



# *PC207 Pastoral Care*

**Australian College of Theology name: *Pastoral Care***

## **Learning Outcomes**

1. To establish the biblical basis and characteristics of pastoral care;
2. To enable you to develop an understanding of people in social relationships;
3. To discuss the pastoral opportunities and approaches in certain crisis situations;
4. To enable you to begin to develop skills in pastoral care.

## **Content**

### ***Section A: Biblical and Theological Perspectives***

1. Biblical and theological insights into the nature of individuals and groups; the human predicament; salvation and wholeness
2. Biblical models of caring, including the “shepherding” model as seen in the ministry of Jesus
3. The role of the church as a caring community, including the pastoral role of the congregation; the development of individual and corporate maturity; the relationship between clergy and laity in caring ministries

### ***Section B: Pastoral Care in Relation to the Community***

1. Modern concepts of the person and their place in society
2. The opportunities presented through the pastoral offices of baptism, confirmation, marriage, visitation, and preaching
3. Caring in relation to marriage, singleness, divorce, separation, in the light of changing patterns of family life in contemporary society

### ***Section C: Pastoral Care in Particular Situations***

1. Caring in areas of sexuality, including homosexuality and AIDS
2. Pastoral care in times of sickness, stress and healing
3. Pastoral care for the dying, in death and bereavement, including where suicide has occurred
4. Alcoholism, drug dependence and associated problems

***Section D: Developing Pastoral Care Skills***

1. Understanding other helping professions; guidelines in using insights from other social science disciplines; distinctions between pastoral care and counselling
2. Relational skills, including listening, empathy, honesty, vulnerability, encouraging, teaching
3. Coping with negativity and other issues to individual maturity, e.g. depression, anger, conflict, self esteem
4. Caring for the carers: the need for and provision of pastoral care for pastors