

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

*Doctor of Ministry
Participant Handbook*



2008 Edition

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This version of the participant handbook replaces and supersedes all previous versions of this document.

This publication is accurate at printing, though not comprehensive, in the policy statements which it includes. The provisions of this publication are not to be regarded as irrevocable terms of the contract between administrators, faculty, and staff and AGTS. Changes are effected periodically in general regulations and in academic requirements. There are established procedures for making changes—procedures which protect the interest and welfare of individual administrators, faculty and staff, students, and the Seminary’s integrity.

A Word from the Doctor of Ministry Leadership Team...

Welcome!

We are pleased to have you as a part of the AGTS Doctor of Ministry program. You are a part of the growing number of Christian leaders who desire to develop their ministry gifts and understandings by pursuing doctoral studies while remaining in their present ministry context. The Doctor of Ministry program exists to equip servant leaders with knowledge, skill, and passion to revitalize the church and evangelize the world in the power of the Spirit. It is our prayer that this program will renew minds...refresh souls...and revitalize leaders.

This Participant Handbook has been prepared especially for you by the Doctor of Ministry office. It is designed to provide information about Seminary policies, procedures, and services specifically related to the Doctor of Ministry program. We trust that this will answer many of your questions as you work through your degree. All participants are encouraged to read the handbook and retain a copy for their reference.

If you have any questions regarding the handbook, or any other matter that may arise related to your program, please feel free to contact the Doctor of Ministry office (800-467-AGTS or lcrabtree@agseminary.edu).

We look forward to working together with you. It is our desire that the Doctor of Ministry program will produce “leaders worth following.”

In His service,

Ava Olson
Doctor of Ministry Program Coordinator

Cheryl Taylor, D.Min.
Doctor of Ministry Program Director

Nate Moore, B.A.
Doctor of Ministry Administrative Assistant

Lois Olena, D.Min.
Doctor of Ministry Project Coordinator

AGTS Profile

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary is to train men and women to fulfill the mission of the church as taught in Scripture. As a graduate-level educational institution within the evangelical and Pentecostal tradition, AGTS affirms the Bible as God's written Word, the inspired, infallible and authoritative rule for faith and conduct.

ACCREDITATION

The Assemblies of God Theological Seminary is accredited by the *Association of Theological Schools of the United States and Canada*. The Seminary is also accredited by the *Commission on Institutes of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools*, the regional accrediting agency of the North Central states.

AFFILIATION

AGTS is affiliated with the General Council of the Assemblies of God. The Seminary's doctrinal commitment is found in the Statement of Faith (*see catalog*).

FACULTY

Each member of the AGTS faculty and administration is positioned within the Pentecostal-Charismatic tradition in belief and practice. This background and heritage enables them to present biblical and theological truths, educational and missiological strategies and methods, and counseling principles within the context of the Pentecostal ministry.

LIBRARY FACILITIES

The Cordas C. Burnett Library is the major information resource center of AGTS. Its extensive holdings are designed to support doctoral course offerings and research. Students at AGTS can take advantage of the abundant resources in the Seminary's library or through interlibrary loan programs. In addition, AGTS students enjoy library privileges at several other colleges and universities in the greater Springfield area, and they can also gain a wealth of information from the nearby A/G Archives.

CAMPUS

The AGTS campus is located on a five-acre property in the northern section of Springfield, Missouri's third largest city. The Seminary community enjoys a 58,000 sq. ft. academic building that houses state-of-the-art classrooms, library, computer lab, book center, counseling center, William J. Seymour Chapel, World Prayer Center, and administrative offices. The campus is adjacent to sister our institution Evangel University on North Glenstone Avenue. Springfield is also the home of the General Council of the Assemblies of God.

Mission Statement and Pentecostal Distinctives

MISSION STATEMENT

Shaping servant leaders to revitalize the Church and evangelize the world in the power of the Spirit.

