

**AGTS Doctor of Ministry**  
**PTH 906 D. Min. Project Design**  
**October 22-26, 2001**  
**Dr. Stephen Lim**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

A course designed to prepare the student for the presentation of an acceptable project topic and prospectus to the D. Min. Committee. Components of a proposal and research methodologies are explored and applied.

This is a hands-on, how-to course on developing your project. The course is designed to assist the participants in:

1. Identifying the roles of the participant, the project coordinator, the project advisor; the project reader and the various committees,
2. Understanding the required components of the proposal topic, project prospectus, and final project,
3. Sharpening critical and analytical skills for completing the project phase,
4. Developing basic skills in writing clearly, coherently, and concisely,
5. Formulating a plan for project completion.

## **DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROJECT STANDARDS**

The current project standards as stipulated by the Association of Theological Schools are:

The program shall include the design and completion of a written doctoral-level project that addresses both the nature and the practice of ministry. The project should be of sufficient quality that it contributes to the practice of ministry as judged by professional standards and has the potential for application in other contexts of ministry.

The ministry project should demonstrate the candidate's ability to identify a specific topic in ministry, organize an effective research model, use appropriate resources, and evaluate the results, and should reflect the candidate's depth of theological insight in relation to ministry.

Upon completion of the doctoral project, there shall be an oral presentation and evaluation. The completed written project, with any supplemental materials, should be accessioned in the institution's library.

## **COURSE FORMAT**

This course includes faculty instruction and mentoring, library research, and peer review sessions.

## **REQUIRED TEXTS**

### ***Research***

Booth, Wayne C., Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. The Craft of Research. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995.

Myers, William R. Research in Ministry: A Primer for the Doctor of Ministry Program. Chicago: Exploration Press, 1997.

### ***Writing***

Cheney, Theodore A. Rees. Getting the Words Right: How to Rewrite, Edit & Revise. Cincinnati: Writer's Digest Books, 1983.

Strunk, William and E. B. White. The Elements of Style, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: Macmillan, 1999.

Williams, Joseph M. Style: Toward Clarity and Grace. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1990.

### ***Format***

Turabian, Kate. A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996.

At the class session you will receive a revised version of the "AGTS Doctor of Ministry Professional Project Guidelines."

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Pre-session: In preparation for the course please do four things:

1. Read thoroughly all of the textbooks.
2. Read thoroughly the Doctor of Ministry Project Guidelines included.
3. Prepare a draft description (3 or more pages) of the project you envision including:
  - 1) The area of ministry you would like to pursue,
  - 2) A statement of the problem you would like your project to address (this is a critical component of the "Topic"),
  - 3) Key biblical-theological themes, subjects and texts related to the problem,
  - 4) Key research, themes, subjects and books related to the problem (bring applicable bibliographies), and,
  - 5) The major steps anticipated to complete the project.

4. Prepare a list of several potential project advisors.