

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) degree at South University is a 96 quarter-hour program and is designed to prepare ministry practitioners for vocational or bi-vocational ministry. The program helps to develop a student's understanding of the nature and purpose of ministry, enhance the student's competencies in ministry skills, and promote the student's growth in spiritual maturity.

The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) degree program also offers an Advanced Track 40 quarter-hour program for students currently holding a Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent from an accepted, accredited institution.

The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) degree program at South University equips ministry practitioners to provide ministry leadership and spiritual care in the following roles:

- Pastors, ministry staff, and lay ministers in local churches/parishes
- Program staff leaders in parachurch organizations
- Chaplains and spiritual care coordinators in a variety of institutional settings
- Program staff leaders in non-profit service agencies, community development, advocacy and justice ministries
- Social entrepreneurs pursuing business as a mission, and commercial and industrial chaplaincy

The D.Min. program will prepare ministry professionals who, using leadership and collaboration, will:

- Articulate a biblically informed and theologically reasoned understanding of the helping relationship that is consistent with the student's faith tradition and the needs of the student's chosen ministry setting
- Explain the nature of the ministry setting and exhibit a commitment to its ethical and professional expectations
- Display knowledge of the nature and causes of interpersonal conflict and strategies to resolve disputes and achieve resolution and reconciliation among parties in ministry settings
- Formulate an awareness of the diversity found in ministry, and an ability to work effectively with differences of religious beliefs (or none), denominational differences, racial and ethnic differences, and gender differences
- Acquire the specific skills required for competent practice of ministry in a variety of settings

The Standard Track of the D.Min. program is designed for students seeking to prepare for vocational or bi-vocational ministry. Foundational courses provide an introduction and overview to the various disciplines required for effective ministry leadership. Ministry skills courses, advanced ministry studies courses, and the final project further integrate biblical and theological perspectives into the practice of ministry. Students will also gain lifelong learning skills that will enable them to continue their personal, intellectual and professional growth.



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See [suprograms.info](#) for program duration, tuition, fees and other costs, median debt, federal salary data, alumni success, accreditation and other important information.

Established in 1899, South University is a private academic institution dedicated to providing educational opportunities for the intellectual, social and professional development of a diverse student population. Programs, credential levels, technology and scheduling options vary by campus and are subject to change. Administrative office: South University, 709 Mall Boulevard, Savannah, GA 31406-4805 ©2014 South University.

South University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate, baccalaureate, masters, and doctorate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404.679.4500 for questions about the accreditation of South University.

South University, Richmond is certified by SCHEV to operate in Virginia. South University, Cleveland is licensed by the Ohio State Board of Career Colleges and Schools 30 East Broad Street, 24th Floor, Suite 2481, Columbus, OH 43215-3138, 614.466.2752. | South University, Virginia Beach is certified by SCHEV to operate in Virginia.

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

STANDARD TRACK 96 CREDITS

FOUNDATION

28 credits

___ MIN7010 Biblical Interpretation	4
___ MIN7011 Old Testament Context and Theology	4
___ MIN7012 New Testament Context and Theology	4
___ MIN7020 Theology Survey	4
___ MIN7040 World Religions	4
___ MIN7050 Christian Spiritual Formation	4
___ MIN7060 Diversity in Ministry	4

MINISTRY SKILLS

32 credits

___ MIN7000 Learning Skills for Ministry	4
___ MIN7051 Community and Discipleship	4
___ MIN7061 Leadership and Management in Ministry	4
___ MIN7062 Communication Skills for Ministry	4
___ MIN7063 Conflict Mediation and Reconciliation	4
___ MIN7080 Counseling Theory and Practice	4
<i>Choose 1 of the following sequences:</i>	
___ MIN7590 Ministry Practicum I	4
___ MIN7690 Ministry Practicum II	4
Or:	
___ MIN7591 Clinical Pastoral Education Level I A	4
___ MIN7691 Clinical Pastoral Education Level I B	4
Or:	
___ MIN7592 Clinical Pastoral Education Level II A	4
___ MIN7692 Clinical Pastoral Education Level II B	4