In order to accomplish its purpose as a center for instruction and spiritual formation, the Seminary seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1. To lead every student into a growing knowledge of God, based upon the redemptive work of Christ and the baptizing power of the Holy Spirit.
2. To perpetuate the distinctive Pentecostal proclamation of the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit to restore God's people to the biblical model of vitality and witness.
3. To create an environment in which individuals, called and gifted for Christian service, may be nurtured as servant-leaders of sterling Christian character.
4. To seek excellence in all of its programs, believing that a rigorous quest for truth, effectiveness, and relevance should characterize theological reflection and professional training.
5. To provide training in the professional skills necessary for the practice of ministry in a changing world, focusing on the preparation of pastors, missionaries, evangelists, military and institutional chaplains, educators, counselors, and others.
6. To foster an evangelistic and missionary emphasis with a global and multi-cultural perspective in order to equip men and women to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ at home and abroad.
7. To encourage constructive engagement with society guided by the prophetic and redemptive words and deeds of Jesus Christ.
8. To serve as a scholarly resource for the Assemblies of God, Pentecostal-Charismatic communities worldwide, and the larger body of Christ.
9. To utilize technology and distance-education methodologies in the extension of its educational mission to Christian leaders unable to attend a resident campus.

PENTECOSTAL DISTINCTIVES

The commitment to the Pentecostal dimension of Christianity is what distinguishes the Assemblies of God from other groups within Evangelical Christianity. Since AGTS is the denominational Seminary for the Assemblies of God, the Pentecostal distinctives are central to each of its degrees and course offerings.

The Doctor of Ministry Degree

Program Overview

The Doctor of Ministry program is a professional program intended for men and women actively engaged in full-time Christian ministry. The primary purpose of the program is to enhance the participants' professional competence in the particular area of their gifts and calling. The program aims to be practical in nature while at the same time is committed to maintaining the highest academic standards for theological reflection on the practice of ministry. The program seeks to integrate learning into the context of each participant's ministry and can be shaped to meet individual needs.

Opportunities for personal and spiritual growth are woven into the fabric of the entire program. One dynamic element of the program is involvement in a Doctor of Ministry cohort. Each cohort is comprised of select individuals from a variety of ministry backgrounds. The cohort remains together for the core phase of the program allowing deep and meaningful relationships to be formed. "As iron sharpens iron" this group experience provides an incredible peer learning environment—one that will challenge and motivate participants to take their spirituality and ministries to the next level.

The focus of this program is developing strong Pentecostal leadership. Today's vital and growing ministries are demanding Spirit-anointed, effective leadership. If leaders expect to remain on the cutting edge of complex, demanding, and ever-changing ministry, they must prepare themselves now. AGTS's D. Min. program is designed to expand the influence of its participants by equipping them to be "leaders worth following."

Program Goals

Mission: transforming leaders to transform their organizations

Vision: leaders worth following

The D.Min. experience focuses on giving participants the opportunity to expand their influence by growing into ministers who are:

- *Self-Aware*: a consistent commitment to cultivating the disciplines of self-leadership, personal spirituality, and integrity;
- *Holistically Pentecostal*: a deepening historical and theological appreciation of the Pentecostal-Charismatic tradition leading to a distinctively Spirit-empowered ministry;
- *Professionally Mature*: an increasing competency for effective leadership, preaching, military chaplaincy or other ministry;
- *Academically Integrative*: a growing ability to utilize the insights of both biblical and practical theology, as well as the social and behavioral sciences;
- *Globally Aware*: an expanding awareness of the implications of globalization for Christian ministry;

- *Peer Networking*: a mutually beneficial networking of long-term personal connections with other ministry professionals;
- *Missionally Engaged*: a renewed emphasis on the priorities of evangelism and world mission within the overall ministry of the church;
- *Research Contributors*: an enduring service to the larger Church through the publication of a Professional Project;
- *Published Authors*: a broader audience reached through the development of professional writing skills.

