

# LOUISVILLE SEMINARY

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY



### PURPOSE AND MISSION

For more than 30 years, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary has offered a world-class Doctor of Ministry (DMin) degree to strengthen the connection between theology and ministry practice either in the church or in fields closely related to the mission and witness of the church.

A world-class program at considerably lower cost than DMin programs elsewhere, our low tuition and block scheduling offer the financial and personal flexibility that busy practitioners need. Under the guidance of our outstanding faculty, candidates study cutting-edge theological, biblical and practical bases of ministry, and complete a project that strengthens their current ministry even as they earn their degree.

An advanced, professional degree, the DMin is designed for experienced practitioners who have a Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent from an ATS- accredited school, along with a minimum GPA of 3.0 and at least 3 years of experience.

The program is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOS) and the Association of Theological Schools (ATS).

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### PROGRAM GOALS AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs)

**Louisville Seminary intends that students in the DMin program:**

- 1) Demonstrate an advanced understanding and integration of ministry in relationship to several theological disciplines and a focused area of study or track (Advanced Practice of Ministry, Pastoral Care and Counseling, Black Church Studies).
- 2) Demonstrate an ability to articulate their comprehensive understanding of ministry, grounded in theory and practice in appreciative and critical correlation.
- 3) Develop and acquire skills and competencies in advanced theological reflection on the practice of ministry and in methods of research in practical theology that are required for pastoral leadership at its most mature and effective levels.
- 4) Contribute to the understanding and practice of ministry through the completion of the Doctor of Ministry project, conducted in a particular context, and the writing of a formal project report.
- 5) Identify areas of personal growth in spiritual awareness and theological and ethical sensitivity, informed by their vocational commitments as people of faith and church leaders to a life in the Spirit, nurtured by participation with others in Christian practices and the work and life of ministry.

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### PLAN OF STUDY

The Louisville Seminary Doctor of Ministry degree is a 36 credit hour program consisting of a series of four Foundation Seminars, at least three Advanced Professional Elective Courses, and a final Integrating Project that addresses a significant issue in ministry. The program is designed to be completed in three years.

Each of the Foundation Seminars is taught by a Louisville Seminary faculty member and an adjunct professor who has experience in ministry, skills in teaching, and holds at least a DMin degree. During the first year of study, students will be assigned a Faculty Advisor with whom they can consult to determine Advanced Professional Elective Courses and their program ministry project.

## TRACKS

### PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING

The DMin in Pastoral Care and Counseling (PCC) is designed to offer a flexible advanced program of training that leads to doctoral level competence in the practice of pastoral care or counseling. Student goals may include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Improving skills in parish counseling or pastoral care;
- 2) Completing requirements for certification as a chaplain (Association of Professional Chaplains);
- 3) Expanding theological and spiritual reflection skills as an already licensed marriage and family therapist, professional counselor, social worker or psychologist; and
- 4) Completing requirements as an ACPE supervisor, AAMFT Approved Supervisor, or other professional credential.

**\*\* Please note that the DMin in Pastoral Care and Counseling is no guarantee of licensure. For more information, please contact the Director of the program, Dr. Loren Townsend, at [ltownsend@lpts.edu](mailto:ltownsend@lpts.edu).**

### BLACK CHURCH STUDIES

Building on the traditions of the Black Church, the primary purpose of the Black Church Studies program at Louisville Seminary is to educate, equip and prepare leaders for African American churches and communities in ways that enable them to navigate issues affecting the Black community. Equally important is our commitment to facilitate dialog, mutual understanding, respect and ministry between the Black Church and the wider Church in the world.

The DMin in Black Church Studies is designed to offer a flexible advanced program of training that leads to doctoral level competence in a wide variety of areas: preaching, pastoral care, Christian education, evangelism, congregational development and redevelopment, and community engagement with an eye toward how these issues affect or are affected by the Black Church and Black community. The program is designed to enhance critical theological thinking and reflection skills that are then used to inform current or proposed ministry practice.

### ADVANCED PRACTICE OF MINISTRY

The DMin in Advanced Practice of Ministry is designed to offer a flexible advanced program of training that leads to doctoral level competence in a wide variety of areas: preaching, pastoral care, Christian education, evangelism, mission, worship, congregational development and redevelopment, and community engagement. The program is designed to enhance critical theological thinking and reflection skills that are then used to inform current or proposed ministry practice.

## SCHEDULE

### Year One

Seminar I (January) 2 Weeks 6 Credits  
Seminar II (June) 1 Week 4 Credits  
Advanced Professional Course 3 Credits\*

### Year Two

Seminar III (January) 1 Week 4 Credits  
Advanced Professional Course 3 Credits\*  
Seminar IV (June) 2 Weeks 6 Credits  
Approval of Prospectus

### Year Three

Advanced Professional Course 1 Week 3 Credits\*  
Project in Ministry (Completed by Mar. 1 or Oct. 1) 7 Credits

**\*Note: Advance Professional Courses (APCs) may be taken any time throughout the year and do not necessarily have to correspond with the DMin Seminars. Advanced Professional Courses may not be taken prior to DMin Seminar II without the written permission of the Associate Dean. Graduation occurs in December or May.**

## TUITION AND OTHER ESTIMATED EDUCATIONAL COSTS:

\$ 11,500	Total tuition for the entire program
\$ 2,000	Books and incidental costs for 4 seminars and 3 elective courses
\$ 2,100	Housing at Laws Lodge for 6 weeks of seminars @ \$70 per night
\$ 800	Food, with 2 meals per day on campus
<b>\$ 16,400</b>	<b>Total plus travel expenses</b>

APPLICATION DEADLINE is September 7

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT  
[WWW.LPTS.EDU/DMIN](http://WWW.LPTS.EDU/DMIN)