

Religious Studies

Studies in Catholic Thought 1 or 2 Unit

COURSE DETAILS

Hours	1 unit = 120 hours 2 unit = 240 hours
Type	NESA Endorsed Course
Duration	2 years
Unit Value	1 unit or 2-unit Year 1 1 unit or 2-unit Year 12
HSC Exam	No – Diocesan Examination in Trial Period only.
ATAR	No
Exclusions	Studies of Religion I, Studies of Religion II
RECOGNITION	HSC Qualification

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Catholic schools' vision statement for the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle stresses the implicit and explicit religious dimension of its schools. In support of this vision we have developed a K-12 Religion syllabus with a Stage 6 component which we offer as an alternative course for senior students electing not to study the NESA (SOR) course. This Studies in Catholic Thought course enables students attending Catholic schools to study the Catholic faith and tradition as expressed in the life and mission of the Church, providing them with opportunities to research and critically reflect upon religious, social and moral questions within the context of the Catholic Tradition.

AIMS

Studies in Catholic Thought seeks to develop students' knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Faith and of Christianity. It will explore the theology, scripture and philosophy that underpin the understanding of the human person within the Catholic tradition and the Christian life of virtue that follows. (Syllabus 2018)

Studies in Catholic Thought involves new ways of thinking based on philosophy, the arts, history, scripture and Catholic Beliefs.

It is a course that examines the 'big questions' that human beings ask and explores ways that the Catholic religion answers them. Students will be involved in researching and constructing balanced arguments around these questions and the religious values and beliefs connected to them.

TOPICS COVERED

Both the 1- and 2-unit courses share core units

TOPICS studied in this course are divided into two linked thematic areas:

- The Human Person (Year 11 course)
- The Good Life (HSC course)

ASSESSMENT

Assessment strategies may include:

- Written reports, research tasks, oral tasks, analytical written responses, source-based analysis, and written examination.
- An internal HSC style examination task in Year 12, to be sat during the Trial period.

POTENTIAL CAREERS / REASONS TO CHOOSE COURSE

Students should select Catholic Studies if they are:

Not seeking an ATAR

Religiously literate in the Catholic tradition

Wishing to learn more about the Catholic Church and its place in the world.

Generally capable in reading, writing and oral skills

Able to reflect critically on issues and formulate considered responses

Positive contributors to class discussion

Able to express ideas and solutions to personal, social and spiritual matters

Able to work independently and interdependently in class

YEAR 11 COURSE OUTCOMES

Explains the place of Scripture and other relevant Church documents in the Catholic tradition (SCT11-1) ∞

Describes the theology of the principle teachings of the Catholic Church and the underlying philosophy employed by the Catholic Church

(SCT11-2) ∞

Describes the historical features and developments of Catholic Church (SCT11-3)

Explore the importance of what is good, true and beautiful in the Catholic tradition (SCT11-4)

Proposes ways the Catholic Church guides believers in facing the challenges of society (SCT11-5)

Identifies and interprets a range of writings including Scripture and Church documents that inform Catholic theology (SCT11-6)

Identifies and accounts for developments in the theological and philosophical traditions of the Catholic Church to support a religious understanding (SCT11-7)

Identifies and describes the human expression of Catholic faith in culture (SCT11-8)

Plans and conducts investigations into a range of religious issues, and presents Catholic thinking using relevant evidence and sources (SCT11-9)

Communicates religious understanding using theological knowledge, religious concepts and terms in appropriate and well-structured forms (SCT11-10)