



Postgraduate
study



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

Why choose us?



Top 2%

UNIVERSITIES
WORLDWIDE¹



5 stars

FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT²



Top 10

CATHOLIC
UNIVERSITIES
WORLDWIDE³



No. 2

GOOD
HEALTH AND
WELLBEING
WORLDWIDE⁴

SUBJECT SPECIALISATIONS

**1st in Australia,
28th worldwide**

THEOLOGY, DIVINITY AND
RELIGIOUS STUDIES⁵



**2nd in Australia,
top 50 worldwide**

EDUCATION⁶



**4th in Australia,
14th worldwide**

NURSING⁶





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.

Top 100 worldwide

SPORT SCIENCE⁹



GRADUATE OUTCOMES

1st

FULL-TIME GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT FOR ACCOUNTING AND BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT COURSES IN AUSTRALIA⁷



Top 150 worldwide

PSYCHOLOGY⁶



98%

NURSING GRADUATES EMPLOYED⁸



Top 300 worldwide

ARTS AND HUMANITIES¹⁰



98%

TEACHER EDUCATION GRADUATES EMPLOYED¹¹



1. *Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2024*. 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 2023/2024*, postgraduate students employed full-time four months after completing their course
3. *Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2023*, ranked IFUCU members
4. SDG 3, *Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2023*
5. QS World University Rankings by Subject 2024
6. Shanghai Ranking, Global Ranking of Academic Subjects 2023

7. *Good Universities Guide 2023/2024*, postgraduate students, accounting and business management fields
8. 2022 Graduate Outcomes Survey, full-time employment for domestic postgraduate coursework, four months after graduating
9. Shanghai Ranking, Global Ranking of Sport Science Schools and Departments 2023
10. *Times Higher Education World University Rankings by Subject 2024*
11. 2022 Graduate Outcomes Survey, overall employment for domestic postgraduate coursework, four months after graduating

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 explore your local campus, visit acu.edu.au/locations



BALLARAT



MELBOURNE



BLACKTOWN



NORTH SYDNEY



BRISBANE



STRATHFIELD



CANBERRA



ROME, ITALY

“The environment at ACU is nurturing and caring. The relatively smaller campus is less overwhelming than a larger university campus, which allowed me to feel comfortable. You feel like you belong at ACU. And the staff are incredible; they’re supportive and always willing to answer any questions and provide extra help.”

Keiron
Psychology (educational and developmental)

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.



PROFESSOR MARY RYAN

Professor Mary Ryan is a Professor and Executive Dean of the Faculty of Education and Arts at ACU. She is President of the NSW Council of Deans of Education, sits on the Board of the Australian Council of Deans of Education, and is 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 (ARC)-funded projects in classroom writing and preparing reflexive teachers for diverse classrooms. Her research is in the areas of writing pedagogy and assessment, reflexive 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 Ryan has an extensive record of program development, having coordinated undergraduate, postgraduate and higher degree research programs. She regularly provides advice to ministers of education and early childhood across multiple states, as well as to regulatory authorities in education and the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership.



PROFESSOR ANDREW O'NEIL

Professor Andrew O'Neil is Professor and Executive Dean of the Faculty of Law and Business at ACU. Immediately prior to taking up this role in January 2023, he was Acting Dean of the Graduate Research School and Professor of Political Science at Griffith University. Before entering academia in 2000, and directly after completing his PhD, Andrew worked for Australia's Department of Defence.

Professor O'Neil is the author and co-author of several books and has published his research in a wide variety of scholarly and policy-oriented outlets. Working in teams, he has received competitive grants from multiple funding agencies, including the ARC, for projects examining Indo-Pacific security and geopolitics.

Professor O'Neil has also held external appointments including membership of the ARC College of Experts, TEQSA's Register of Experts, Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) at NSW Department of Communities and Justice, and Chair of the Australian Business Deans Council Research Network. He is currently a Partner Investigator on the ARC's Centre of Excellence for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.



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

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

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

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

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

OTHER ACU RESEARCH CENTRES

- Australian Centre for the Advancement of Literacy
- Healthy Brain and Mind Research Centre
- Institute of Child Protection Studies
- Nursing Research Institute
- Queensland Bioethics Centre
- Research Centre for Studies of the Second Vatican Council
- Sports Performance, Recovery, Injury and New Technologies (SPRINT) Research Centre

Passionate about making an impact in research?
Explore our higher degrees by research (page 11).

Learn more about research at ACU
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 a graduate certificate or graduate diploma.
- Coursework programs are ideal for gaining new skills and getting ahead in your career.

