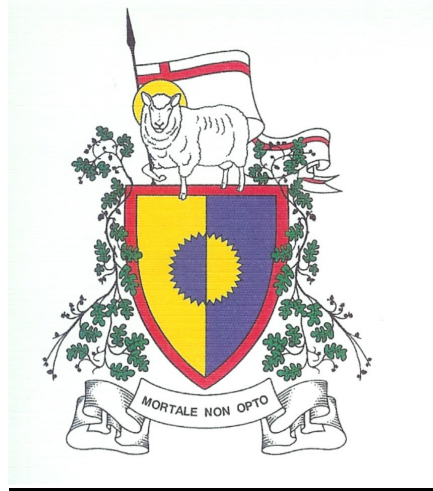


# NCI University & Theological Seminary



## Doctor of Ministry

DISTANCE LEARNING DEGREE PROGRAM

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As a global church we have come through some extraordinary times of change in every sphere of society in the last two millennia, but we are still called to the same mission with the same mandate –

"To Reach the Whole World with the Life Changing Power of the Resurrected Christ who Lives in Us through the Person of the Holy Spirit "

This means that as The Living Body of Christ, we need to be trained and equipped to utilize our head, our heart, and our hands in representing Him.

In other words, we must become "God With Skin On" to the world where we live!

NCIU seeks to train and equip men and women everywhere with relevant and culturally appropriate education to embrace these three areas.

Our specialty is the field of distance education through one-on-one mentored degree study programs to "polish the fine cutting edge" of those who see themselves as instruments in the hands of God.

"Learning without doing will hopefully increase your knowledge level - but learning that requires knowledge being applied, will translate into a vocational skill resource that can be more easily replicated again and again through faithful learners."

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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION and APPLICATION ENROLMENT FORMS**

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# Doctor of Ministry

## D Min Distance-Learning Degree Program

Ministry leadership in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century presents tremendous challenges for even the most experienced leaders.

Leaders are faced with a rapidly changing world, and recent studies reveal the erosion of trust amongst both secular market-place leaders, as well as those representing the religious and Christian institutions that seek to serve our communities.

The neglect of personal character and spiritual formation in Christian leaders has become revealed as a pivotal obstruction that must be rectified before the world can be reached in fulfilling the Great Commission and prepare "The Bride for our returning Bridegroom".

Effective leadership today demands a deeper level of reflection and stronger commitment to excellence in the practice of Christian ministry.

At NCI University & Theological Seminary we are committed to developing leaders who are both biblically and theologically sound, spiritually vital, personally healthy, culturally aware, and professionally competent.

Our goals in simple terms are to reach the head, heart and hands of those who seek to enroll as students, in order they might become more effective in their chosen vocation as laborers in the Master's vineyard, and become Jesus with skin on to all they meet and embrace.

### DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM PURPOSE

The Doctor of Ministry program of NCI University & Theological Seminary is designed to enhance the understanding and practice of Christian ministry in the areas of church planting and missions for those currently engaged in positions of ministerial or missions leadership.

The course of study will broaden the historical perspective, deepen the theological reflection, and develop the professional skill of both pastoral and mission leaders to a high degree of competence and excellence, at the same time it will prepare them to take major roles in leadership development and strategic expansion of the Kingdom in their chosen sphere of service.

Students in the program are expected to develop an advanced understanding of the nature and purposes of ministry, to show enhanced competencies in pastoral analysis and ministerial skills, as well as the integration of these dimensions into the theologically reflective practice of ministry.

They are also expected to gain new knowledge about the practice of ministry, and to demonstrate continued measurable growth in personal spiritual maturity. It has been designed to assist students hungering for the promise of excellence in ministry. The design structure allows students to continue their present ministry functions while pursuing this external Doctor of Ministry degree program without major disruption to their vocation pursuit.

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

*The NCIU Doctor of Ministry Degree Program is designed to enhance the practice of ministry among those who are formally engaged in Christian ministry. Students in the program will:*

- Grow in spiritual maturity and demonstrate an advanced understanding and integration of ministry in relation to the biblical, theological, academic, and pastoral disciplines
- Demonstrate an advanced understanding of the nature and purposes of ministry.
- Improve their ability to integrate the biblical and theological foundations for ministry into the practice of Christian ministry
- Develop the knowledge and skills needed for disciple-making and mentoring of emerging leaders
- Perform the duties of his or her ministry with a greater degree of effectiveness and skill.
- Plan, implement, and critically evaluate major undertakings in ministry toward the fulfillment of the Great Commission and Great Commandment.
- Evaluate personal, spiritual, and professional development and design a plan for lifelong learning.

