Alphacrucis University College

# COURSE HANDBOOK

## Graduate Diploma in Leadership
*Graduate Leadership Program*

# COURSE HANDBOOK

**Alphacrucis University College**

## GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN LEADERSHIP

## Table of Contents

## Overview

| INFLUENTIAL, VISIONARY, PIONEER | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Graduate Diploma in Leadership (GDL)** | Program Director | Stephen Fogarty |
| | AQF Level | AQF Level 8 (Postgraduate) |
| | Qualification | Graduate Diploma |
| | Subjects | 8 |
| | Languages of Instruction | English, Spanish |
| | CRICOS Code | 0102073 |
| | ASCED Code | 080301 |
| | Accreditation | Self-accreditation *(Last accredited: Dec 2025)* |
| | Course Length | 1 year full-time; Up to 6 years part-time |
| | Entry Requirements | *https://www.ac.edu.au/awards/graduate-diploma-in-leadership/* |

**COURSE**                                                                                      **OVERVIEW**

The Graduate Diploma in Leadership is a nested award in the Master of Leadership, designed to equip professionals with a specialised understanding of leadership, integrating leadership theories with spiritual principles and pragmatic application. The award parallels the accepted criteria articulation into professional university awards (such as MBA), specifically providing a pathway to the Master of Leadership program. It can be a destination course or exit point, thus allowing flexibility for students who may wish to start with a shorter postgraduate course before committing to a Master of Leadership or for students who need to exit the Master of Leadership.

The Graduate Diploma in Leadership provides a broad understanding of leadership principles as well as critical, evidence based and innovative thinking skills which are valuable to any professional context. It includes an overview of intercultural communication, as well as governance, law and ethics, as a foundation for good leadership practice. Integrating leadership theory and skills with spiritual principles, this award provides the opportunity for students to explore the implication of their faith in their professional context.

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## GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN LEADERSHIP

## Course Structure

*Note: Contact the Quality & Standards Team for access to previous course version.*

**This course structure applies to students enrolled from Semester 1, 2026 onwards.**

The course structure is based on two semesters (each of 13 weeks duration), with four subjects taught in each semester. It comprises:

- 40 cp core subjects
- 40 cp electives

To qualify for award of the degree of Graduate Diploma of Leadership a candidate shall accrue an aggregate of at least 80 credit points, including satisfactory completion of the core subjects noted below.

Note: Graduate Diploma in Leadership is an early exit pathway for the Master of Leadership

| Content of the course of study | | Credit points |
|---|---|---|
| **Core subjects** | LEA401 Authentic Leadership<br>LEA535 Organisational Leadership<br>LEA403 Raising Christian Leaders<br>ACA401 Faith and Purpose **or** a Theology (THE) subject (400, 500, or 600 level) | 4 x 10 |
| **Elective subjects** | 40 credit points from accredited Level 8 and 9 (400, 500, or 600 level) subjects offered by AC. Students can undertake a capstone subject at Program Director's approval. | 4 x 10 |
| **Pre-requisites for specific subjects** | Pre-requisites are noted on the subject outline. Students must have completed the pre-requisite to enrol in the subject. | |
| **Other protocols** | 10 credit points per subject with 1 point being 10 hours of study per week. Total hours per subject is 130 hours. | |

## Indicative Course Progression: Study Load 1.0

Based on a part-time study mode

| CORE | ELECTIVES |
|------|-----------|

| Year 1 | |
|--------|---|
| **Semester 1** | **Semester 2** |
| LEA401 Authentic Leadership | LEA535 Organisational Leadership |
| **Year 2** | |
| **Semester 1** | **Semester 2** |
| LEA403 Raising Christian Leaders | ACA401 Faith and Purpose **or** a Theology (THE) subject (400, 500, or 600 level) |
| **Year 3** | |
| **Semester 1** | **Semester 2** |
| Elective (400, 500, or 600 level) | Elective (400, 500, or 600 level) |
| **Year 4** | |
| **Semester 1** | **Semester 2** |
| Elective (400, 500, or 600 level) | Elective (400, 500, or 600 level) |