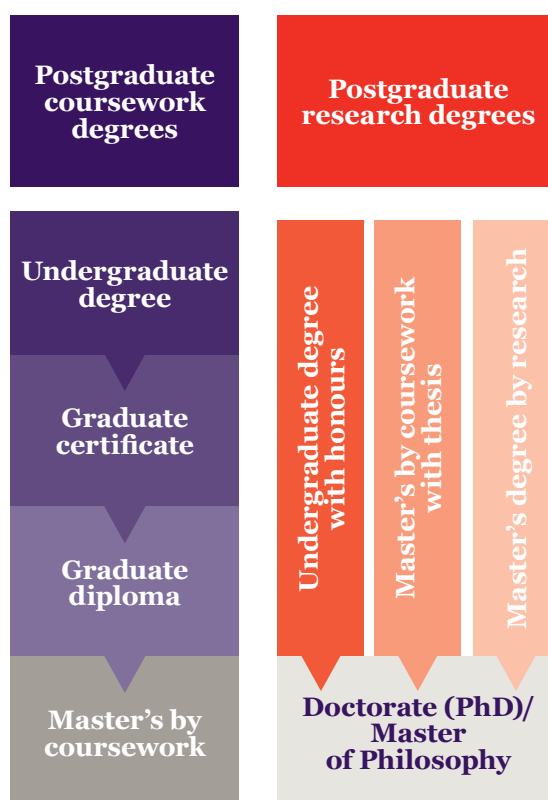
Research

- 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
- 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 and are highly regarded by industry, government and not-for-profits.

Pathway to a research degree

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

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

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 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
- 4 Apply online directly to ACU at 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
- 2 Check entry requirements, your eligibility and application requirements at acu.edu.au/research-applications
- 3 Check out the research scholarships available at acu.edu.au/research-scholarships and acu.edu.au/scholarships
- 4 Discuss your research with a potential supervisor, who you can find by browsing our researchers at acu.edu.au/research-and-enterprise
- 5 Follow the steps to prepare your application at acu.edu.au/research-applications and submit your completed application.



Applying to ACU Online

Applying to ACU Online is easy. Simply visit online.acu.edu.au/courses, choose your study area then course, select 'Apply' and follow the steps. If you need help, you can contact our friendly AskACU team at acu.edu.au/askacu



For more information on how to apply for postgraduate coursework degrees, visit acu.edu.au/postgraduate

If you still have questions or need help with your application, visit acu.edu.au/askacu

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

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). Many of our postgraduate coursework degrees now have CSPs available, making study more affordable than ever.



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



COMMONWEALTH SUPPORTED PLACE (CSP)

A wide range 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.

acu.edu.au/pg-csp
studyassist.gov.au



RESEARCH STIPEND SCHOLARSHIPS

We offer competitive stipend scholarships to domestic and international students to help fund your living costs during your research, and to reward outstanding academic achievement. International students who apply for a stipend scholarship will automatically be considered for an ACU Tuition Fee Scholarship and Overseas Student Healthcare Cover.

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



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



RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM TUITION FEE 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. International students applying for admission to an ACU research degree will automatically be considered for an ACU Tuition Fee Scholarship and Overseas Student Healthcare Cover.

acu.edu.au/research-scholarships

Got questions? We're waiting with the answers.

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.

Plus, with many of our postgraduate coursework degrees now offering Commonwealth supported places, meaning you pay a reduced fee, it's a great time to study.

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

ALLIED HEALTH

Master of Family and Systemic Therapy

Graduate Diploma in Family and Systemic Therapy

Graduate Certificate in Family and Systemic Therapy

Master of Mental Health – available online

Graduate Diploma in Mental Health – available online

Graduate Certificate in Mental Health – available online

Master of Social Work (Qualifying) – available online

Master of Sports and Exercise Physiotherapy – available online

Master of Sports and Exercise Physiotherapy/Master of High Performance Sport – available online



BUSINESS

Master of Business Administration – available online

Graduate Certificate in Business Administration – available online

Master of Business Administration (Executive)

Graduate Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship (sponsored cohorts only)

Master of Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Management – available online

Graduate Diploma in Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Management – available online

Graduate Certificate in Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Management – available online

Master of Professional Accounting



HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Master of Liberal Arts (Western Civilisation)

Bachelor of Arts (Western Civilisation) (Honours)



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Master of Information Technology