Curricular Design

The Doctor of Ministry curriculum has three primary components:

- *Core Phase*: core courses establish and enrich the student's foundation for effective ministry.
- *Elective Phase*: elective courses offer in-depth training in specific areas relevant to the practice of ministry. Participants may select a specific area of concentration (Missional Leadership, Biblical Preaching, Military Chaplaincy or Self-Designed Study).
- *Project Phase*: the participant's ministry context will be the subject of a professional project at the conclusion of the elective phase. A Project Design course prepares the participant to write a professional project integrating and applying significant program learning in a ministry context. Participants must normally complete all core classes before taking the Project Design class. Exceptions to this will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The project enriches the larger Church through publication on the ProQuest internet database.

Program Schedule

The Doctor of Ministry is an in-service degree, meaning that it is completed while participants remain active in ministry. The program is designed in one-week modules offered three times per year—February, June, and October. (New cohorts generally begin each February, but participants may join the program during any session.) These four-day modules are preceded by personal reading/preparation and are followed by written projects that apply course materials to participants' ministries. Once a participant has reached the elective phase of the program, modules may be taken back-to-back. The program consists of nine modules, as well as additional time to complete the D. Min. project. Thus, in its entirety, the degree will take approximately four years to complete.

Academic Policies and Procedures

Academic Probation

A participant is placed on academic probation at the conclusion of any course in which his or her grade point average falls below the required minimum (3.0) necessary to maintain satisfactory academic progress in the degree program. Participants who fail to raise their grades to the required level or higher by the end of two courses on academic probation are subject to dismissal from the program.

Academic Records

The Enrollment Management Office maintains official records for each participant enrolled in the Doctor of Ministry program. This file includes the participant's application file, processed requests for advanced standing, processed grades and transcripts, and graduation arrangements. In accordance with Public Law 93-380, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Law 1074 (frequently referred to as the Buckley Amendment), participants have the right to inspect their own records.

Academic Status

Students will remain in good academic standing in the D.Min. program as long as they maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average, meet all financial obligations to the Seminary, and conduct their personal lives with spiritual, moral, and professional integrity. The administration reserves the right to dismiss any student whose integrity in any of these areas is unacceptable.

Cancellation of Courses

AGTS reserves the right to cancel any D.Min. course when enrollment falls below five persons.

Computer Equipment in Classrooms

To receive maximum benefit of this program, all participants are encouraged to have a laptop computer and an email address. Rooms are equipped with power-surge protection plug-in strips and wireless internet access. Classroom table configurations are designed to facilitate peer interaction. Students are requested to please turn cell phones and pagers off while in class.

Concurrent Enrollment

Doctor of Ministry participants interested in concurrent enrollment at another seminary or graduate school for the purpose of transferring hours back into the AGTS Doctor of Ministry program must secure approval in advance from the Director of the Doctor of Ministry program. Credits must be in compliance with advanced standing/transfer credit policy. *Note:* The transfer of credits does not waive or change the comprehensive program fee.

Course Attendance

Due to the accelerated pace of each course, regular and punctual attendance is expected of each participant for all course activities. Because attendance is such a crucial element of the cohort peer-learning process, a participant cannot be absent for more than four hours of class and still receive credit.

Course Grading

The final course grades are determined according to the following 4.0 scale:

		Grade points per semester hour
A	Superior	4.0
A-		3.7
B+		3.3
B	Satisfactory	3.0
B-		2.7
C+		2.3
C	Poor	2.0
C-		1.7
F	Failure	0.0*
IP	In Process	0.0
WP	Withdrawn Passing	0.0
WF	Withdrawn Failing	0.0*

* affects GPA

Course Evaluations

All Doctor of Ministry courses and faculty are evaluated by participants on the last day of each session. Responses are collected anonymously and delivered to the Doctor of Ministry office by a designated participant. The professor will receive a summary of these evaluations with participant comments following the session.

Course Reduction for Chaplains

D.Min. participants can have their programs reduced by no more than twelve credit hours. Chaplain participants who have already transferred in twelve credits for their military work may not transfer in additional elective credits for additional military classes or doctoral work completed.

Course Workload

The combination of pre-session, session, and post-session work for a three-credit module course should normally require a minimum of 1,500 pages of assigned reading and twenty-five pages in written assignments.

