repayment of the loan occurs through the tax system once your income exceeds the minimum threshold.

[studyassist.gov.au](http://studyassist.gov.au)



## RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM FEES OFFSET SCHOLARSHIPS

Domestic students approved for enrolment in a master's by research or doctorate program at ACU receive a Research Training Program Fees Offset Scholarship, so are exempt from paying tuition fees. International students should apply for an ACU tuition fee waiver.

[acu.edu.au/research-scholarships](http://acu.edu.au/research-scholarships)



## FACULTY ALUMNI REBATE

If you're an ACU graduate, you may be eligible for a 10 per cent rebate on postgraduate fees.

[acu.edu.au/alumni-rebate](http://acu.edu.au/alumni-rebate)



## POSTGRADUATE COURSEWORK SCHOLARSHIPS

We offer scholarships to help support you financially during your studies. Use our online scholarships browser to find the ones that are right for you.

[acu.edu.au/scholarships](http://acu.edu.au/scholarships)



## RESEARCH STIPEND SCHOLARSHIPS

We offer competitive scholarships with a stipend to help fund your living costs during your research, and to reward outstanding academic achievement. For international students, this includes a tuition fee waiver and an Overseas Health Care Policy.

[acu.edu.au/research-scholarships](http://acu.edu.au/research-scholarships)

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Got questions? We're waiting with the answers.

[acu.edu.au/askacu](http://acu.edu.au/askacu)

# Our courses

Study isn't just about learning. It's also about contributing to a greater purpose. Crafting a meaningful career. Making an impact, for good.

Browse our courses to find your next move. Our course offerings change often, so make sure you view the most current ones at [acu.edu.au/courses](https://acu.edu.au/courses)

## ACU courses

### ALLIED HEALTH

Master of Family and Systemic Therapy

Master of Mental Health

Graduate Diploma in Mental Health

Graduate Certificate in Mental Health

Master of Social Work (Qualifying)



### BUSINESS

Master of Business Administration

Graduate Certificate in Business Administration

Graduate Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship (sponsored cohorts only)

Master of Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Management

Graduate Diploma in Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Management

Graduate Certificate in Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Management

Master of Professional Accounting



### HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Master of Liberal Arts (Western Civilisation)



### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Master of Information Technology

Graduate Certificate in Application Development

Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics

Graduate Certificate in Cyber Security

Graduate Certificate in Data Science

Graduate Certificate in Information Technology



## LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY

Graduate Diploma in Australian Migration Law and Practice

Bachelor of Laws (Graduate Entry)

Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice (Honours)



## NURSING, MIDWIFERY AND PARAMEDICINE

Master of Clinical Nursing

Graduate Diploma in Clinical Nursing

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing

Master of Mental Health Nursing

Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing

Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing

Bachelor of Midwifery (Graduate Entry)

Bachelor of Midwifery (Honours)

Bachelor of Nursing (Honours)

Bachelor of Paramedicine (Honours)



## NUTRITION AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE

Master of Dietetic Practice

Graduate Certificate in Culinary Nutrition Science

Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Honours)

Bachelor of Nutrition Science (Honours)



## PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Graduate Diploma in Design and Technologies Education

Master of Educational Leadership

Graduate Certificate in Educational Leadership

Master of Education

Graduate Certificate in Education



## PSYCHOLOGY

Master of Professional Psychology

Master of Psychology (Clinical)

Master of Psychology (Educational and Developmental)

Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours)



## PUBLIC HEALTH AND ADMINISTRATION

Master of Health Professional Education  
Graduate Diploma in Health Professional Education  
Graduate Certificate in Health Professional Education  
Master of Leadership and Management in Healthcare  
Master of Public Health  
Master of Public Health (Global Health and Advocacy)  
Graduate Diploma in Public Health  
Graduate Certificate in Public Health  
Graduate Certificate in Global Health  
Bachelor of Applied Public Health (Honours)



## SPORT AND EXERCISE SCIENCE

Master of Clinical Exercise Physiology  
Graduate Certificate in High Performance Sport Leadership  
Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science (Honours)  
Bachelor of High Performance Sport (Honours)  
Bachelor of Physical Activity and Health Science (Honours)



## TEACHING

Master of Teaching (Early Childhood and Primary)  
Master of Teaching (Early Childhood Education and Primary)/Graduate Certificate in Religious Education  
Master of Teaching (Primary)  
Master of Teaching (Primary)/Graduate Certificate in Religious Education  
Master of Teaching (Secondary)  
Master of Teaching (Secondary)/Graduate Certificate in Religious Education  
Bachelor of Arts/Master of Teaching (Secondary)  
Bachelor of Arts (Western Civilisation)/Master of Teaching (Secondary)



