

Ministry with Seniors (PC251)

Australian College of Theology name: *Seniors Ministry*

Unit Description

We are moving into a period in history that has unprecedented numbers of people entering into their more mature years. Look at the needs of people as they age, issues of mental health and dementia, their place in the church as they give and receive ministry, the challenges and opportunities of ageing, how to support people who care for the ageing and the opportunities to share the gospel.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, you will:

A. *Know and understand:*

1. The dimensions of seniors' ministry

B. *Be able to:*

1. Outline the needs and challenges of seniors
2. Describe the theological, pastoral and ethical issues relating to ministry to seniors
3. Identify the types of pastoral care that will be most beneficial to seniors
4. Present an evidence-based perspective on the place of seniors in the life of the church

C. *Be in a position to:*

1. Use 'Seniors Ministry' for personal understanding and in ministry contexts

Content

1. Theological and ethical issues in ministry to the ageing
2. Psychosocial and spiritual development and needs in older people
3. The aging person: challenges for body, mind and spirit
4. Adult learning amongst seniors
5. Ministry to and by seniors
6. The place of seniors in the life of the church
7. The pastoral care of older people including residential care, mental health and dementia
8. Pastoral ministry to the grieving and dying
9. Supporting carers of seniors