Doctoral Titles

After completing all D.Min. courses (27 hours), and with an approved prospectus in hand, participants may use the designation “D.Min. (cand.)” on their resume and other documents. One may start using “D.Min.” and the title, “Doctor” once the degree has been recorded on their official transcript.

Graduation Requirements

To satisfy graduation requirements for the D.Min. degree, the participant must:

1. Satisfactorily complete all Doctor of Ministry program requirements. This includes the completion of 30 semester hours of course work (12 from Core courses, 12 from Elective courses, 3 from Project Design course and 3 from project completion).

2. Maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0, and have no more than one “C” on his or her transcript. (A participant cannot graduate with a C- on their transcript. Participants must retake the course, at their expense, in order to earn a grade higher than C-.)
3. Be in good standing at the Seminary (see Academic Status).
4. Complete an acceptable and approved Doctor of Ministry project.
5. Receive approval to graduate from the Doctor of Ministry Committee, Academic Affairs Committee, and Faculty.
6. Apply for graduation no later than October 31 through the Registrar’s Office.
7. Make an acceptable oral presentation of the D. Min. project at the Project symposium and attend the commencement exercises. (*Approval to be absent must be secured from the Academic Affairs Committee through the registrar by April 1.*)

Incomplete Grades

Participants are expected to complete all course work as specified by the professor. On occasion an “incomplete” may be granted, at the discretion of the professor, for extenuating circumstances. It is the participant's responsibility to request an incomplete grade when the course cannot be completed within the stipulated time and the circumstances merit consideration for an “incomplete.” The professor will decide the merits of each request, what penalties, if any, and completion dates in keeping with the limits established by the Registrar’s office. If the extension is granted, a grade of “IP” (In Process) will be issued. Note: there will be a change-of-grade fee even though the participant has been granted an extension from the professor. A student can have no more than two incompletes or IP’s at a given time.

A grade of “IP” (In Process) will be issued if the professor's due date falls after the semester ending date for AGTS. A change of grade form will be sent to the participant when the professor submits the grades for that course.

Ministry Requirement

Each participant must remain involved in full-time ministry throughout the duration of the program. Any participant who leaves the ministry for any reason while pursuing the D.Min. degree must petition the D.Min. Committee for continuation in the program.

Participant Grievance Procedure

Fair and prompt resolution of legitimate participant grievances is a vital part of the Seminary's professional and ethical commitment to its participants. Contact the Doctor of Ministry office for a complete copy of the grievance procedure.

Professional Project and Project Design Class

The professional project is the culmination of the D.Min. experience in which the ideas and applications of the program are measured and evaluated. A Project Design course prepares the participant to complete the project. Participants must normally complete all core classes before taking the Project Design class. Exceptions to this will be considered on a case-by-case basis. For further information on the project guidelines contact the D.Min. Office.

Note: Chaplain participants shall be designated in the “project phase” on the first day of the semester following the term when they took the Project Design course. The duration of the project phase shall normally be eighteen months to two years.

Professional Project Team

Participants will be a part of a project team. The team will include a general project adviser, a biblical/theological adviser, a project editor, and the AGTS D.Min. Project Coordinator. All project team members (except the editor) must have earned a CHEA/ATS doctorate, unless an exception is made by the Doctor of Ministry Committee. Project teams are recommended by the participant and adviser in consultation with the Doctor of Ministry Office and approved by the Doctor of Ministry Project Committee.

Program Duration

The degree will normally require four years to complete, including the project. This schedule is set to avoid unnecessary pressure on the participant’s responsibilities to family and ministry. Participants are required to complete the degree within six years beginning from the date of the participant’s first attendance in a doctoral course. In some cases an extension may be granted (example: for those on overseas assignment).

