

Information for Speakers

Welcome!

We look forward to having you present at the *Theology and Culture Conference on Gendered Violence*.

Venue: Centre For Theology & Ministry, 29 College Cres, Parkville, Victoria, 3052.

<https://pilgrim.edu.au/contact-us/>. See map on page 3.

Before you Arrive

- **Registration:** Opens from 12:30pm Wed 11 Feb.
- **Collect your name tag** etc at the registration desk
- **Conference begins: 1:30pm** Wednesday with a *welcome to country* and introductions.

Your Presentation Guide

- **Individual Presentation Length:** 20 minutes (aim for 15–20 minutes).
- **Q&A:** Session chairs will keep time and facilitate discussion.
- **Meet your session chair:** Introduce yourself and share your pronouns.
- **Using slides:**
 - Bring your own device.
 - Apple users: bring your HDMI adapter.
- **Room details:** Provided at the conference including signage.
- **Arrive at least 5-10 minutes early** to set up your equipment etc.
- **We've built several breaks into the schedule**, so everyone has time to rest and recharge. The program is still full, so please don't feel pressure to attend everything. You're welcome to skip sessions or step out whenever you need to—sometimes slowing down is the healthiest choice. **Please review** the [conference schedule](#) before arriving. There are concurrent sessions with workshops and paper presentations. We usually don't require separate sign-ups, but some rooms have limited capacity, so we may have sign-up sheets at the registration desk. If you're unsure, ask us when you arrive.

Discussion Guidelines

Be intellectually curious and generous when asking questions or giving feedback. If there are aspects of a paper that you disagree with, please consider raising these concerns in a manner which opens conversation. As a general principle, we welcome debate, discussion and critique of theories and theological arguments, but we do not debate or critique people's identities and experiences. There is no room for racism, sexism, ablism, homophobia or trans exclusive comments in our discussions. All forms of hate speech are unacceptable.

- Keep dialogue respectful and focused on the presentation content.
- Ask questions that engage ideas rather than making personal disclosures.
- Use inclusive language; confirm pronouns if introducing speakers.
- Critique ideas, not identities.

Emotional & Spiritual Preparation

Presenting on material related to violence and trauma may be emotionally taxing. You are encouraged to:

- Limit detailed traumatic content to what is essential for understanding.
- Review this [short resource](#) on caring practices when discussing traumatic material (prepared by Timothy W. Jones, Kat Ellinghaus, Roland Burke & Claudia Haake for the Australian Historical Association).
- Ground yourself before your session (breathing, quiet reflection, prayer, a short walk).
- Plan time to decompress after speaking — talk with someone you trust, take a break, or sit quietly.
- Recognise your own triggers and step out if needed.
- Use the chapel, open from 1pm Wed and 9am Thurs/Fri, for quiet reflection.

If You Can't Attend

Please email contact@thewesleycentre.org asap.

Questions?

Feel free to approach Robyn, Rosie, Janina, or any organising committee member. We will be wearing Green Lanyards. Or email janina.tenace@thewesleycentre.org

We hope you have a wonderful and engaging conference. We are looking forward to seeing you soon.

Directions and map.

Venue: Pilgrim Theological College, [29 College Crescent, Parkville](#)

The venue is fully wheelchair accessible with bathrooms on the ground floor. There is also a cafe on site ([Sage and Grace](#)) open from 8.30am and serving great coffee, lunch, and snacks until about 3pm.

Getting there:

BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT:
The **no. 19 tram up Royal Parade** is the closest tram stop, connecting with the CBD's Flinders St and Melbourne Central train stations. **Get off at the Gatehouse St corner.**

You can also come up **Swanston St** on the east side of the University of Melbourne, getting off at the **University tram stop** and walking up through campus. **Trams that service that stop include 1, 3, 5, 6, 16, 67, 72.**

BY CAR:
Parking is available on nearby streets and is metered. As it is not the start of the semester street parking should be attainable but is not guaranteed.

