

# Master of Spirituality

“Whitley is a great place to learn highly practical content in small and friendly groups, in a welcoming environment. The range of topics and help from everyone keeps me coming back - it makes learning fun.”

- Adam, student



UNIVERSITY  
OF DIVINITY

# Why Whitley?

- **Inclusive** - Whitley is an inclusive environment. We respect a range of opinions. We welcome people of different ages, demographics, cultures, nationalities and Christian denominations, cherishing the breadth of experiences and perspectives this brings.
- **Biblical** - At Whitley College we are shaped by God's Word. Our values come from the Bible and our practices are informed by the Baptist Church of Australia.

- **Individual** - Studying theology at Whitley is not one-size-fits-all. Whatever stage you're at in life we have individual learning programs to suit. Choose your level of commitment and enrich your life and the lives of those around you.
- **Flexible** - At Whitley College, you're sure to find an option that best suits your life. Go online or onsite, be part-time or full-time.

“The lecturers and tutors at Whitley College have a deep sense of care for you and your walk with Jesus. They provide a safe space where you can bring your questions, doubts and hopes as you wrestle with and build on your faith.”

- Charlene, student



## Master of Spirituality

The Master of Spirituality equips students with advanced knowledge and experience of spiritual practices, and the traditions that underpin them. Students may choose from the Spirituality Program and the Spiritual Companioning Program, offered in partnership with the WellSpring Centre.

### Why study the Master of Spirituality?

This Masters award will give you:

- ✓ **A deep understanding** of the foundations of spirituality, spiritual practice and spiritual growth in the Christian tradition, and of the relation of these to broader theological studies
- ✓ **A mastery of skills** to reflect critically on personal spiritual experience in the light of key themes, traditions and approaches in spirituality
- ✓ **Communication and technical research skills** to justify and interpret theoretical concepts
- ✓ **A knowledge** of themes, traditions and approaches in spirituality, and the ability to apply them with creativity and initiative to professional practice and further learning
- ✓ **An opportunity** to apply relevant theological and hermeneutical skills through a substantial research-based project, capstone experience or piece of scholarship

### Who is the Master of Spirituality for?

Have you ever wanted to go deeper into the spiritual life, learning to discern the work of the Spirit in your everyday experiences and discover new ways of responding? The Master of Spirituality is intended to foster a contemplative awareness of the presence of the Divine and encourage people to explore what this means for them in all of life.

This course is for you if:

- You are drawn to contemplative spirituality and its practices
- You want to deepen your understanding of the processes of spiritual formation
- You desire to walk with others as they develop their own spirituality

### Vocational opportunities

Depending on the pathway you take during your study, you will be prepared to evaluate and implement models of spiritual practice. You will be able to creatively apply the principles of contemplative practice to discernment processes in life decisions, for yourself and others.

This can lead to vocations such as:

- Church-based pastoral ministries
- Chaplaincy
- Spiritual direction (through Wellspring Centre)

### Study Pathways



- **Capstone** Spirituality Program & Spiritual Companioning Program
- **Research**

#### Spirituality Program

Offered in partnership with the WellSpring Centre, the Spirituality Program equips students with advanced knowledge and experience of spiritual practices and the traditions that underpin them.

#### Spiritual Companioning Program

The Spiritual Companioning program prepares students through Wellsprings Spiritual Direction pathway to develop the core skills of Spiritual Direction along side advanced knowledge in Spirituality and its associated history and traditions.

### Commitment



- **Full time - 2 years** OR
- **Part-time - 6 years.**

Choose a commitment that best serves you!

Baptists after 1660

- Persecution but growth followed
- Act of Toleration

John Bunyan

- Author of Pilgrim's Progress, first printed 1678, London.
- Christian allegory – theological fiction
- Faith is a journey, life has a trajectory and purposeful movement through difficulties/suffering
- In the revolutionary Army during the Civil War
- Joined the "Beford Meeting" – later became the pastor
- 12 years in jail – arrested for preaching
- Open Communion: should those who had been baptised as infants receive communion?
- William Kiffin – No
- John Bunyan – Yes
- Concerned about making ordinances "an idol"
- Baptised his own children in infancy
- Believed baptism was not a matter that should not divide "true Christians"

At the end of the 1600s

- General Baptists 120 churches

## Course Structure

The Master of Spirituality offers two study pathways including the Spirituality and Spiritual Companionship Program, each comprising 12 units.

Both programs are delivered in partnership with WellSpring. Students are required to complete the specified core units and electives from the lists provided.

### Spirituality Program

#### Core Units

1. Art of Contemplative Practice 1
2. Patterns in the Practice of Spirituality
3. Living the Faith
4. Art of Contemplative Practice 2

#### Foundation Unit

1 unit from a set list

#### Spirituality Electives

Select any 4 electives from a set list

#### Post Graduate Electives

Select any 2 electives from a set list

#### Capstone Spirituality Unit

Or minor thesis

### Spiritual Companionship Program

#### Core Units

1. Art of Contemplative Practice 1
2. Patterns in the Practice of Spirituality
3. Art of Spiritual Companionship 1\*\*
4. Art of Spiritual Companionship 2\*\*
5. Art of Spiritual Companionship 3\*\*

#### Spirituality Electives

Select any 2 electives from a set list

#### Post Graduate Electives

1 unit from a set list

#### Capstone Spirituality Unit

Or minor thesis

\* Students wishing to undertake higher degree by research will need to utilise these units for the minor thesis

\*\* Double unit undertaken over a full year

**“My experience at Whitley has been amazing. Beyond my expectations. I think the college is distinctive because of the diversity, the unity and the relationships that are formed. It seems like every background from all over the world has come and met at Whitley – it feels like I'm part of a big warm family.” - Amos, student**

## Electives<sup>+</sup>

### Available for both pathways

- Spirituality Transforming Life
- Spirituality of Everyday life
- Spiritual Formation: Shaping the Teachers and Leaders of Tomorrow
- Action and Contemplation: The Art of Christian Engagement
- Engaging Groups in Creative Contemplation
- Mapping the Soul with the Enneagram

### Spirituality Program Pathway (only)

- Indigenous Spirituality and Christian Discipleship

### Spiritual Companionship Program (only)

- Art of Contemplative Practice 2

<sup>+</sup>Availability may vary each semester

## Next steps

1

Visit our website  
for more  
information

2

Fill out the  
enquiry form

3

We'll reach out  
and answer  
your questions

4

Fill out the  
paperwork and  
you'll be ready  
to go!

## Ready to find out more?

Scan the QR code or visit [whitley.edu.au/studyMOS](http://whitley.edu.au/studyMOS)

For a detailed course structure, complete list of foundational subjects and electives, admission requirements, fee structure, timetable and detailed learning outcomes.

### Keen to chat?

Contact Vanessa, **P** 0478 020 021 or **E** [contact@whitley.edu.au](mailto:contact@whitley.edu.au)

QR



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