Program Extensions

The program is designed to normally be completed in four years. There is a maximum time limit of six years. For participants extending beyond the fourth year:

- 5th year: extension automatically granted; a continuation fee will apply.
- 6th year: extension automatically granted; a continuation fee will apply.
- 7th year: Participants desiring an extension beyond the six-year program limit must submit a written appeal to the Doctor of Ministry Committee. This request must include detailed projections (plan and timeframe) for the completion of their project. Any extensions will be granted by approval of the D. Min. Committee and an extension fee will apply.
- 8th year: Participants desiring to extend into their eighth year must submit a written appeal to the Doctor of Ministry Committee (see above). If approved, the participant will be required to take two additional courses at his or her expense, as well as be charged an additional extension fee.

Extensions beyond the eighth year will normally not be granted.
(See page 13 for program extension fees.)

Transfer Credits

An individual may transfer in a total of six advanced standing doctoral credits. Individual appeals for transfer credits will be evaluated based upon the following considerations:

1. Transfer credits must be from ATS/CHEA accredited institutions or those recognized by an approved foreign accrediting body.
2. Student must have earned a passing grade of “B” or higher.
3. Transfer credits must be relevant to the D.Min. degree.

4. Recent time frame of courses taken will be reviewed. Extenuating circumstances of the participant (e.g. missionary in a situation that makes it difficult to take courses in a timely fashion.) will be considered.

AGTS will accept up to six doctoral credits for valid/supervised pastoral clinical education provided the CPE units were not used to fulfill the requirements of M.Div Equivalency, or any other graduate degree. The institution and credit must be recognized by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. accreditation commission.

To request advanced standing, official transcripts must be received by the AGTS Registrar's Office before consideration for doctoral credit will be given. (Any exceptions to the standard policy must be recommended by the D. Min. Committee and approved by the Academic Affairs Committee.)

Note: The transfer of credits does not waive/change the comprehensive program fee.

Unclassified Doctoral Level Students

A limited number of non-degree, post-Master of Divinity persons may be allowed to take elective courses if they satisfy admission requirements for the Doctor of Ministry program. Normally, there will be a two-course limit on the number of D.Min. courses that can be taken prior to formal admission to the program. Contact the Doctor of Ministry Office for further information.

Withdrawal from Courses

A participant who desires to withdraw from any course after the session has met must make written request to the Doctor of Ministry Office. Refunds will not be made nor will financial commitments be nullified (see current AGTS catalog). Grades for official withdrawal will be changed to audit.

Alumni Audit Policy

Graduates of the Doctor of Ministry program have the option of auditing one elective course per year on a space-available basis. A significantly discounted fee is charged for the audit option.

Financial Policies

Comprehensive Program Fee

The cost of the D.Min. is paid as a comprehensive Program Fee rather than in the form of tuition per credit hour. The current fee is \$13,970 and covers tuition for 30 credit hours, project fees, and graduation fees. This fee does not cover the application fee of \$35, textbooks, cost of travel, housing and meals incurred while on campus, editing, directed research fees, late project fees, continuation fees, extension fees, or tuition for courses taken at other institutions. Qualified participants in the Military Chaplaincy concentration pay the current program fee of \$8,890.

Comprehensive Program Fee Payments

The program fee is payable in three installments per year. (AGTS accepts cash, checks, Visa, MasterCard and Discover as payment.) The first installment is due on the first day of class. All subsequent installments are due on the first day of the months of regularly scheduled courses (February, June and October). The fees are non-refundable.

Grants and Scholarships

Grants and scholarships for Doctor of Ministry study are normally not available. However, the program does qualify for VA benefits, and private student loans are available. Participants are eligible for loan deferment. Contact the Financial Aid Office for further information.

Lodging, Meals, Transportation

It is up to participants to make their own travel and living arrangements for their stay in Springfield.

Program Extension Fees

The program is designed to be completed in four years, with a maximum time limit of six years. (See “*Program Extensions*” in *Academic Policies* section for further details.) If a participant extends beyond the fourth year, the following fees will apply:

year 5 (continuation fee)	\$500
year 6 (continuation fee)	\$750
year 7 (extension fee)	\$1500
year 8 (extension fee)	\$1500 + 2 additional classes (at participant’s expense)

Extensions will not normally be granted past the eighth year.