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The 48 semester credit hour distance-learning program provided by NCI University & Theological Seminary requires the student sequentially follow the four module pathway as specified:

- Module 1 - General Studies track (12 credit hours)
- Module 2 – Personal Spiritual Formation and Ministry Development track (12 credit hours)
- Module 3 - Leadership Development track (12 credit hours)
- Module 4 – Ministry Praxis and Dissertation track (12 credit hours)

Note:

Students who enroll with sufficient RPL (Recognized Prior Learning) semester credit hour units that have already been assessed and validated by NCI University & Theological Seminary as being equivalent credit hour units, may be granted exemption from the completion of Module 1.

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

The D. Min. applicant must preferably hold the M.Div. or M.A. degree or its academic equivalent from a recognized graduate school, and have a working knowledge of Biblical languages.

Applicants may be required to make up deficiencies in basic requirements. Applicants must have an academic record that shows promise of success in doctoral studies.

All candidates must show evidence of their passion to follow Christ and serve His Kingdom in our contemporary world through consistent Christian character, ability and acceptability in Christian ministry.

The applicant should also demonstrate a commitment to the primacy of the divinely authoritative, inerrant Written Word of God, and be prepared to embrace not just the traditions of theological

thinking of their own denomination, but also be willing to explore other areas of faith and practice within the framework of Evangelical and Pentecostal theology.

When the candidate has made the decision to proceed further, it is recommended that a Distance-learning Degree Application and Enrolment Application be completed and submitted to NCI University & Theological Seminary for evaluation.

When the evaluation and assessment process is completed, NCI University & Theological Seminary will supply the candidate with a formal Letter of Assessment & Offer detailing the institution's reply and recommended pathway to attain the Doctor of Ministry award.

Usually at this point, the candidate will wish to dialog with the faculty as to the nomination of specified text modules and off-campus tutorials that have been incorporated into the study pathway. NCI University & Theological Seminary seeks to exercise wisdom by being spiritually, culturally and politically sensitive in such matters.

The candidate is then asked to review the Letter of Assessment & Offer, and if agreeable, give written acceptance of the offer with their first installment payment for tuition. Tuition payment plans are provided in the Letter of Assessment & Offer.

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY TRANSFER CREDITS & RPL UNITS

Students enrolling in the graduate degree level programs may be allowed to transfer up to 12 semester credit hours total (including RPL units and validated life-experience etc). All graduate level courses in Biblical Studies, Christian Ministry, Christian Pastoral Counseling, Missiology or Theology from accredited or recognized institutions will be evaluated in the assessment process.

Please note:

- (a) Transfer credit in the State of Florida is solely at the prerogative of the receiving institution (NCI University & Theological Seminary).
- (b) Transfer credit is based upon evaluation of official transcripts and other documentary evidences.

The required credit hours for Advanced Standing status may be transferred into the program by RPL (Recognized Prior Learning) credit units from an approved alternate institute or accredited program.

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All students enrolled in this program and wishing to graduate are required to

- Satisfactorily complete a total of 48 semester units as outlined in the curriculum beyond the Master degree award level. This includes transfer credits allowed as Advanced Standing status.
- Complete at least 36 semester credit units taken at this institution.
- Obtain a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale with no grade below "B-" in all courses to be credited toward graduation.
- Complete the entire program with this institution within four years from commencement, unless special circumstances are approved in writing by the institution upon application.

- Successfully pass all written assignments for each study unit as detailed in the Unit Study Guide as supplied, and or complete any additional position papers assigned by the institution as replacement unit assignments.
- Comply with all academic demands for rectification: Students, who are placed on probation after the first 15 credits, are granted one semester in which to bring their academic work up to the required level for continuance in the program. A student cannot graduate while on probation.
- Complete dissertation and submit for review prior to entering final phase of submission development
- Have all financial and academic requirements satisfied 30 days before desired graduation event and release of academic transcript documentation.