Graduate Certificate in Application Development

Graduate Certificate in Cyber Security – available online

Graduate Certificate in Data Analytics

Graduate Certificate in Data Science

Graduate Certificate in Information Technology



LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY

Master of Australian Migration Law and Practice

Graduate Diploma in Australian Migration Law and Practice

Bachelor of Laws (Graduate Entry)



NURSING, MIDWIFERY AND PARAMEDICINE

Master of Clinical Nursing – available online

Graduate Diploma in Clinical Nursing – available online

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing – available online

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing (Gerontological) – available online

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing (Correctional Health) – available online

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing (Medical) – available online

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing (Renal) – available online

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing (Surgical) – available online

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing (Neuroscience) – available online

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing (Cardiac Care) – available online

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing (Intensive Care) – available online

Graduate Certificate in Clinical Nursing (Perioperative) – available online

Master of Mental Health Nursing – available online

Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing – available online

Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing – available online

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

Microcredentials in Culinary Nutrition Science – available online

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

Graduate Certificate in Higher Education



PSYCHOLOGY

Master of Clinical Psychology (Post-Registration)*

Master of Professional Psychology

Master of Psychology (Clinical)

Master of Psychology (Educational and Developmental)

Graduate Diploma in Psychology – available online

Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours)



PUBLIC HEALTH AND ADMINISTRATION

Graduate Certificate in Digital Health – available online

Graduate Certificate in Global Health

Master of Health Professional Education – available online

Graduate Diploma in Health Professional Education – available online

Graduate Certificate in Health Professional Education – available online

Master of Leadership and Management in Healthcare – available online

Graduate Diploma in Leadership and Management in Healthcare – available online

Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Management in Healthcare – available online

Master of Public Health

Master of Public Health (Global Health and Advocacy)

Graduate Diploma in Public Health

Graduate Certificate in Public Health

Bachelor of Applied Public Health (Honours)



SPORT AND EXERCISE SCIENCE

Master of Clinical Exercise Physiology

Graduate Certificate in Exercise Rehabilitation for Sports Injuries – available online

Master of High Performance Sport – available online

Graduate Diploma in High Performance Sport – available online

Graduate Certificate in High Performance Sport – available online

Graduate Certificate in Sports Analytics – available online

Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science (Honours)

Bachelor of High Performance Sport (Honours)



**Pending accreditation*

TEACHING

Graduate Diploma in Design and Technologies Education

Master of Teaching (Early Childhood and Primary) – available online

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

Master of Teaching (Primary)

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

Master of Teaching (Secondary) – available online

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

Bachelor of Arts/Master of Teaching (Secondary)

Bachelor of Arts (Western Civilisation)/Master of Teaching (Secondary)

Bachelor of Psychological Science/Master of Teaching (Primary)



THEOLOGY

Graduate Certificate in Catholic Studies

Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Catholic Culture

Master of Religious Education

Graduate Certificate in Religious Education – available online

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 – available online

Bachelor of Theology (Honours)



HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCH

Doctor of Philosophy

Doctor of Ministry (DMin)

Master of Philosophy

Master of Psychology (Clinical)/Doctor of Philosophy

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



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

Student stories

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

impact.acu.edu.au

Microcredentials

We offer microcredentials in some specific areas of study. Visit our course browser for more information.

acu.edu.au/courses



“Staff at ACU are industry experts who have a wealth of knowledge and are very keen to share it with students. The guidance they provided truly helped me with my career. I have enjoyed being in the company of great industry leaders.”

Kaushalya
Master of Business Administration



Top 10

GRADUATE SALARY FOR ACCOUNTING AND BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT COURSES IN AUSTRALIA

Good Universities Guide 2023/2024, postgraduate students, accounting and business management fields





Jessica
ACU graduate

Online learning.



Human support.

Take charge of your learning with an ACU Online degree.

You'll have the flexibility to manage your study in a way that works best for you, with the option of timetabled courses that run to a set schedule or anytime courses that deliver the learning materials for you to work through at your own pace.

And regardless of the delivery method of your chosen online course, you'll become a part of the ACU community. You'll be taught by experienced online educators. You'll have access to the full range of support services we provide. And you'll graduate with a qualification that employers respect.



Learn more
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

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

Open Day

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

openday.acu.edu.au

Campus tours

Book a campus tour to see what sets us apart.

acu.edu.au/campus-tours

Got a question or feeling social?

AskACU

Visit: 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, live chat or call one of our friendly AskACU staff – whatever works for you.

 linkedin.com/school/australian-catholic-university

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

 [@auscatholicuni](https://tiktok.com/@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



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