Project Deadline Late Fee

Participants who have applied for a Spring graduation and who exceed the December 1 deadline for submitting their project to the D.Min. Project Coordinator will be assessed a fee of \$50/week for each week beyond the December 1 deadline. For participants who end up not graduating in Spring, these fees will be applied toward their continuation or extension fee.

Promissory Note

Participants are required to sign a promissory note at their initial registration indicating their anticipation of paying tuition, fees, books, etc. This is a standard procedure required of all

AGTS participants. The promissory note will outline the installment due dates for the participant. The installments outlined are to be paid consecutively and are still due at the assigned date, even if the participant for any reason skips a course. (Conversely, if a participant happens to take two courses during a given session, they will still only be charged for the one payment, according to the schedule outlined in their promissory note).

Readmission Financial Policy

If a student withdraws from the program and later desires to return, his or her financial obligations will be as follows:

- The program fee current at the time of readmission will apply, for which the student will sign a new promissory note.
- All payments made under the previous promissory note will be applied toward the current program fee. Participants will be required to pay the difference between the current program fee and what they actually paid under the previous program fee.

Unclassified Student Course Fee

The fee for doctoral students from outside the AGTS program taking our Concentration classes will be charged at 115% of the going tuition rate.

Unclassified Student Audit Fee

The fee for students from outside the AGTS program auditing our Concentration classes will be charged 25% of current single fee payment.

Alumni D. Min. Course Audit Fee

The fee for graduates of the AGTS D. Min. program auditing concentration classes will be charged \$200 per class.

Library and Research Information

AGTS has an extensive 90,000-volume library designed to support Doctor of Ministry course offerings. D.Min. participants may borrow books and acquire photocopies of journal articles. Available materials will normally be shipped within 24 hours of receipt of the request. Materials may be requested from the AGTS Library directly via fax (417-268-1009), email (agts@agseminary.edu), or phone (800-467-AGTS or 417-269-1000). In addition, many resources for theological study are often available through local libraries or local interlibrary loan programs. Materials may also be requested from the AGTS library by utilizing the interlibrary loan services of a local library.

AGTS Doctor of Ministry Loan Policies

- **AGTS Materials Available to Doctor of Ministry Participants:** All books in the circulating collection are available for loan to AGTS participants provided they have not been placed on reserve for courses. (Reference books, periodicals, microfilms, audio-visuals, and certain dissertations and theses are available for use in the AGTS library only.) Photocopies of articles in journals and magazines may be purchased from the AGTS library at a cost of 15 cents per page. Participants will be invoiced for photocopies. Invoices for photocopies that have not been paid within two weeks after being mailed out will be sent to the Business Office to be charged to the participant's account.
- **Book Loan Period.** The loan period for books checked out to Doctor of Ministry participants is 60 days. The due date is indicated on the date due slip in the back of the book. Participants may have fifteen books out on one subject at a time.
- **Book Renewal.** Books may be renewed for one additional 30-day period if not already requested by another individual. To renew books, the participant must contact the Public Services Coordinator at the AGTS library in person or by phone. When the call is placed to renew books, the call number, title, and author of each book must be specified properly to renew the book. At that time, the participant will be informed if someone else is waiting to use the book(s).
- **Recall of Books.** Books on loan to AGTS participants are subject to immediate recall if needed for reserve at the AGTS library. Also, after the initial two weeks that books are checked out, if the books are needed by other individuals, they are subject to immediate recall. Recalled books will be considered overdue if they are not returned within two weeks from the date notification is sent or transmitted by phone.
- **SWAN/MOBIUS Materials Available to Doctor of Ministry Participants:** AGTS is a member of the Southwest Academic Network (SWAN) of the Missouri Bibliographic Information User System (MOBIUS). AGTS shares a common Web OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) with all of the other SWAN libraries. D. Min. students may place holds through the Web OPAC for circulating books from other SWAN schools. The requested books will be sent to the AGTS Library and mailed to you. The loan period for SWAN books is 3 weeks with two 3-week renewal periods possible. However, once the initial loan period has ended, SWAN books are subject to recall. ***Please note- the SWAN loan period includes the amount of time it takes to ship the item from AGTS to the student and the amount of time it takes to ship the item back to AGTS.**

