



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PATHWAYS

Subject Guide



NAZARETH
COLLEGE



Religious Education within life of the Evangelisation Mission of the Catholic Church.

The Catholic school is part of the world and part of the community of the Church and invites all the members of the school community to search for God and to live guided by the life and words of Jesus of Nazareth. While school represents a significant time and experience in the education of faith of the students it is the parents who are the primary educators of faith, and where catechesis finds a home. The function of the school is to support the parents and the parish in faith education. Nazareth's Religious Education courses aim to facilitate growth in knowledge and understanding of God in the world in which we live, fostering a joy-filled life within God's loving plan for each member of the school community.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PATHWAYS

Pathways Summary



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RELIGION & SOCIETY

In Year 11, students study either VCE Religion & Society Unit Two or Youth Ministry (CSYMA) over the course of the year. Year 11 International students will study a modified version of this course.



YOUTH MINISTRY (CSYMA)

VCAL students will study a specifically developed school-based program of Religious Education.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SCHOOL-BASED)

If a Year 11 student chooses Religion & Society Units 3 / 4 as an accelerated subject, this qualifies for their Religious Education component.





RELIGION & SOCIETY



This unit is offered as a core subject. The unit explores morality and the justification for moral choices. Ethical questions that demand practical moral judgment are raised at the personal, local, wider community, national and global level. At all times the position of the Catholic Church is presented and shown in contrast to other worldviews. Students study in detail various methods of ethical decision-making in at least two religious traditions and their related philosophical traditions.

They explore ethical issues in societies where multiple worldviews coexist, in the light of these investigations. Students consider the nine aspects of religion when exploring selected religious traditions and religion in general.



RELIGION & SOCIETY

Unit 2 – Ethics

DESCRIPTION

This unit is offered as a core subject. The unit explores morality and the justification for moral choices. Ethical questions that demand practical moral judgment are raised at the personal, local, wider community, national and global level. At all times the position of the Catholic Church is presented and shown in contrast to other worldviews. Students study in detail various methods of ethical decision-making in at least two religious traditions and their related philosophical traditions. They explore ethical issues in societies where multiple worldviews coexist, in the light of these investigations. Students consider the nine aspects of religion when exploring selected religious traditions and religion in general.

FOCUS AREAS

1. Ethical decision-making and moral judgment
2. Religion and ethics
3. Ethical issues in society

OUTCOMES

Outcome 1: On completion of this unit the student should be able to explain the variety of influences on ethical decision-making and moral judgment in societies where multiple worldviews coexist.

Outcome 2: On completion of this unit the student should be able to explain how ethical perspectives and moral judgments are formed within at least two religious traditions, in societies in which multiple worldviews coexist.

Outcome 3: On completion of this unit the student should be able to explain two or more debates on ethical issues in societies in which multiple worldviews coexist.

ASSESSMENT

The award of satisfactory completion for a unit is based on whether the student has demonstrated the set of outcomes specified for the unit. All assessments for Unit 2 are school-based.

- Analysis exercises
- Reports
- Oral presentation / debate
- Examinations



RELIGION & SOCIETY

Unit 3 – The Search for Meaning



DESCRIPTION

This unit is offered to students as an elective. In this unit students study the purposes of religion generally and then consider the religious beliefs developed by one or more than one religious tradition or denomination in response to the big questions of life. In this unit students study the purposes of religion generally and then consider the religious beliefs developed by one or more than one religious tradition or denomination in response to the big questions of life.

Students study how particular beliefs within one or more than one religious tradition or denomination may be expressed through the other aspects of religion, and explore how this is intended to foster meaning for adherents. Students then consider the interaction between significant life experience and religion. Students consider the aspects of religion when investigating religion in general and selected religious tradition/s or denomination/s.

Further details, including the full Study Design, are available from the VCAA website at

www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/vce/studies/religion/religionindex.aspx

<https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/curriculum/vce/vce-study-designs/religion-and-society/Pages/Index.aspx>

FOCUS AREAS

1. Responding to the search for meaning
2. Expressing meaning
3. Significant life experience, religious beliefs and faith



RELIGION & SOCIETY

Unit 3 – The Search for Meaning



OUTCOMES

Outcome 1 : On completion of this unit the student should be able to discuss and analyse the nature and purpose of religion and religious beliefs

Outcome 2 : On completion of this unit the student should be able to examine how beliefs and their expression in other aspects of religion is intended to respond to the search for meaning.

Outcome 3 : On completion of this unit the student should be able to discuss and analyse the interplay between religious beliefs and their expression through related aspects and significant life experience.

