Core Curriculum – Broome Campus

NOTRE DAME BROOME CAMPUS

Notre Dame Broome is a unique place to study and learn. The small and friendly campus means students benefit from personal attention, a caring learning environment and dedicated staff. Admission to Notre Dame is a comprehensive admissions process that takes into account all the characteristics, knowledge and skills of a prospective student.

The township of Broome is well-known for its ideal climate, breathtaking natural beauty, historic sights and plenty of outdoor adventure. Experiencing university life in Broome is an ideal chance to study in an environment that tourists from around Australia and all over the world spend thousands of dollars to enjoy.

A key objective of the Broome Campus is to provide support for the process of reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians. The Campus provides a supportive environment for its Aboriginal students and offers an opportunity for non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal people to live together and to learn about Aboriginal history, spirituality, health and culture.

THEOLOGY, ABORIGINAL PEOPLE & THE SPIRITUALITY OF RECONCILIATION

The Object of the University –

a) The provision of university education within a context of catholic faith and values; and

b) The provision of an excellent standard of:-

i. teaching, scholarship and research;

ii. training for the professions; and

iii. pastoral care for its students

As a foundation to studies, all undergraduates are required to complete three core liberal arts units – Theology, Aboriginal People and The Spirituality of Reconciliation. The core curriculum aims to aid students in their search for identity while valuing the cultural context of Broome and the rich Catholic tradition of the University.

The unique character of the University of Notre Dame is reflected in the commitment to theology as part of the Core Curriculum. Students are challenged to consider the theological and spiritual foundations of the Christian faith in dialogue with the history, world view and political context of our time and particularly with the Aboriginal people of Australia.

At Notre Dame we emphasize the value of the human person and the importance of developing and maintaining an atmosphere of reconciliation. All students also complete units in Aboriginal studies and The Spirituality of Reconciliation, units which deal with issues that go to the very heart of participation in Australian society.

TH101 INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGY

This unit seeks to introduce students to the rich inheritance of the Catholic theological tradition. The major biblical and systematic themes of Catholic theological reflection are introduced, including focus on the mystery of faith in God, Christian spirituality and community and social justice. Students will acquire the critical academic skills necessary for the subsequent pursuit of theological study.

TH112 SPIRITUALITY AND THE CHALLENGES OF RECONCILIATION

This unit is based on the principles of Catholic social teaching and focuses on the need to develop a spirituality which will enable people of different cultures and histories to live in harmony. The unit proposes that the spirituality for the third millennium is a spirituality of reconciliation. The opportunity to study the meaning of reconciliation theologically; to look at situations nationally and globally where reconciliation is needed; and to reflect on the skills and strategies used by churches, organisations and individuals to bring about reconciliation in various conflict situations around the world will be provided in this unit. Special emphasis will be placed on the Australian scene.

AB100 ABORIGINAL PEOPLE

Aboriginal People aims to promote, from a largely historical perspective, an understanding of the relationships of Aboriginal people with other members of the Western Australian community. It therefore focuses on patterns of positive interaction, conflict and alienation between settler and Aboriginal communities. The unit provides the opportunity to explore Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal perspectives on government policies from 1827 to the present; focusing on issues of Aboriginality, power and control will also link a number of contemporary West Australian issues to this history, The reading, writing and wider observations developed within this unit is consistently directed towards a critical understanding of the interaction between Aboriginal and mainstream Australian values and activities in historical and contemporary contexts.