For complete library policies, please consult the library's web page at www.agts.edu/lib/

Course Descriptions

I. CORE COURSES: (12 hours)

Core 1 - Renewing the Spiritual Leader (3 hours)

Developing into a leader worth following is considered in the context of self-leadership, other-leadership, and Pentecostal spirituality. A critical appraisal of leadership models is presented as the class develops a synthetic model of Christian leadership considered from a Pentecostal perspective, and based on foundations of personal development and integrity.

Core 2 – Leading Missional Ministry (3 hours)

This course enables the Church to more ably fulfill Jesus' Great Commission to evangelize and make disciples. Identifying the hindrances to these central goals, this course comprehensively explores foundations, paradigms, strategies, and means for impacting believers and contemporary cultures. It recognizes the relevance of the gospel for many individual and societal needs. It explores motivation for discipleship, the means of disciple-making, the nature of holistic discipleship, and the connection between personal and spiritual growth.

Core 3 – The Future of Pentecostalism (3 hours)

Pentecostalism has reached the centenary mark, an event that would have been unimaginable to its first generation. In many respects the movement has changed. Not surprisingly, Pentecostals face major challenges related to cherished theological, spiritual and liturgical distinctives that once uniquely identified them. This course examines and evaluates dynamics of the early movement, the nature of the crucial changes that have occurred, and what Pentecostalism may look like in its second century of existence.

Core 4 - PTH 905 Leading Christian Organizations (3 hours)

Leadership of the contemporary church or ministry with special consideration given to the integration of biblical values, contemporary leadership theory, contemporary organizational theory, and the participant's context of ministry.

Note: The core courses are taken consecutively with the same cohort.

II. ELECTIVE COURSES (12 hours)

Participants may select electives exclusively from within a given concentration, or mix and match between concentrations to meet specific areas of interest.

Missional Leadership Concentration

- **PTH 971 Strategic Planning**

Leaders are talking about the emerging church with a focus on doing ministry in a post-modern context. It is always good to find out what God is doing in faith communities

across generations, regions and denominations. Certainly we in the North American church can learn from leaders in the developing countries. But the question remains, “What is emerging in your community, in your congregation, in your leadership team?” As such, strategic planning is a discernment process in finding out what God is up to on a global scale, but especially in our own communities. Strategic planning is also the commitment to put our ideas and dreams in writing – specific enough to measure our progress over a period of time and flexible enough to change with new developments.

- **PTH 962 Conflict Management**

This course develops a biblical and practical understanding of conflict. It examines the conflict cycle, styles of conflict management, and intervention strategies for resolving conflict. Special focus will be given to the leader’s pivotal role in conflict, using conflict for positive change, and the cultural climate for conflict.

- **PTH 977 The Character of Pentecostal Leadership: Theological Reflection and Missional Empowerment**

Pentecostal leadership for the twenty-first century must include the skills to spiritually discern biblical priorities in constantly changing contexts and a commitment to aggressively participate in the ongoing redemptive ministry of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. Key insights for the twenty-first century challenge of leadership exist in a revisiting of John Wesley’s quadrilateral for theological reflection. The process of theologizing needs increased attention in cultures where post-modernism, civilization clashes and differing worldviews have huge influence. The fresh pneumatological insights emerging from Pentecostals globally need to be taken seriously.

- **PTH 968 Coaching & Consulting the Learning Organization**

Churches today are faced with a need to make major changes in their organizational structure and culture. This course identifies a process for church organizational development and the roles of leaders serving as consultants and coaches. The participant will: (1) Grow in their understanding of the roles of coaches, consultants and mentors, (2) Understand the use of a church transformational model (3) Become familiar with the values and roles of church organizational coaches, (4) Broaden their understanding of techniques and attitudes necessary to be an effective church coach, and (5) Develop a basic understanding of learning organization philosophy as applied to churches.