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM PATHWAY

Students in the Doctor of Ministry distance-learning degree program will be required to do all of their course work in a prescribed sequence.

This curriculum consists of four modules as stipulated.

Modules 1, 2 & 3 - each has three component units (A, B, C) that target the head, heart, and hands:

- Unit A: Specified textual study assignment based on designated text nominated by the institution, with written assignment (2 x 3 credit units).
- Unit B: Guided research and specified reading assignments which must be completed prior to completing the third unit in the module. Students will normally read 1,500 pages for 1 x 3 credit unit.
- Unit C: A one- or two-week intensive seminar of classroom interaction, including faculty presentation and peer discussion; or a course project which applies the reading and class work to the ministry setting.

Generally the project is 20-30 pages for 3 credit units.

Note:

In some locations students may not be able to attend a recognized seminar or special classroom interaction program due to a variety of factors.

Where this is the case, and dialog has taken place between the student and adjunct professor, NCIU & TS may give consent for a variation to the above being agreed to in writing. However, each case must be evaluated upon its own merits.

## MODULE 1 General Studies track (12 credit hours)

Doctor of Ministry studies within the General Studies track seeks to accomplish those foundational objectives as stated above, while offering the student a variety of ministry study options and the flexibility to focus his or her learning in the most helpful way.

The student will be directed into a specified reading and research program to formulate essential theological standards, and to create a framework of understanding in form of a study manual that can be passed on to others through the discipling process.

NCI University & Theological Seminary seeks to customize the specified textual study units in accordance with the personal objectives of the student, as detailed in their application.

## MODULE 2

### Personal Spiritual Formation & Ministry Development track (12 credit hours)

Our lives are like a puzzle. The pieces fit together to make a whole. When we combine our spiritual gifts, personality, passions, and experiences we will discover a picture which shows us how we can best serve the Lord with maximum effectiveness.

However, this personalized ministry profile cannot function fully without the development of intimate spirituality.

The module is designed to have the student

- Firstly, to complete an analysis and inventory of these component attributes.
- Secondly, the course is designed to introduce the student to the pursuit of an intimate walk with God that transcends all other earthly relationships.
- Thirdly, the student will learn through the designated studies how to extend that relationship to significant others in their life and ministry sphere
- Fourthly, to enable the student to become an incarnational message.

The faculty will direct the student in their guided reading units to find the missing ingredients of their spirituality, and to focus on making them a permanent feature of their life and ministry development.

The student will be required to create a journal and track their spiritual formation through the journal process, which shall be viewed by the adjunct professor.

## MODULE 3

### Leadership Development track (12 credit hours)

Jesus is unarguably the greatest leader the world has ever seen. His three years of public ministry in an obscure and troublesome corner of the Roman Empire, not only irrevocably changed Roman civilization, but every other civilization that has emerged since then.

Yet Jesus Himself spoke very little about leadership and even less about how to attain it.

Many of today's church leaders that are deemed "successful" base their philosophy of ministry leadership upon Moses, David, Nehemiah, and even Paul, or the early church fathers. All of these have much to teach us, and we need to carefully examine what fits, when, where and how.

It would seem however, in today's professional world of commercial conquest and blurred boundaries, that few actually base their leadership style on the public ministry of Jesus, the Servant King. Yet the world is crying out for a leadership that lives what it preaches and preaches what it lives.

This module requires the student to read a series of texts that will require the development of a field manual to be used in discipling others during a 12 week period with reporting of interpersonal relationships and progress.

## MODULE 4

### Ministry Praxis and Dissertation track (12 credits)

The fourth and final component of the Doctor of Ministry degree program is ministry intervention praxis (practical field project) and a dissertation on the praxis.

The Doctor of Ministry praxis and dissertation normally requires six months of advanced preparation and another three months following approval to complete the module project.

Students at NCI University & Theological Seminary have carried out a wide range of ministry praxes, including but not restricted to

- training church members to provide pastoral care for those needing social care
- early-child care and education development programs involving children with disabilities
- training and development programs for those needing spiritual healing and wholeness
- creating structures for the discipling of new converts and church members
- the development of church planting programs that target specified cultural and or ethnic groups amongst others.