## Indicative Course Progression: Study Load 2.0

Based on a part time study mode

| CORE | ELECTIVES |
|------|-----------|

| Year 1 | |
|--------|--|
| **Semester 1** | **Semester 2** |
| LEA401 Authentic Leadership | LEA535 Organisational Leadership |
| LEA403 Raising Christian Leaders | ACA401 Faith and Purpose **or** a Theology (THE) subject (400, 500, or 600 level) |
| **Year 2** | |
| **Semester 1** | **Semester 2** |
| Elective (400, 500, or 600 level) | Elective (400, 500, or 600 level) |
| Elective (400, 500, or 600 level) | Elective (400, 500, or 600 level) |

## Indicative Course Progression: Study Load 3.0

Based on a full-time study mode

| CORE | ELECTIVES |
|------|-----------|

| YEAR 1 | |
|--------|--------|
| **Semester 1** | **Semester 2** |
| LEA401 Authentic Leadership | LEA535 Organisational Leadership |
| LEA403 Raising Christian Leaders | ACA401 Faith and Purpose **or** a Theology (THE) subject (400, 500, or 600 level) |
| Elective (400, 500, or 600 level) | Elective (400, 500, or 600 level) |
| Elective (400, 500, or 600 level) | Elective (400, 500, or 600 level) |

## Course Learning Outcomes

| |
|---|
| Graduates will be able to demonstrate: |
| • advanced and integrated understanding of key issues, theoretical concepts and practices within leadership; |
| • knowledge of recent developments and scholarship in leadership within the Christian worldview framework; |
| • understanding of general leadership principles and methods, and knowledge of specific approaches used in the leadership. |
| Graduates will be able to demonstrate ability to: |
| • articulate and apply the knowledge and skills developed within leadership to develop appropriate solutions to emerging business challenges; |
| • critically evaluate and apply broad conceptual frameworks in leadership; |
| • work independently, responsibly and with the level of professionalism expected of an informed practioner in leadership. |
| • apply the knowledge and skills developed to develop appropriate evidence-based solutions to new situations; |
| • work independently, responsibly and with the level of professionalism expected of a practiced professional with an advanced level of expertise in leadership; |
| • design and implement a major research project in the selected specialisation. |

## Work Integrated Learning

Work Integrated Learning may be undertaken through various Professional Practice and Professional Experience subjects at AC. These subjects seek to create a direct linkage between the learning, skills and values engaged in lectures, and the reflection which occurs when these are applied in real-life settings. These work-based training subjects comprise of instruction, academic assessment and a placement in a workplace for each subject. To qualify for the award of the Master of Leadership, a candidate is not required to complete any Professional Practice subjects.

*For further information related to Work-Integrated Learning please see the Professional Practice Handbook on Moodle or contact our* [Student Support](#) *team*.

## Other Course Information

For other course information, such as information on Professional Accreditation and available intakes, visit the course web page:

https://www.ac.edu.au/awards/graduate-diploma-in-leadership/

# COURSE HANDBOOK

## Useful Links

### AC WEBSITE



https://www.ac.edu.au/

### HOW TO ENROL



Please see the **Timetable** for available subjects and contact **Student Support Team** for tailored academic advice before completing the enrolment form.

### AC POLICIES



**https://ww1.ac.edu.au/ppm/**

### LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



Enrolled students will have access to AC's **LMS**

### FEES



https://www.ac.edu.au/fees-financing/

### STUDENT FORMS



https://www.ac.edu.au/forms/

### GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES



https://ww1.ac.edu.au/ppm/graduate-attributes-policy/

## Student Support

The Student Support team are available if you need assistance. Email the team via: studentsupport@ac.edu.au or book a phone or video call via: Bookings

Phone: (02) 8893 9005

https://www.ac.edu.au/student-services/

For disability support please contact dso@ac.edu.au

# COURSE HANDBOOK

**Appendix 1**

# COURSE PROGRESSION TRACKING TEMPLATE

## Graduate Diploma in Leadership (GDL)

| Student: | |
|---|---|
| **Student ID number:** | |
| **Year of commencement:** | |

Graduate Diploma in Leadership requirements:

- 80 cp = 40 cp core subjects + 40 cp electives

| 4 Core subjects<br>Subject Code & Name | Subject<br>Credit Points | Comments |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

| 4 Elective subjects<br>Subject Code & Name | Subject<br>Credit Points | Comments |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |