



Doctor of Ministry Curricular Paradigm

| Term 1 August (Fall) | Term 2 January (Spring) |
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| Old Testament 901 Old Testament and Christian Leadership | New Testament 901 New Testament and Christian Leadership |
| Doctor of Ministry 901 Introduction to Christian Leadership | Doctor of Ministry 904 Communication: Inspiring and Guiding Change |
| Doctor of Ministry 900 (Formation Seminar) | Doctor of Ministry 900 (Formation Seminar) |

| Term 3 May (Summer) | Term 4 August (Fall) |
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| Church History 903 Church History and Christian Leadership | Christian Theology 904 Theology and Christian Leadership |
| Doctor of Ministry 903 Strategy: Forming and Implementing Vision | Doctor of Ministry 902 Preaching: Understanding and Interpreting Context |
| Doctor of Ministry 900 (Formation Seminar) | Doctor of Ministry 900 (Formation Seminar) |

| Term 5 January (Spring) | Term 6 May (Summer) |
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| Doctor of Ministry 906 Thesis Seminar | Doctor of Ministry 907 Thesis Project Writing Phase |
| Doctor of Ministry 905 Integration: Sustaining and Strengthening Mission | |
| Doctor of Ministry 900 (Formation Seminar) | |

Basic Degree Requirements:

- Maintenance of 3.0 GPA; 15 credits: 5 units of Spiritual Formation, 5 core courses, 5 cohort courses
- **Thesis:** The DMin thesis is expected to be a polished theological analysis of a question or issue with practical, leadership implications for the student’s area of ministry. The writing of a thesis will ordinarily take one to two years after the student completes their coursework.
- The sixth term requires all students to register for **Doctor of Ministry 907** which is dedicated to the writing of the thesis and includes the final tuition charge for the program. While students continue to have access to library resources, advisor time, and writing tutors, this course does not require in-person, on-campus work.
- **Student Portfolio:** DMin students are required to compile and submit a Student Portfolio for review by the Director of the Program. The review is due at the end of the fifth term.



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- **Continuation:** DMin students who have registered for the required courses and have completed all coursework except the thesis must register for course continuation (CONTDIV 503) each Fall and Spring term until they complete all the requirements for the program.
- Completion of all requirements for the degree within six years.

After their first year of study, Doctor of Ministry students may elect to substitute one Directed Study class for a cohort course. This may be an enhanced class within the Duke Divinity School Curriculum or a directed study with a regular rank faculty member.

Commencement activities occur only in May. Students who finish their theses during the Summer or Fall terms are invited to return to campus in May to participate in Commencement but only after their degree is conferred.