## THEOLOGY

Graduate Certificate in Catholic Studies  
Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Catholic Culture  
Master of Religious Education  
Graduate Certificate in Religious Education  
Master of Spiritual Direction  
Graduate Diploma in Spiritual Direction  
Graduate Diploma in Supervision  
Graduate Certificate in Supervision  
Master of Theological Studies  
Graduate Diploma in Theological Studies  
Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies  
Bachelor of Theology (Honours)



## HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH

Doctor of Ministry (DMin)

Doctor of Philosophy

Master of Philosophy

Master of Psychology (Clinical)/Doctor of Philosophy

Master of Psychology (Educational and Developmental)/Doctor of Philosophy



## ACU Online courses

### ALLIED HEALTH

Master of Social Work (Qualifying)

Master of Sports and Exercise Physiotherapy

Master of Sports and Exercise Physiotherapy/Master of High Performance Sport



### BUSINESS

Master of Business Administration

Graduate Certificate in Business Administration

Master of Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Management

Graduate Diploma in Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Management

Graduate Certificate in Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Management



### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Graduate Certificate in Cyber Security



### NURSING, MIDWIFERY AND PARAMEDICINE

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing



### PUBLIC HEALTH AND ADMINISTRATION

Master of Digital Health

Graduate Diploma in Digital Health

Graduate Certificate in Digital Health



### SPORT AND EXERCISE SCIENCE

Graduate Certificate in Exercise Rehabilitation for Sports Injuries

Master of High Performance Sport

Graduate Diploma in High Performance Sport

Graduate Certificate in High Performance Sport



## TEACHING

Master of Teaching (Early Childhood and Primary)

Master of Teaching (Early Childhood and Primary)/Graduate Certificate in Religious Education

Master of Teaching (Secondary)

Master of Teaching (Secondary)/Graduate Certificate in Religious Education



## THEOLOGY

Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies



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### New courses

We're always launching new and exciting courses to help you advance your career. Check out our new courses page to see what's coming.

[acu.edu.au/newcourses](https://acu.edu.au/newcourses)

### Student stories

Explore *Impact* for stories on ACU students, graduates and research.

[impact.acu.edu.au](https://impact.acu.edu.au)



Jessica  
ACU graduate

# Online learning.



# Human support.

Keen to study a university degree from the comfort of home? Introducing ACU Online – a range of courses designed to be studied online.

If you're ready to upskill, reskill or simply begin your career journey, studying with ACU Online is the perfect option.

Benefit from incredible flexibility, innovative course design, and new skills to help you achieve your goals.

And while you'll study at home, you won't be studying alone. With ACU Online, you'll have access to a range of services that provide ongoing, real-life support.



Learn more  
[online.acu.edu.au](https://online.acu.edu.au)



## More information

Throughout the year, we hold a range of webinars and events to help you with your study options. You'll have the opportunity to talk to lecturers, staff and alumni about course content and structure, graduate outcomes and more.

[acu.edu.au/postgradstudy](https://acu.edu.au/postgradstudy)

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## Open Day

Every year we throw open our doors and invite you to join us on campus or online. If you've got questions, we'll be waiting with the answers at Open Day.

[openday.acu.edu.au](https://openday.acu.edu.au)

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## Campus tours

Book a campus tour to see what sets us apart.

[acu.edu.au/campus-tours](https://acu.edu.au/campus-tours)

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## One-on-one consultations

Book a one-on-one consultation with us for an opportunity to chat about your study options and find out how to reach your career goals.

[acu.edu.au/one-on-one-consultations](https://acu.edu.au/one-on-one-consultations)

# Got a question or feeling social?

### AskACU

Visit: [acu.edu.au/askacu](https://acu.edu.au/askacu)

Call: 1300 ASK ACU (1300 275 228)

If you've got a question, our AskACU team has you covered. You can search the FAQs, text us, live chat or call one of our friendly AskACU staff – whatever works for you.



[linkedin.com/school/australian-catholic-university](https://linkedin.com/school/australian-catholic-university)



[facebook.com/Australian.Catholic.University](https://facebook.com/Australian.Catholic.University)



[@acuimages](https://instagram.com/acuimages)



[auscatholicuni](https://snapchat.com/add/auscatholicuni)



[@ACUmedia](https://twitter.com/ACUmedia)



[ACUsocial](https://youtube.com/ACUsocial)

Send us your details and we will keep you in the loop about courses, events, information sessions and more.

[acu.edu.au/postgradstudy](https://acu.edu.au/postgradstudy)



# ACU

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Disclaimer (March 2023): Information correct at time of printing. The university reserves the right to amend, cancel or otherwise modify the content without notice.