ADVANCED MINISTRY STUDY

24 credits

___ MIN7560 Person and Practice of Ministry	4
___ MIN7562 Homiletics	4
___ MIN7580 Ministry with Families	4
___ MIN7565 Principles and Practice of Worship	4
<i>Choose one additional course from the following:</i>	
___ MIN7160 Ministry in the Local Church	4
Or:	
___ MIN7161 Ministry in Institutional Settings	4
___ Elective I	4
___ Elective II	4

FINAL PROJECT

12 credits

___ MIN7500 Theology and Research in Ministry	4
<i>Choose 1 of the following sequences:</i>	
___ MIN8000 Dissertation I	4
___ MIN8010 Dissertation II	4
Or:	
___ MIN8001 Ministry Project I	4
___ MIN8011 Ministry Project II	4
Or:	
___ MIN8002 Supervisory Clinical Pastoral Education I	4
___ MIN8012 Supervisory Clinical Pastoral Education II	4

ADVANCED TRACK* 40 CREDITS

REQUIRES A M.Div. OR ITS EDUCATIONAL EQUIVALENT FROM AN ACCEPTED ACCREDITED INSTITUTION.

D.MIN. ADVANCED STANDING

Transfer 56 credits

FOUNDATION

4 credits

___ MIN7060 Diversity in Ministry	4
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MINISTRY SKILLS

8 credits

___ MIN7000 Learning Skills for Ministry	4
___ MIN7063 Conflict Mediation and Reconciliation	4

ADVANCED MINISTRY STUDY

16 credits

___ MIN7560 Person and Practice of Ministry	4
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Choose three electives from the following:

ELECTIVE COURSES 12

___ MIN7110 Biblical Perspectives on Health & Wholeness	
___ MIN7160 Ministry in the Local Church	
___ MIN7161 Ministry in Institutional Settings	
___ MIN7181 Lifespan Development	
___ MIN7561 Theology, Death and Dying	
___ MIN7563 Ministry with Disabled Persons	

Electives selected cannot fulfill requirements for both Ministry Skills and Advanced Ministry Study.

FINAL PROJECT

12 credits

___ MIN7500 Theology and Research in Ministry	4
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Choose 1 of the following sequences:

___ MIN8000 Dissertation I	4
___ MIN8010 Dissertation II	4

Or:

___ MIN8001 Ministry Project I	4
___ MIN8011 Ministry Project II	4

Or:

___ MIN8002 Supervisory Clinical Pastoral Education I	4
___ MIN8012 Supervisory Clinical Pastoral Education II	4

Students who have completed course work at the graduate or post-graduate level may receive advanced standing with credit, meaning the total number of units to complete is reduced. Most students who have completed a M.Div. or a M.A. in biblical, theological, and/or ministry studies with at least 90 quarter credits (60 semester credits) may qualify for the Advanced Track. Only work completed at an accepted accredited institution with a CGPA of 3.0 can be considered in determining eligibility for the Advanced Track. Students who have completed a M.A. with less than 90 quarter credits (60 semester credits), or a non-theological masters or postgraduate degree, or who have some graduate level coursework totaling less than 90 quarter credits (60 semester credits) may transfer appropriate credit into the program, subject to the University's transfer of credit policies.

Requests for advanced standing and transfer of credit are handled on a case-by-case basis by the Registrar and approved by the Dean of the College or designee. Only coursework completed at an accepted accredited institution can be considered for advanced standing and/or transfer of credit.

Opportunities to pursue Clinical Pastoral Education are a unique feature of the D.Min. program. CPE Level 1 or Level 2 fulfills the ministry practicum requirement; students who have completed CPE Level 2 may elect to use Supervisory CPE for their final project if they have been accepted into a program.

Maryland residents are not eligible to enroll into an internship, externship, practicum, or field experience course. Students should work with their academic advisor or counselor to be sure they are making appropriate course choices.