



Doctor of Ministry Handbook



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A. Purpose of Establishment

Ever since the time of the apostles, God has called the Church to take on the mission of transforming the society that surrounds it. God is still working through the churches in sending pastors and preachers who commit themselves in preaching the gospel, serving and witnessing. Based on Reformed Theology, the D.Min. curriculum aims to meet the needs of pastors and preachers. It is designed to enhance and deepen the quality of ministry through an integration of theological theory and practice.

B. Special Features of the Curriculum

1. Practical Application for the Pastoral Situations

The D.Min. curriculum is a practice-oriented professional degree that aims to train students to systematically integrate theological reflections and pastoral experience into their ministry. Centered on Reformed Tradition studies, such as John Calvin Theology and Contemporary Christian Homiletics, this curriculum is designed to help pastors and preachers to be innovative and interdisciplinary in their studies. As of the core courses, the focus is on self-growth, mission in action, leadership and management, and theological reflection. They foreground the importance of how to bear witness to the church life, community circumstances or the real-world environment through loving human kind, caring for the land, and having faith in God.

2. A Fellowship of Teaching and Discussion

The D.Min. curriculum offers opportunities for fellowship in teaching and discussion, in which pastors can work together to enlarge their horizon of understanding and integrate a variety of resources. In this kind of fellowship, pastors can learn from each other in facing the social challenges and achieve a balanced growth.

3. Christian Believers and Church Leaders Are Getting Involved with the

Research Projects

The D.Min. curriculum has put together a joint research project by Christian believers and Church leaders. The curriculum encourages pastor to invite her/his church members, elders and deacons, or staff from Christian organizations to get involved. The emphasis is on reflection and dialogue in real-life context. There will be in-depth discussions with a positive attitude to face social issues and problems at the church. Students may analyze the nature of the problems from various perspectives, conceptualize pertinent projects to address the issues, and implement them as they reflect and assess the efficacy of the projects.

C. Course Content

The D.Min. curriculum is designed to explore real-life issues in the pastoral situations in terms of four categories. It includes thesis writing tutorial and related discussions that help pastor present thesis-related topics in the pastoral seminars.



- I. Self-Growth: Spirituality and ministry topics, self-knowledge and self-growth of pastor, spiritual formation and sermon preparation, biblical hermeneutics and pastoral care, homiletic-related topics.
- II. Mission in Action: church planting and mission, church and mission work, evangelism strategy, becoming a church of mission, church growth, urban mission, small group and church growth.
- III. Leadership and Management: Youth pastoral topics, Sunday school education, organization mobilization of faith groups, leadership in mission, teaching and leadership, teamwork and leadership, leadership and management, team ministry, value-oriented leadership, organizational motivation, and church management.
- IV. Theological Reflection: church and public theology, healthy church, Christian and church in the 21st century, women and church, biblical application, ecclesiology, ethical reflections on church issues.

D. Our Faculty

<http://www.taitheo.org.tw/p/404-1000-525.php>

E. Introducing the Doctor of Ministry Program

1. Admission Requirements

- (1) A M.Div. graduate from a seminary recognized by Taiwan Theological College and Seminary (such as M.Min. awarded by the Trinity Theological College (TTC) in Singapore.)
- (2) A pastor with at least three years of experience in church ministry or organization.
- (3) An applicant without a M.Div. degree but meets the requirement of (2) is required to take an additional twenty-four credits after the admission.

◎15 required core course credits:

- a). Old Testament Theology I & II (6 credits)
- b). New Testament Theology I & II (6 credits)
- c). Reformed Theology Tradition (3 credits) or Introduction to Theology (3 credits)

◎9 selective course credits, at the student's discretion.

- (4) Hard-copy admission documents need to be approved by the Committee for Pastoral Care and Theology at Taiwan Theological College and Seminary. When needed, a thirty-minute interview with the committee will be conducted.

2. Application Deadline

- (1) Twice a year: Application postmarked no later than the deadline.
 - i. Fall Intake: January 1st ~ January 15th
 - ii. Spring Intake: August 15th ~ August 31st
- (2) Please send the application to “Taiwan Theological College and Seminary, Committee for Pastoral Care and Theology.” Incomplete application will be rejected.

3. Admission Documents and Fees

Please mail the hard-copy application materials in a big envelop (B4 size) to “Taiwan Theological College and Seminary, Committee for Pastoral Care and Theology,” with the payment included. All the consent letters should be sent by the church or organization directly to “Taiwan Theological College and Seminary, Committee for Pastoral Care and Theology.” (Please also email your application to domp@taitheo.org.tw)

- (1) Hard copy application with one photo.
- (2) Autobiography and pastoring resume (2,000 words)

- (3) Letter of consent from the Session (or institution) and the Presbytery.
- (4) Statement of Purpose and Thesis plan
- (5) M.Min. Graduation certificate or its equivalent
- (6) M. Min Transcript or its equivalent
- (7) After the admission, please submit the check-up health report (including Hepatitis B and Pulmonary X-ray examinations) either from the Mackay Memorial Hospital, Changhua Christian Hospital, Sin-lâu Hospital or any public hospitals.
- (8) For transfer credit applications, please fill out and submit the transfer credit form.
- (9) Registration fee (USD\$100 for overseas applicant). Please include the certificate of remittance in your application.
- (10) Please check the official website to download the application forms.
<http://www.taitheo.org.tw/p/404-1000-777.php>

4. Admission Notification

The Academic Affairs Office of Taiwan Theological College and Seminary will inform the applicant if additional materials are needed. The “Committee for Pastoral Care and Theology” will email or phone the applicant about his/her admission status.

5. Graduation Requirements

Doctor of Ministry	Credit
Course Credits	36
Thesis proposal and writing (3 + 3) (individual + writing tutoring)	6
Thesis	6
Total:	48

✧ Graduation requirements: Complete all the required credits (at least 48 credits).