ASSESSMENT

- School-assessed Coursework for Unit 3 contributes 25 per cent
- A report, extended responses and an essay
- End-of-year examination – 50%.



RELIGION & SOCIETY

Unit 4 – Religion, Challenge and Change

DESCRIPTION

This unit is offered to students as an elective. This unit focuses on the interaction over time of religious traditions and the societies of which they are a part. For a large part of human history religion has been a truth narrative, offering a means for finding answers to the big questions of life. Religious traditions are in a dynamic process of engagement and negotiation with members individually and collectively, as well as with other key institutions in wider society associated with power, authority and credibility. Religious traditions are living institutions that participate in and contribute to wider societies – both positively and negatively. They stimulate and support society, acting as levers for change themselves and embracing or resisting forces for change within society. In this unit students explore challenge for religious traditions generally over time and then undertake a study of challenge and change for one or more than one religious tradition or denomination.

FOCUS AREAS

1. Challenge and response
2. Interaction of religion and society

OUTCOMES

Outcome 1: On completion of this unit the student should be able to discuss, analyse and compare stances and supporting responses taken by religions as they are challenged.

Outcome 2: On completion of this unit the student should be able to discuss the interactions within a religious tradition or denomination and between a religious tradition or denomination and wider society in relation to a significant challenge, and examine the effects of these Interactions.

ASSESSMENT

- School-assessed Coursework for Unit 3 contributes 25 per cent
- Extended responses and an essay
- End-of-year examination – 50%.



YOUTH MINISTRY (CSYMA)



This course is designed to inspire and equip Nazareth students to respond to the Catholic Church's vision whereby schools become centres of the New Evangelisation. The focus of Year 11 Youth Ministry is to build upon the skills learnt at Year 9 and 10 in Ministry roles within the College setting. Students deepen their knowledge of Jesus' leadership through structured guidance provided in class, using the CSYMA/ACU Youth Academy course content combined with Nazareth College's unique requirements. Students become part of the College's Faith Team, helping to organise and run the College's expressions of faith, through masses and other liturgical experiences and initiatives.



YOUTH MINISTRY (CSYMA)

Two Semesters

FOCUS AREAS

The CSYMA Youth Academy is supported by the Australian Catholic University (ACU). The Youth Academy consists of two programs: the Formation Program (FP) at Year 11 and Faith and Outreach Program (FOP) at Year 12. It may be possible for students to complete both programs in one year, prior approval would have to be sought for this. The FP and FOP programs are comprised of five modules. Successful completion of the school-based program by completing the relevant modules will result in the student receiving the CSYMA and ACU Faith and Ministry Award. An external moderation process will be completed by ACU to ensure consistency and the validity of the school-based assessments. Receipt of the award includes an additional 5 ATAR points towards any undergraduate degree at the ACU. In total, there are five modules with the initial four forming the Formation Program (Year 11). Upon completion of the initial four Modules, students may participate in the Faith and Outreach Program (Year 12) where they complete the fifth module. As part of the FP & FOP programs, students may at times need to work with a local parish to complete the modules. This would be negotiated as required with the student, parents/guardians, school and parishes.

Although the main curriculum focus is on Youth Ministry at Year 11, students will also complete certain aspects of the Year 11 Religion and Society Unit 2 Ethics course to ensure their ability to undertake VCE Religion and Society Units 3 & 4 if chosen at Year 12.

DIMENSIONS

1. Personal and communal engagement
2. Knowledge and understanding
3. Reasoning and responding

ASSESSMENT

1. Youth Academy Journal, Modules 1 - 4
2. Essays 2 x 750 words, Module 5
3. Liturgies and retreats: design, run and evaluate.
4. Semester Examinations



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SCHOOL-BASED)

Religious Education is a compulsory subject at all year levels. Year 12 students who are NOT studying Religion & Society Units 3 / 4 or Youth Ministry will study the following course.



This course is designed to maximize the opportunity for students to enrich their faith and to consider their role as young adults, having had a Catholic education, in the wider world. A range of short units are offered to students in order to foster the opportunity to explore faith through a number of different mediums. The units are undertaken on a rotation basis, so that by the conclusion of their studies students have completed them all.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SCHOOL-BASED)

Two Semesters



FOCUS AREAS

Units offered include:

- The Arts & Religion
- Prayer and Meditation
- The dignity of the human person.
- Core Catholic beliefs
- The Mass and its elements
- Social Justice & Injustice
- A brief history of the Catholic Church.

ASSESSMENT

Units will be internally assessed. The form of assessment will vary according to the unit and its aims and objectives. These units of work do not contribute to a student's ATAR ranking.



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