

## **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

## 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 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.

## 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