

Youth With A Mission
Discipleship Training School
(Certificate III in Discipleship 11290NAT)

Course Handbook

This handbook/information is to be provided to students prior to confirmed enrolment and again referred to during the orientation of the course. This may be electronically or in hard copy.

The Certificate III in Discipleship 11290NAT is the YWAM DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING SCHOOL (DTS). The DTS is a prerequisite for all other YWAM courses, and is a requirement for joining staff anywhere in YWAM.

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The Discipleship Training School (DTS) is an intensive Christian training course encompassing 12-13 weeks of teaching and training with 10 weeks practical field assignment, and an additional 2 weeks to prepare for returning home. The DTS is designed to encourage students in personal character development, cultivating a living relationship with God and identifying their unique individual gifts and callings in God. Cross-cultural exposure and global awareness are of special emphasis throughout the course, preparing the students to reach current and future generations and answer the call to "*Go into all the world and disciple all nations*" Matthew 28:19.

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING SCHOOL FIELD ASSIGNMENT

As a second phase of the DTS, specially organized teams are sent out for 10 weeks of evangelism and ministry in cross-cultural situations. The emphasis is on the application of principles taught in the DTS lecture phase coupled with teaching on evangelism concepts and practices equipping students to share their faith using a variety of means. Special assignments are given during this course.

THE PURPOSE OF THE DTS IS

1. **To GATHER and CHALLENGE** people to worship, listen to and obey God, releasing them (in the context of the DTS) to serve through evangelism, intercession, acts of compassion and other expressions of God's heart for the world, possibly even pioneering new ministries.
2. **To INSPIRE and CULTIVATE** growth in one's relationship with God resulting in Christ like character, which is based on a solid Biblical foundation, the work of the Holy Spirit and the personal application of Biblical truth, especially concerning God's Character, the Cross and empowering Grace.
3. **To SHARPEN** one's ability to relate to, learn from and work with people, including those of different cultures, personalities and perspectives.
4. **To further EQUIP** each one to serve God's purposes either in or outside of YWAM Family of Ministries, strengthening a commitment to reach the lost, especially the unreached, to care for the poor, and to influence all areas of society.
5. **To IMPART** the vision and foundational values of Youth With A Mission International as well as that of the host operating location and to provide information regarding a variety of opportunities for service.

THE DTS AIMS TO GRADUATE STUDENTS

- with a growing understanding of the breadth and depth of God's character and ways
- who are becoming more like Jesus in the way they relate to God and people
- who increasingly cooperate with the empowering presence of the indwelling Holy Spirit

- who listen to and obey God as the result of God’s enabling Grace
- who search the Scripture in such a way that transforms beliefs, values and behaviours
- with strengthened lifestyles of worship, intercession and spiritual warfare
- with a greater ability to work with others, especially those different to themselves
- who can share the Gospel with the lost and have a life long commitment to do so
- with a commitment to continue to be involved in some way with God’s work among the nations, including unreached people, the poor and needy and in spheres of society
- who understand the calling and values of YWAM and are aware of a variety of opportunities available to them throughout YWAM
- with a clearer understanding of God’s purposes for their life and a sense of their life direction
- who either:
 1. go on to serve God in either a context familiar or foreign to them
 2. pursue further training (in or outside of YWAM) to equip them for further service.

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING SCHOOL - COURSE OUTCOMES

Develop relationship with God

- Prioritise seeking God
- Respond to God through a range of methods
- Adjust beliefs and behaviour in response to God

Develop Christian character

- Prioritise holy living
- Recognise Jesus as Lord
- Practice the Fear of the Lord
- Practice dependence on God

Contribute to a Youth With A Mission community

- Orientate to Youth With A Mission
- Relate well with others
- Participate in community
- Relate well to authority

Practice spiritual authority

- Develop personal spiritual authority
- Participate in intercession
- Participate in worship
- Participate in strategic prayer

Contribute to evangelism

- Communicate truth
- Demonstrate compassion

Participate in a Christian missions outreach team

- Prepare for team activities
- Contribute to team activities
- Adjust to another culture
- Review outreach

DELIVERY OF TRAINING

The DTS will be delivered in a variety of ways to suit a variety of learning styles. There will be classroom lectures, guided group discussions, Bible studies and research projects, video, workshops and field training (which incorporates local and overseas ministry and outreach).

