



Accredited Africa Training Institute for Capacity Development

Unit FO409, Hatfield Plaza · 1122 Burnett St, Hatfield 0028 · Pretoria, Gauteng · South Africa

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COURSE BROCHURE

Understanding The Cross As A Christian Symbol Training

Human and Social Studies / Religious and Ethical Foundations of Society

Unit Standard 115993 · NQF Level 6 · 12 Credits · 9 Days

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course provides a comprehensive exploration of the cross as a central Christian symbol, examining its historical origins, theological significance, and cultural impact. Participants will gain a deep understanding of how the cross represents key Christian doctrines such as redemption, sacrifice, and hope, and will be able to articulate its meaning in both personal and communal contexts.

Category	Human and Social Studies
Subfield	Religious and Ethical Foundations of Society
Unit Standard	115993
Accreditation	SAQA Accredited · NQF Level 6 · 12 Credits
Duration	9 days
Training Method	Online, On-Campus, In-House
Certificate	Issued via AATICD LMS – verifiable online

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Explain the historical development of the cross as a Christian symbol from early Christianity to the present.
- Analyze the theological meanings associated with the cross, including atonement, salvation, and resurrection.
- Evaluate the cross's role in Christian liturgy, art, and popular culture.
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate the significance of the cross to diverse audiences.
- Apply understanding of the cross to contemporary Christian practices and personal spirituality.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- This training is designed for clergy, lay ministers, religious educators, and any individuals seeking to deepen their understanding of Christian symbolism for personal enrichment or professional development in ministry or education.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1: Introduction to the Cross as a Christian Symbol

- The cross in pre-Christian cultures
- The crucifixion of Jesus: biblical accounts
- Early Christian persecution and the use of the cross
- The Latin cross, Greek cross, and other variations
- The cross in catacombs and early church art

Day 2: Theological Foundations of the Cross

- Atonement theories: ransom, satisfaction, moral influence
- The cross and the forgiveness of sins
- The cross as a symbol of God's love (John 3:16)
- Christ's victory over evil (Colossians 2:15)
- Reconciliation: 2 Corinthians 5:18-19

Day 3: The Cross in Christian Worship and Liturgy

- The processional cross and altar cross
- Making the sign of the cross: traditions and theology
- The cross in baptism: dying and rising with Christ
- The cross in the Eucharist: memorial and presence
- Crosses in church design: cruciform floor plans

Day 4: The Cross in Christian Art and Iconography

- Early Christian symbols: anchor, fish, chi-rho
- The crucifix: historical and theological significance
- The empty cross: resurrection symbolism
- Renaissance and Baroque crucifixion paintings
- The cross in African and South African Christian art

Day 5: The Cross and Personal Spirituality

- Matthew 16:24: denial and cross-bearing
- The cross as a symbol of hope in trials
- Meditation on the stations of the cross
- Redemptive suffering: Colossians 1:24
- The cross as a model for self-sacrifice

Day 6: The Cross in Community and Social Ethics

- Servant leadership: Jesus washing feet
- The cross and forgiveness in community conflicts
- The cross in South Africa's reconciliation process
- Ecumenical significance of the cross
- The cross and care for the poor and marginalised

Day 7: Controversies and Misuses of the Cross

- The cross and the crusades: a contested history
- The cross in colonialism and apartheid
- Separation of church and state: cross in government buildings
- The cross as a fashion accessory: respect or trivialisation?

- KKK and other hate groups misappropriating the cross

Day 8: Comparative Perspectives: The Cross in World Religions and Cultures

- The cross and the Star of David: similarities and differences
- Jesus in Islam: crucifixion denied or reinterpreted?
- The cross in Hinduism and Buddhism: syncretism?
- The cross in literature and film
- Interfaith respect: avoiding offense while maintaining witness

Day 9: Integrating the Cross into Daily Life and Ministry

- Daily practices: prayer, journaling, service
- Teaching the cross to children and adults
- The cross as a model for conflict resolution
- Creating a cross-centered small group study
- Final reflection: living under the cross

ASSESSMENT & CERTIFICATION

Delegates are assessed through exercises and a final test. A mark of **50% or above** earns an **AATICD Certificate of Completion**, issued digitally with a unique verification code. This course carries **12 NQF credits** at **NQF Level 6**.

PRICING (PER DELEGATE, EX-VAT)

Delegates	Training Method	Price per Delegate	Total
1	Online	R 36,600.00	R 36,600.00
1	In-House	R 47,600.00	R 47,600.00
1	On-Campus (Pretoria)	R 55,000.00	R 55,000.00

UPCOMING SESSIONS

Start	End	Method	Venue
10 Aug 2026	20 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Cape Town, South Africa
11 Aug 2026	21 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Dubai, UAE
12 Aug 2026	24 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Pretoria, South Africa
13 Aug 2026	25 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Abu Dhabi, UAE
14 Aug 2026	26 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Durban, South Africa
14 Aug 2026	26 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Mauritius
17 Aug 2026	27 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Harare, Zimbabwe
17 Aug 2026	27 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Dubai, UAE

Contact us if no suitable date is listed – on-demand sessions can be arranged for groups.

HOW TO GET A QUOTE OR APPLY

1. **Get an instant quotation online:** visit www.aaticd.co.za, open the page for this course (Unit Standard 115993) and click **Get A Quote / Apply**. Select your training method and number of delegates – your quotation is generated immediately and emailed to you with the course brochure attached.
2. **Apply by email:** send the course title, your preferred training method (Online, In-House or On-Campus Pretoria), the number of delegates and your preferred dates to apply@aaticd.co.za – our team will reply with a formal quotation.
3. **Apply by phone or WhatsApp:** call +27 12 004 8389 or WhatsApp +27 65 077 6310 and we will prepare your quotation and reserve your seats.
4. **Confirm your booking:** accept the quotation and settle the invoice. As soon as payment is confirmed your delegates are enrolled and receive their AATICD LMS login details by email, along with joining instructions for their chosen training method.

Group discounts apply automatically – the more delegates you enrol, the lower the price per delegate. No payment is required to request a quotation.

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