Students are encouraged to begin to explore ideas and to consult with their adjunct-tutor/mentor about ideas for ministry praxis early in their program.

Obviously in choosing their ministry praxis, students would be wise to recognize their own particular gifting and skills abilities, as well as the needs of the target group to whom they will minister.

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY GRADING & ASSESSMENT

### Methods of Assessment

Assessment methods of Unit Assignments are shown in the individual unit guides. The accepted methods of assessment generally employed by NCIU are:

- Essays
- Examination papers
- Structured practical assessments
- Feasibility studies
- Report on projects
- Dissertation

All NCIU Unit Study Guides come complete with Written Assignment questions for the student.

In some cases, a practical project of applied theology is required due to the nature of the textual study text and special allowances are made to incorporate these into the overall grading and evaluation undertaken.

In the Doctor of Ministry program, all dissertations are required to be graded by two professors, and the student may be called upon to give an oral defense if the issue is considered "outside the norms" and is breaking new ground, or warrants the benefit of the student being able to make presentation of specific aspects of the submission.

Obviously as a distance learning institution, the additional costs to the student may be significant and this pathway is not normally recommended. Any such oral defense and presentation will take place in Lake Worth Florida, USA unless alternative location is accepted by mutual agreement.

## Grading Allocation

Full details of the NCIU Standardized Grading Allocation policy are detailed in the Student Handbook.

The Grading Allocation List shows the grade point percentages that can be allocated by the grader for each of the specific categories NCIU considers important in making adequate assessment of the submitted work.

Students, who fail to attain the minimum passing grade, will be asked to resubmit either the entire course, or the portion of the course needing remedy.

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY DISTANCE LEARNING

This degree program like all of the religious vocational degree award programs offered by NCI University & Theological Seminary is designed to be completed totally by Distance Learning.

Distance learning with NCIU includes correspondence courses, online courses, directed textual study courses, supervised practical field projects (under supervision of a recognized proctor) guided research and specified reading plus the writing projects.

In some special study units, students may be required to attend a campus-based program for partial studies at a recognized and/or approved institution, with a credits earned being part of the total NCIU program.

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY TIME LIMITS

In order to ensure that a degree, when granted, represents education that is current and reasonably focused (not acquired a little at a time over an unreasonably long period), all credit applied to the degree must be earned within a specified period of time.

- For the Doctor of Ministry degree at NCI University & Theological Seminary, this period has been set at five years, without formal written extension.
- This period does not include credit earned elsewhere and applied to the degree, as transfer (RPL units) credits.
- The time limit for the written papers (research and guided reading) projects is six-nine-months. Written extension is normally granted when there are extenuating circumstances such as prolonged illness, family death, ministry disruption or financial disaster. The program does require concentrated discipline and application.
- If a student drops out or discontinues without written notification and agreement, they will be subject to an assessment revision for readmission, with subsequent increase in fees based on fee structure at that time, not original enrolment date.

**DOCTOR OF MINISTRY  
CONCLUSION**

The proven design features incorporated into this curriculum should allow students to continue their present ministry functions while pursuing this external Doctor of Ministry degree program without major disruption to their vocation.

As a distance-learning degree program, the Doctor of Ministry degree study pathway can be completed entirely at the domicile location of the student. All studies and interaction with the mentor can be conducted through electronic means and email connections. Where necessary, the student can view special ministry class sessions via internet facilities or other electronic media. The D Min is the foundational degree program for teaching at a seminary, college or university.

The Doctor of Ministry, the highest theological degree offered by NCIU, prepares students for a vocation in theological teaching and scholarship by:

- equipping them with the essential tools for high-level scholarship,
- guiding them in a major research project in the area of their major concentration, and supporting the development of teaching skills

Based upon the experiences and testimonies of previous graduates and their continuing influence, NCIU is able to declare that such graduates are of great benefit to the Christian Church worldwide.

Students who complete this degree program should be able to make significant contribution to the Body of Christ and leave behind a lasting legacy that continues to extend the Kingdom of God, until the Lord Himself returns.

We welcome your inquiry into this exciting opportunity to enlarge your leadership capacity and further develop your potential.

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Or go direct to our website [www.newcovenant.edu](http://www.newcovenant.edu) and download the Degree Application Form

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