

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY HANDBOOK



2023 - 2024



Postgraduate Program

2023-2024

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PURPOSE

The Doctor of Ministry program equips ministry leaders to grow in areas of biblical hermeneutics, counseling life-dominating problems, mentoring future leaders, and articulating the essential doctrines of the Christian faith.

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Following the completion of the degree program, students are expected to:

DMIN1: Analyze and address ministry leadership situations biblically.

DMIN2: Demonstrate competence in applying biblical research to specific methods of ministry.

DMIN3: Evaluate the dynamics of ministry contexts in a multicultural setting.

DMIN4: Produce a research project to address a specific ministry objective.

DMIN5: Develop a more focused biblical ministry in light of personal skills, calling, and experience.

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE PREREQUISITES

- A Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree or equivalent (60 grad/post-grad credits) from accredited institutions with a cumulative grade point average of B in grad work
- Five years minimum of experience in a vocational ministry
- A combined 25-page minimum writing sample from one or two grad-level papers on any ministry or theology issue.
- Three letters of recommendation from people in vocational ministry with personal experience of the candidate's ministry.

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE REQUIRED COURSES

Foundational Courses – (focus on personal ministry) 9 credits, choice of one elective.

- DM 700 CONSISTENT HERMENEUTICS IN MINISTRY

- DM 710 BIBLICAL ETHICS IN MINISTRY
- DM 720 FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS IN MINISTRY
- DM 7300 CRITICAL ISSUES AND PROBLEM SOLVING IN MINISTRY
- DM Other future electives proposed – Apologetics, Counseling, Missions, Theology

Ministry Courses – (focus on public ministry) 12 credits

- DM 800 RESEARCH AND WRITING FOR PUBLIC MINISTRY
- DM 810 EVANGELISTIC MINISTRY IN CONTEMPORARY CULTURE
- DM 8200 DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY THROUGH THE LOCAL CHURCH
- DM 830 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FOR MINISTRY

Research Project – (program capstone) 9 credits

- DM 740 DOCTORAL MINISTRY PROPOSAL DESIGN
- DM 840 DOCTORAL MINISTRY LITERATURE REVIEW
- DM 850 DOCTORAL MINISTRY PROJECT

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

- The student must maintain above a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale in all work, and also complete all required work for this program to be granted a program degree.
- Transferred credits from other comparable DMin or post-MDiv programs may be accepted after consideration of what courses for which they might substitute. But 15 credit hours must be taken from these listed program courses, including DM 740, DM 840, and DM 850.
- The program operates on a two-year schedule, and students should work to complete it within that timeframe. A maximum of 5 years is allowed, with only rare exceptions to be considered for extenuating circumstances.

- All fees must be paid before approval of graduation is granted. Fees are based on the scheduled tuition, per hour rate, listed in the current school catalog, plus an initial admission fee, and graduation fee.

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE CAPSTONE PROJECT AND DISSERTATION

- **Project Proposal:** The required course in this DMin degree program, DM 740: Doctoral Ministry Proposal Design, should be taken as soon as it is offered in the schedule of courses. Completion of this course requires the student have an approved project proposal and an assigned DMin faculty advisor for this project.
- **Project Initiation:** The student should endeavor to organize and initiate any steps designed for the approved ministry project contemporaneous with taking the other required program courses. As much as possible, working with the faculty advisor, each course assignments should be integrated into support for the ministry project chosen.
- **Literature Review:** The required course in this DMin degree program, DM 840: Doctoral Ministry Review, is taken the first full semester available, following all other completed course work, unless an administrative approval is given as an exception. This semester also will be used for completion of the approved ministry project.
- **Project Presentation and Evaluation:** The required course in this DMin degree program, DM 850: Doctoral Ministry Project, is taken the final full semester before graduation. It is primarily for completing any final steps in the ministry project, for producing a dissertation that presents the proof for a thesis supporting the reasoning and findings of the ministry project, and for facing a review of the dissertation and project findings by a chosen DMin review committee.

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DEGREE CAPSTONE PROJECT – COMMON MODELS

(adapted from “Common Models”, Phoenix Seminary, DMin Project and Thesis Guide, 2017-2018)¹

- **Case study of ongoing ministry situations.** The student selects congregations, ministries, leaders, etc., to study as cases to answer a descriptive research question. The dissertation will criticize the survey's findings and suggest ways to improve that ministry situation.

¹ p. 5, <http://ps.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/DMin-Project-and-Thesis-Guide-2016-17.pdf>, last accessed, 10/11/2022

- **Program development and evaluation.** The student develops a ministry program and evaluates its effectiveness. The program fits already the student's current ministry.
- **Descriptive surveys of a ministry situation.** The survey is designed to report current ministry conditions or strategies in quantifiable variables. The dissertation will criticize the survey's findings and suggest ways to improve the ministry situation are expected.
- **Theological research** challenging a contemporary belief or behavior related to the practice of ministry.