

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

ORU SEMINARY—A GLOBAL PLACE FOR WORLD-CLASS TRAINING IN MINISTRY, COUNSELING, AND LEADERSHIP

The Oral Roberts University Graduate School of Theology and Ministry (Seminary) provides sound academic, biblical, and theological education with a distinctive charismatic perspective. Its mission is to prepare men and women empowered by the Holy Spirit for effective leadership. Through an advanced comprehensive curriculum, graduates are equipped for ministry, counseling, and leadership within the context of the church, church-related agencies, and clinical and professional settings in the greater global community.

PROFESSORS WHO MENTOR

ORU has a distinguished charismatic theological faculty. In addition to holding earned doctorates from major universities and seminaries worldwide, they also come with rich and varied experiences, a heart for ministry and the desire to lead others to an intimate, personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Students' academic education will be enriched by their wealth of professional competence as they serve as mentors and models. In the classroom, professors provide biblical understanding, theological insight, ministry preparedness, and clinical expertise in an atmosphere of caring accountability. Professors also spend one-on-one time helping students identify their strengths and weaknesses, develop spiritually, and actualize their calling by discovering and developing their spiritual gifts for vocational ministry.

ACCREDITATION

- Oral Roberts University is accredited regionally by the Higher Learning Commission of North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
- In addition to the HLC accreditation, the ORU Graduate School of Theology and Ministry is also accredited by the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ATS)

MASTER OF DIVINITY

The Master of Divinity (M.Div.) is the basic degree for professional ministry, integrating biblical literature, theological/historical studies and the practices of ministry. To enable students to focus on their particular ministry needs and callings, a significant portion of the course requirements are electives to be selected by students in conjunction with a faculty advisor. The Master of Divinity is also the prerequisite degree for those planning to continue their studies and pursue a Doctor of Ministry degree. Students may complete an M.Div. either through residential or modular formats.

MASTER OF ARTS

Academic Programs

Academic Master of Arts degrees are designed to equip students to understand and appreciate biblical, historical, and theological content of the Christian faith within a charismatic context to assist students in interpreting and communicating that faith. Each four-semester program prepares students for teaching, writing or doctoral studies.

Academic programs include:

- Biblical Literature
- Biblical Literature with a concentration in Advanced Languages
- Biblical Literature with a concentration in Judaic-Christian Studies
- Theological/Historical Studies



Professional Programs

Professional Master of Arts degrees prepare students for specialized ministries within the local church, church-related agencies, or other clinical and professional settings. Each degree is a four-semester program.

Professional programs include:

- Christian Counseling (Licensed Professional Counselor Track)
- Christian Counseling (Licensed Marital and Family Therapy Track)
- Missions
- Practical Theology (available through a residential or modular format)
- Practical Theology with a concentration in Teaching Ministries (available through a residential or modular format)

MODULAR AND DISTANCE EDUCATION DELIVERY SYSTEM

The Graduate School of Theology and Ministry offers the following degrees in a distance learning format: Master of Divinity, Master of Arts Practical Theology, and Master of Arts Practical Theology with a Teaching Ministries Concentration. This format offers a combination of fully online courses and a blended course format which allows students to attend class on campus one week, while completing the rest of the course work online. It is a unique schedule, tailor-made for students seeking spiritual, academic, and professional training, while maintaining their current jobs and homes. By selecting modules that fit their schedules, students control how long it takes to complete their degrees. One half of each available degree may be completed at a distance via the Internet. Students may enroll in Internet and blended courses concurrently.

JOINT DEGREES

The Graduate School of Theology and Ministry offers an innovative program where two degrees may be taken simultaneously. By pursuing two distinct theological degrees, students reduce overall program time by up to a year. Those interested in seeking joint degree status are encouraged to speak with an academic advisor for more information on their particular combination.

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

The Doctor of Ministry program also offers a degree in a modular and distance learning format. The Doctor of Ministry, now celebrating its 30th year at ORU, is an in-ministry degree for those currently in professional ministry who have a minimum of three years post-master's ministry experience. Students attend modules on the Tulsa campus for one-week intensive sessions and are immediately able to incorporate what they've learned into their ministries. Tracks available include Church Ministries and Leadership, and Pastoral Care and Counseling.



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DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

CHURCH MINISTRIES AND LEADERSHIP

The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) is an advanced professional degree designed to continue the education of ministers so they may be spiritually renewed and increasingly effective in their world ministry contexts. The program helps students develop and refine their understanding of ministry in biblical, theological, historical, ethical, and practical areas. Classes are taught in a modular format so that students may maintain their existing ministry positions while pursuing the degree. Students remain in a cohort group for their core courses, and choose from one of two specializations: Pastoral Care and Counseling, or Church Ministries and Leadership.

During the first two years, students attend one-week modules in the fall, spring, and summer—a total of six weeks over a two-year period. Two courses are taken by distance format between sessions. Applied research projects are normally conducted in the third year, but may be extended up to two additional years.

This degree is designed to:

- Broaden students' understanding of charismatic theology
- Further develop ministerial identity and vision
- Strengthen leadership, administration, and pastoral counseling skills
- Teach on topics including pneumatology, healing, church health, and leadership

SPECIALIZATION IN CHURCH MINISTRIES AND LEADERSHIP (CML)

Students may choose to focus on the leadership of church and parachurch ministries. Students in this track are pastors, staff members, chaplains (military, hospital, penal, hospice and industrial), missionaries, denominational leaders, campus pastors, faculty and staff in Bible colleges. The D.Min. is an advanced professional degree designed to continue the education of ministers. This specialized track is designed to assist ministers to be spiritually renewed and increasingly effective in their ministries.

