



Information for Formation Mentors

Partnering with Morling College in the formation of students

Overview

Thank you for your interest in participating in this learning activity. Please read the following information so that you can decide whether you would like to take part. Please feel free to ask any questions you might have about your involvement.

This learning activity provides an opportunity for Bible and Theology (BAT) students to reflect on their learning through guided conversations with a Formation Mentor. The goal is to help students process their understanding of themselves, their world, and Christian ministry.

While this activity has been classified by the Australian University of Theology as an LREC – exempt activity, it has been reviewed by the AUT’s Director of Research and Morling’s Low Risk Ethics Committee (LREC).

Your Participation

- Completely voluntary – you can choose to participate or withdraw at any time.
- If you withdraw, any reflections related to your conversations will not be used.
- Your decision to participate will not affect your relationship with Morling College, the Australian University of Theology, or any of its affiliated colleges.

What’s Involved?

- Students meet with a trusted mentor three times during the semester.
- Discussions will be guided by three discussion questions provided by the lecturer.
- At the end of the study period, students submit a 500-word reflection on one key insight from these conversations, using this question:

The question will be: Choose one of the conversations that you had with your formation mentor about an issue to do with this unit of study and its implications for how you understand yourself, your world, or the nature of Christian Ministry. Write a 500-word reflection on that conversation and submit it through the portal on the Assessment page of Moodle.

Your commitment

- If you agree to be a Formation Mentor, you will:
 - Meet with the student three times (e.g., Weeks 4, 8, and 11 in a standard semester).
 - Meetings should aim to be around 1 hour in length.
 - Keep conversations confidential unless legally required to disclose information.
- If a student is enrolled in multiple units with this requirement, they still only need three meetings total.



Benefits & Considerations

- While there's no direct personal benefit, you'll be supporting a student's growth and formation for ministry.
- There are no expected risks because you will be only requested to give your opinion and knowledge of various topics, but if you or the student need support, Lifeline (13 11 14) is available.

Confidentiality, privacy and use of information

- Student reflections will be shared only with Morling lecturers and AUT Unit Moderators involved in marking/moderating assessments.
- Students are asked to keep brief notes on their meetings for accountability. These brief notes may be requested by a Morling staff member if required (for example to determine whether the submitted assessment was written by the student or generated by AI).
- Personal details (e.g., your contact information) will not be shared outside Morling College.

Need to Withdraw?

- Your participation is voluntary and you can withdraw at any time without explanation, penalty, or bias.
- If you withdraw, the student must exclude any references to your conversations from their final reflection.

Questions or Concerns?

Contact the Unit Coordinator of the unit your prospective student mentee is enrolled in or the AUT Ethics Committee (ethics@actheology.edu.au) for further assistance.