Biblical Preaching Concentration (12 hours)

- **PTH 931 Advanced Expository Preaching**

Instruction in preaching from the major genres of Scripture: narrative, poetry, wisdom, prophecy/apocalyptic, gospels, epistles. The course will focus on expositional and interpretive methods for each genre, and the application of those methods to sermon development. Attention will also be given to topical expository preaching, biblical theology in preaching, and to developing expository series from books as well as from topics.

- **PTH 934 Preaching that Connects**

The course focuses on re-thinking both the possibilities and the practices of preaching for the experienced public speaker. Using multi-media, practical exercises, and peer interaction, participants will have the opportunity to develop: (1) a renewed theology of preaching; (2) a broader repertoire of communication styles; (3) a healthy integration of presentation technologies; (4) a skill set for developing great audiences; (5) an integration of audience sovereignty and scriptural authority; (6) a sensitivity to emerging audiences; (7) a holistic understanding of preaching in the context of both personal and corporate spirituality; (8) greater flexibility in audience adaptation; (9) the capacity to discern the role of preaching in effective Christian leadership; (10) the discipline of continuous personal improvement.

- **PTH 932 Narrative Preaching**

Meeting at the crossroads of God's stories with our stories, this course will require critical theological reflection on both the content and form of narrative preaching. Varied forms of narrative preaching will be studied to enhance homiletic options and to build the students' abilities in narrative prophetic witness. Elements of the historical and sociological dynamics of narration, effective communication through story, preaching to biblical narrative accounts, cultural connectedness through narrative techniques, and the psychological/sociological/ethnic dynamics of narration will be studied and applied. Students will be encouraged to go beyond methodology and technique to answer important questions about their own narrative theology of proclamation.

- **PTH 933 The Holy Spirit in Preaching and Worship**

This is an eclectic course, combining biblical (especially Paul, Mark, Luke, and John), missiological, theological, and pastoral insights to the gifts of the Spirit. It presents the biblical theological base for ministry in Spiritual gifts and an understanding of the Church and its major functions from a theological and structural point of view. Pastors and Missionaries need to grasp the sensitivities and unique needs of multi-cultural churches, especially as it relates to spiritual gifts. Most importantly, the development of gift ministry in our own lives is emphasized and practiced. A component of the biblical preaching with Pentecostal priority and emphasis is incorporated into the course. It provides general and specific principles of empowered preaching with a Pentecostal distinctive.

- **PTH 981 Creative Communication**

This is an advanced course in communication with emphasis placed on the use of technology including the computer, PowerPoint, digital audio and video, and the internet. Special application is made to the pulpit, classroom and other training settings. For the greatest benefit, participants should be reasonably proficient in computer use and have a computer available for use in the class (laptops and/or desktops which are less than two years old should be adequate). Some added equipment and software may need to be acquired (a list will be available). If you have a digital camera and/or digital camcorder (esp.

miniDV) bring these along. The class will have a strong hands-on component and is geared towards gaining skills and proficiency.

Military Chaplaincy Concentration (12 hours)

Qualified chaplains may transfer a portion of their advanced military training into the D.Min. program to create a very efficient and economical way to complete the degree.

Self-Design Study Concentration (12 hours)

Following completion of the Core courses, a participant with a specialized ministry interest may work with the D.Min. Team to construct a combination of courses, directed research, and other experiences to produce an educational framework that is a precise fit to his or her specialty and context.

III. PROFESSIONAL PROJECT

PTH 906 Project Design (3 hours)

A course designed to prepare the student for presentation of an acceptable project prospectus to the D.Min. Project Committee. Components of a prospectus, research methodologies, statistical analysis techniques, and writing strategies are explored and applied.

PTH 999 Project Development and Presentation (3 hours)

Composition and oral presentation of an acceptable written project which integrates theory and praxis and makes a meaningful contribution to the practice of ministry. All participants working on the project phase will maintain a continued registration in the program.

Program Administration and Faculty

For a complete listing of the AGTS administration and Doctor of Ministry leadership team and faculty, see the AGTS online catalog.