

# DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

## Purpose:

The purpose of the Doctor of Ministry degree is to develop the student's knowledge, theoretical clarity, and competence in the practice of ministry. The program is designed for persons who hold the M.Div. degree or its equivalent and who have significant experience in pastoral or cross-cultural ministry. The student will build on previous studies and ministry experiences to attain higher levels of competency.

This degree program is designed to advance students' knowledge of the foundations of and current developments in ministry, to deepen their understanding of their philosophy of ministry, to enhance their ability to function professionally, to increase their capacity to think and act purposefully in ministry, and to strengthen their spiritual and moral integrity. Demonstration of significant progress in these areas is an essential ingredient of the program. This is observed through a constant mentoring relationship with an assigned member of the Seminary faculty.

## Admission Requirements:

- A Master of Divinity (M.Div.) degree with a minimum B average. An applicant who does not hold the M.Div. degree, but who has completed another graduate theological degree and believes he or she has theological training equivalent to an M.Div., may submit evidence of work completed to the Director of Admissions for assessment.
- At least three years of active involvement in ministry subsequent to completion of M.Div. studies. Applicants to the Missions concentration are required to meet this requirement in active cross-cultural ministry unless their primary assignment is North American missions administration.
- A completed Doctor of Ministry application, including forms and instructions available through the Admissions Office.
- International students must demonstrate proficiency in the use of the English language.
- Any additional requirements set by the Seminary faculty or the Admissions Office.

## Program Summary:

Each student is assigned a faculty mentor who guides the student in designing a professional development program suited to his or her previous educational and ministry experience, interests and ministry goals. Program requirements include:

<b>MIN 9431 Spiritual Mentoring</b> .....	3 semester hours
<b>Individualized Program of Studies:</b> .....	18 semester hours
<b>Doctoral Research Seminar:</b> .....	3 semester hours
<b>Professional Research Project:</b> .....	6 semester hours
<b>Oral Review of the Research Project</b>	
<b>PROGRAM TOTAL:</b> .....	<b>30 semester hours</b>

## Academic Information:

The Individualized Program of Studies must be appropriate to the concentration and must be approved by the student's faculty mentor. Twenty-four hours of studies (including the dissertation-project) must be at the 9000-level. No more than six semester hours of transfer credit and no more than six semester hours of Independent Learning (IDL) credit may be applied toward degree requirements. Of the required 24 semester course hours, 12 must be resident hours. All degree requirements must be completed within six years of initial enrollment in the Doctor of Ministry program unless an extension is requested and granted.

## Candidacy:

Advancement to candidacy occurs when the student has successfully completed all degree requirements except the professional research project.

## Concentrations:

### Leadership

- ▶ The concentration in Leadership is designed to prepare individuals to lead effectively in church and para-church ministries. This concentration emphasizes character and competency development in alignment with one's calling.

### Missions

- ▶ The concentration in Missions addresses the professional development of persons in international or cross-cultural ministries.

### Preaching

- ▶ The concentration in Preaching is designed to develop those who preach regularly to a higher level of expertise in their ability to prepare and deliver sermons that are biblically and theologically astute while being relevant and practical.

### Member Care

- ▶ The concentration in Member Care addresses the professional development of persons who are providing ministerial and/or therapeutic care for missionaries. *Note: Students wishing to take this concentration will begin and end their course work in cohort groups which will function as a learning community. The cohorts will begin as enrollment and staffing permit. Please check with the Admissions Office as to when the next cohort will begin.*

### Military Chaplaincy

- ▶ The concentration in Military Chaplaincy is designed to assist chaplains in developing a higher level of expertise in their ministries to men and women in the armed forces. *Note: For those U.S. Army Chaplains who have successfully completed the Chaplain Basic Course and the Chaplain Advanced Course, up to 12 semester hours of that work will be accepted as transfer credit.*