Besides lectures throughout the week, there will also be intercession and prayer, worship, devotions, small group discussion groups, individual mentoring times, general housekeeping responsibilities, personal studies and possibly some local outreach in the community. There will be some free time off every week. Weekends are normally free except for some minor duties and possible local ministry. All scheduled activities are a part of the DTS training so all participants are expected to be a part of all activities.

WHO ARE THE TEACHERS?

Resident staff, local pastors, missionaries and ministers and visiting lecturers from different parts of the world, will provide teaching. Training videos and podcasts of reputable, international speakers are used as well. All our visiting lecturers are experienced in their field of ministry.

WHAT HAPPENS ON OUTREACH?

The outreach phase will be 10 weeks in total and will involve teams working in an overseas location, as well as sometimes within Australia. It provides a practical follow-through of the teachings given during the training phase, and it is an opportunity for students to experience first-hand God working through them and giving them a glimpse of missions. Not everyone is called to be an evangelist, but we are all called to do the work of an evangelist, which essentially means sharing our faith with someone else. Some examples of outreach activities include: drama, music, church work, work with children or the elderly, Bible distribution, open air and friendship evangelism, house/prayer/hospital visitation, youth work, camps, English teaching, practical helps, etc.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Assessment takes place throughout the duration of the course. The Course staff will evaluate your growth in the various outcomes of the course. Assessment methods and assignments may include the following. You may contact the YWAM Base for specifics for your Course.

- Question and answer Worksheets
- Reflective Journals
- Evaluations
- Book reports
- Guided group discussions

Further details of actual assignments will be given during orientation. Study and homework will take around 4-5 hours per week, depending on the individual's learning characteristics and which assignments are due that week.

RECOGNITION AND ACCREDITATION

At the successful completion of the course students will obtain a Certificate III in Discipleship which is a recognized qualification within Australia with YWAM Training (Registered Training Organization #0449). YWAM's International training body, the University of the Nations (UofN), recognizes this course as a Discipleship Training School, which is a prerequisite to all other training courses within the UofN. You may be awarded up to 24 credits towards a degree with the University of the Nations. Graduates may then go

on to any other course within YWAM Training or the UofN or may apply for a staff position with YWAM worldwide.

The DTS is run in several locations around Australia and around the world. The accredited Certificate III in Discipleship (11290NAT) is a course offered by YWAM Training and delivered through in most Youth With Mission centres across Australia. These courses are seen with mutual recognition, meaning if you take the course in one location, it is also recognized in another YWAM base as the same course.

RESOURCES

Resources you will be required to bring yourself include a notebook and a Bible for study and assignments. You will need a computer for your assignments (a laptop is easier than a tablet for homework). We will provide you with the necessary books for book reports, access to the internet and other reference books. Classrooms, study rooms and equipment will vary depending on the week and topic of teaching. For example, there may be use of classrooms, study rooms, data projectors, white boards, teaching tools provided by the resources trainers, etc. Please speak with the Registrar for any other specific things you must bring for the course or for your living arrangements.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

It is expected that students will uphold the requirements of the course, including the following expectations. If any issues arise we would prefer to address them casually and relationally. Under some circumstances, for international students, it is a requirement that we notify the department of Immigration if any behaviour goes uncorrected. Students will:

- finish with at least 11 weeks of lectures and 8 weeks of outreach in order to graduate
- meet academic course requirements (including all assignments)
- maintain Godly conduct in character and behaviour (see the YWAM Base Code of Conduct)
- meet attendance requirements- The DTS is a full-time, live in course. A one week schedule is made up of up to 50 hours of activities. Full attendance is required for the completion of this course. This includes all scheduled activities during the training phase, as well as local and overseas outreach.
- Meet participation requirements- We expect that each student will participate in all activities, not just with their presence but by contributing to the learning experience. This includes being a part of group discussions, completing assignments, discussing what God is doing in their life with their staff, etc. This is to take full advantage of the training and the learning environment.