

# FAQS: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



## I WOULD LIKE TO TEACH IN THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION SYSTEM. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

You must be accredited by NSW Catholic Education Diocese to work, teach and lead in Catholic schools and this is separate from the DE accreditation required for working in public schools. The current undergraduate BEd courses at UOW do not provide you with eligible content for accreditation to teach in Diocesan Catholic schools. Have a look at the Diocese of Wollongong website to get more information about how accreditation works:

<http://www.dow.catholic.edu.au/>

## SO WHAT CAN I DO?

At UOW, we have developed an agreement with the Wollongong Catholic Education Office (CEO) to get you started. Under this agreement, UOW preservice teachers can earn **Provisional Accreditation** to teach in Diocese of Wollongong Catholic schools. This means you can apply to teach in some Catholic schools once you graduate.

This provisional accreditation is granted through application to the CEO Wollongong. It will extend for a period of five years on the condition that you complete an additional two units of postgraduate study in Theology or Religious Education in a recognised course approved by the CEO during the five year provisional period. This will give you full accreditation.

## HOW DO I GET STARTED ON EARNING PROVISIONAL ACCREDITATION?

UOW together with the Wollongong CEO is offering four (4) subjects to undergraduate teachers to complete during their enrolment in the BEd. Successful completion of these four subjects will entitle you to apply for **Provisional Accreditation** to teach in Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Wollongong and the Sutherland Shire.



## WHAT ARE THE SUBJECTS OFFERED BY UOW?

EDTR201 Introduction to Biblical Studies (Spring)  
EDTR202 Introduction to Theology (Summer)  
EDTR203 Values and Ethics in Religious Education (Spring)  
EDTR204 Sacraments and Liturgy (Summer)

All subjects have a blended delivery, with some online and face-to-face teaching in each subject.

## WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER TWO SUBJECTS I NEED TO DO? WHERE CAN I STUDY THEM?

At this stage, UOW does not offer any additional undergraduate or postgraduate subjects in religious education, but these four subjects are a good start! Further postgraduate study could be done through another institution as recommended by the CEO once you start teaching.

## WHO CAN TAKE THESE SUBJECTS?

EDTR subjects are available to undergraduate Education students. If your degree includes elective subjects (e.g. Bachelor of Primary Education), you can count a maximum of two EDTR subjects as two of your electives. If you wish to complete all four subjects, but do not have elective spaces you can still enroll and complete them in addition to the standard 192cp required for your degree. It is important that you consider the dates when EDTR subjects are offered in connection with your intended graduation date.

## WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR HELP?

The coordinator of the Religious Education subjects is Dr Jessica Mantei ([jessicam@uow.edu.au](mailto:jessicam@uow.edu.au)), who is more than happy to make an appointment to chat further about your intentions.