The purpose of the program is to help ministers grow in their understanding and interpretation of the church biblically, theologically, historically, culturally, and practically. Students are expected to further develop their skills at exegeting the changing world in which ministry takes place. Continued work is done in refining and articulating a theology and philosophy of ministry while in a setting of ministry.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

- Master of Divinity Degree or academic equivalent from a regionally accredited institution or a school accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) in the United States and Canada. Those with a Master's degree in a theological field but without a Master of Divinity may be able to take leveling courses in preparation for entering the Doctor of Ministry program.
- Master's work grade point average of 3.0 or higher
- Minimum of three years of full-time post-Master's ministry experience

Detailed information is available at [**gradtheology.oru.edu**](http://gradtheology.oru.edu)

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Doctor of Ministry degree requires 38.5 hours of course credit, including an applied research project and graduate health fitness requirements.

YEAR ONE—SEMINARS

Fall, Seminar I

1 Week on Campus - DMIN 711 Ministerial Identity & Personal Assessment - 3 Semester Hours

Distance - DMIN 785 Foundations of Ministry Research - 3 Semester Hours

Spring, Seminar II

1 Week on Campus - DMIN 716 Ministry & Dynamics of the Holy Spirit - 3 Semester Hours

Distance - DMIN 786 Methods of Ministry Research - 3 Semester Hours (CML Track)

DMIN 770 Research Methods in Pastoral Care & Counseling - 3 Semester Hours (PCC Track)

Summer, Seminar III

1 Week on Campus - DMIN 712 Biblical Issues & Themes for Ministry - 3 Semester Hours

DMIN 717 Theological Issues & Themes for Ministry - 3 Semester Hours

YEAR TWO—WORKSHOPS AND SPECIALIZATION

Fall, Workshop I

1 Week on Campus - DMIN 768 Pastoral Counseling in the 21st Century - 3 Semester Hours

DMIN 735 Communicating the Gospel - 3 Semester Hours (CML Track)

DMIN 752 Advanced Workshop for Marriage and Family Therapy - 3 Semester Hours (PCC Track)

Spring, Workshop II

1 Week on Campus - DMIN 761 Pastoral Care for Spiritual Development - 3 Semester Hours

DMIN 730 Missional Leadership Strategies for Today's Church - 3 Semester Hours (CML Track)

DMIN 753 Advanced Workshop for Addictive Behaviors - 3 Semester Hours (PCC Track)

Summer, Workshop III

1 Week on Campus - DMIN 733 Healing Ministries in the 21st Century - 3 Semester Hours

DMIN 732 Leading for Ministry Effectiveness - 3 Semester Hours (CML Track)

DMIN 738 Principles of Supervision in Pastoral Care and Counseling - 3 Semester Hours (PCC Track)

YEAR THREE (AND LONGER, IF NECESSARY)

Each student chooses an area of interest related to church ministry and leadership and completes an applied research project. Projects focus upon such facets of ministry as evangelism, church growth, preaching, Christian education, missions, the church and society, and healing.

Graduate Health Fitness courses are required for a total of 1.5 credit hours.

ACCREDITATION

- Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ATS)
- The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (NCA) of Colleges and Schools

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) is an advanced professional degree designed to continue the education of ministers so they may be spiritually renewed and increasingly effective in their world ministry contexts. The program helps students develop and refine their understanding of ministry in biblical, theological, historical, ethical, and practical areas. Classes are taught in a modular format so that students may maintain their existing ministry positions while pursuing the degree. Students remain in a cohort group for their core courses, and choose from one of two specializations: Pastoral Care and Counseling, or Church Ministries and Leadership.

During the first two years, students attend one-week modules in the fall, spring, and summer—a total of six weeks over a two-year period. Two courses are taken by distance format between sessions. Applied research projects are normally conducted in the third year, but may be extended up to two additional years.

This degree is designed to:

- Broaden students' understanding of charismatic theology
- Further develop ministerial identity and vision
- Strengthen leadership, administration, and pastoral counseling skills
- Teach on topics including pneumatology, healing, church health, and leadership

SPECIALIZATION IN PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING (PCC)

Students may choose to focus on Pastoral Care and Counseling. Students for this track are pastors, staff members in churches or parachurch organizations, missionaries, chaplains, and those serving in various counseling and therapy settings.

This Specialization is Designed to:

- Prepare students for successful ministry in a local church as a pastoral counselor or chaplain
- Enhance pastoral skills in local churches and ministries
- Strengthen academic requirements to gain membership in professional organizations
- Provide students with advanced counseling and care-giving skills
- Enable students to develop a whole-person orientation for the healing ministry
- Develop students' abilities to think and reflect theologically, and effectively evaluate ministry endeavors

There are many reasons for seeking this specialization track:

Professional Reasons

- To enhance qualifications for entry into the American Association of Pastoral Counselors (AAPC)
- To pursue certification as a Certified Pastoral Counselor
- To enhance qualification for entry into the Association of Professional Chaplains (APC)
- To reduce supervision requirements for LPC licensure
- To pursue a career in college or Bible college/institute teaching

Clinical Reasons

- Increased knowledge and professionalism
- Entry into a specialized field of counseling
- Possible employment opportunities in Pastoral Counseling centers
- Work in health care centers

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Summer, Seminar III

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YEAR TWO—WORKSHOPS AND SPECIALIZATION

Fall, Workshop I

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YEAR THREE (AND LONGER, IF NECESSARY)

Each student chooses an area of interest related to pastoral care and counseling and completes an applied research project. Projects focus upon such facets of counseling as establishing healing ministries, training lay counselors, ethical issues within a counseling ministry, care of the elderly and contemporary family dynamics, psychological issues for ministers and church leaders, and the use of scriptures in counseling.

Graduate Health Fitness courses are required for a total of 1.5 credit hours.

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