

# GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

## CONTACT THE LEARNING AND TEACHING CENTRE

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THE NATIONALLY ACCREDITED QUALIFICATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION TEACHING

## ABOUT THE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

The Graduate Certificate in Higher Education (GCHE) promotes the scholarship of learning and teaching in higher education through evidence-based practice. It formally qualifies staff members to teach in higher education settings.

The GCHE provides academic and professional staff from all universities with the opportunity to reflect on contemporary educational theory and their own professional practice. Emphasis is placed on engagement in a collegial learning environment that focuses on enhancing learning outcomes within the context of ACU's Mission.

The GCHE meets the Australian Qualifications Framework guidelines for a graduate certificate. This course is studied in a part-time capacity. ACU is committed to the professional development of its staff and as such the University will waive the enrolment fees of eligible staff members.

## ELIGIBILITY

The GCHE is open to degree-qualified academic and professional staff members who are directly involved in teaching or who hold a professional role in an area of learning support at ACU. Ongoing sessional staff members are also eligible with approval from their Head of School. External applications are welcome.

## BENEFITS

- Graduates of the GCHE are formally qualified to teach in higher education settings.
- Participants are required to develop an online learning and teaching portfolio, as well as a Professional Development Plan (PDP). The portfolio and PDP will assist in meeting probationary requirements and may benefit applications for promotion and teaching awards.
- GCHE units and their modules build upon other professional learning opportunities offered by the ACU's Learning and Teaching Centre.
- Graduates foster an understanding and appreciation of higher education in the Catholic tradition.
- The course assists in nurturing values consistent with ACU's Mission, such as a spirit of engagement with the community and a commitment to good citizenship.
- The course offers opportunities for networking and collaboration with colleagues nationally.
- Participants will have an opportunity to conduct research into an element of professional practice, thereby contributing to the enhancement of the scholarship of learning and teaching at ACU.

## UNITS OF STUDY

The GCHE consists of five units of study which address key aspects of ACU's Learning and Teaching Plan. Participants are required to successfully complete three compulsory units and one elective unit.

Compulsory units:

- UNHE500** Learning and Teaching in Higher Education
- UNHE501** Curriculum, Assessment and Evaluation
- UNHE502** Contexts and Issues in Higher Education

Elective units:

- UNHE503** Research-based Learning and Teaching
- UNHE504** Higher Degree Research Supervision

The elective aspects within select units allow participants to focus on issues relevant to their discipline and career development plans. Please visit [www.acu.edu.au/330478](http://www.acu.edu.au/330478) for more information about each unit of study.

## MODE OF OFFERING

The GCHE is a part-time course taught by staff from the Learning and Teaching Centre. The course will predominately be delivered online in order to provide participants with optimal flexibility and the ability to integrate study and work commitments. A face-to-face introduction will be delivered at the beginning of the course. Face-to-face sessions may also be involved in particular units.

The GCHE commences at the beginning of Semesters 1 and 2 with UNHE500, and is typically completed over four semesters.

## FEES

The GCHE is offered free of charge to eligible ACU staff upon approval from their supervisors, typically the Head of School and the Executive Dean of the Faculty, providing that they are employed at ACU in the semester in which they are studying a GCHE unit. The purchase of textbooks is the responsibility of the participant.

## HOW TO ENROL

To secure your place in the next intake, please visit [www.acu.edu.au/330478](http://www.acu.edu.au/330478) and submit an application for admission. You will also need to complete an HE form that is signed by your supervisor. Staff currently enrolled in other award courses need to check with the Course Coordinator regarding policies related to dual enrolment.

Enquiries about the GCHE may be directed to the Course Coordinator, Dr Tina Bavaro on (02) 9739 2969 or via email [Tina.Bavaro@acu.edu.au](mailto:Tina.Bavaro@acu.edu.au).

To find out more about the range of professional development courses offered by the Learning and Teaching Centre, please visit [www.acu.edu.au/138706](http://www.acu.edu.au/138706)