



## Multnomah Biblical Seminary

### Doctor of Ministry Program Overview

Rooted in Multnomah's values and vision, the Doctor of Ministry program's mission is, "[t]o equip ministry leaders to retool and prepare for the future through biblical Trinitarian orthodoxy and progressive missional engagement with proven faculty mentors."

This program is for ministry leaders who want to explore further where God has taken or is moving them. Students will sharpen their ministry skills, deepen their understanding of Scripture and ministry, and gain more tools for leading their team and/or people. There will be ample opportunity to write and create works for publication.

#### ACADEMIC & MINISTRY FOCUS

The program has three areas of ministry emphasis –**Cultural Engagement** led by Dr. Paul Metzger, **Missional Leadership** led by Dr. Rick McKinley and **Global Evangelism** cohort led by Dr. Tim Robnett.

In June 2015, we plan to start our **Spiritual Formation** track led by Dr. Val Clemen and Professor Tom Schiave.

The **Cultural Engagement** track is designed to hone the skill set of ministry outreach leaders in such spheres as the local church, church planting, chaplaincy, campus, relief work, and community development domains. These locales are increasingly multicultural in their contexts here and abroad. Like the Apostle Paul, such leaders are ambassadors for Christ and His Church. Ambassadors are guests or even prisoners at times in other lands, just like Paul, who was often an ambassador in chains! Even so, these ambassadors function as diplomats and as advocates for Christ and His Kingdom wherever they go. They are concerned for building "vertical" bridges between God in Christ and the surrounding cultures as well as "horizontal" bridges between Christ's church and the communities in which they serve.

The **Missional Leadership** track builds on and enhances the abilities of church and ministry leaders to equip and mobilize the people in their church or organization to advance God's Kingdom by intentionally leading disciples to engage their cultural context and proclaim the Gospel. This is done through holistic missional engagement that proclaims the Gospel in the cultural language of their community and demonstrates the compassion, mercy and justice of God through tangible ministry initiatives that deal with the unique issues of the particular community in which they serve.

The **Global Evangelist** cohort focuses on the strategic role of the evangelists in leading the church in fulfilling the Great Commission. Evangelists and those doing the work of evangelism in the global context require specialized training in our ever changing world.

Throughout the course of study the unique role of the evangelist will consistently be considered. Instruction will include developing new strategies and methodologies in effective communication of the Gospel, culturally relevant ways of engaging the church in evangelistic ministry, and strategic principles for building and sustaining evangelistic ministries. International evangelist and Multnomah alum, Luis Palau, will serve as a senior lecturer to the cohort.

The **Spiritual Formation** ministry track emphasizes a biblically grounded, affective approach to how ministry leaders can teach and equip those under their spiritual care to draw closer to the Triune God. Under the guidance of the faculty mentors, cohort members will explore different facets of spiritual formation such as, its theological foundation, historical development, perspectives on the topic from various Christian traditions, and application in today's ministry context.

## APPROACH

The program follows a **cohort model** meaning a group of students will experience their entire "in-class" doctoral education together.

The tracks are led by **resident faculty** serving as *teaching mentors* to cohort members. Courses are taught as a **two one-week intensive seminars** annually for 3 years during the summer. Students will have 6 courses that emphasize different facets of their ministry track focus. Online interaction will augment classroom instruction by cultivating discussion and community between seminar meetings.

Currently, the residential coursework is done in June.

**Some courses may be held "off-site"** located in specific settings to further the impact of education by being where ministry takes place.

A **variety of perspectives** will be offered through the instruction provided by faculty mentors, and adjunct professors and guest presenters selected by the faculty mentor(s).

## WHY MULTNOMAH?

We think there are many good reasons to come to Multnomah. Here are some characteristics we believe make this program unique and significant:

**Resident faculty** – *Faculty mentors who are already a part of Multnomah's faculty will lead each track.* Our faculty are committed to Multnomah's values (which include biblical authority, Christian witness, orthopraxis, and intentional integration of bible and theology into contemporary culture), and these values undergird the program's curricula.

**Distinct and relevant** – Our tracks reflect areas of ministry that anticipate where the Church needs to be in order to serve her people and neighbors well.

*Our ministry tracks play to our strengths and emphasize areas where we are already making significant contributions to the Kingdom and God's people.*

We recognize and appreciate the good work of other seminaries in their respective programs. In some areas of ministry, it is unnecessary for Multnomah to replicate what is already being done well.

**Recognized instructors and connected ministry networks** – All course instructors are trusted and respected for what they do and know. Students participate in *existing relationships* when faculty mentors bring in adjunct faculty and guest presenters to help teach the courses – *you study with people who are friends and ministry colleagues with your faculty mentor.*

Some of the instructors you will have the opportunity study with include:

John M. Perkins, Bible teacher & civil rights activist  
Luis Palau, international evangelist  
Carolyn Custis James, author & teacher  
Gabe Lyons, Q Ideas  
Bob Roberts, Jr., Northwood Church  
Michael O. Emerson, Rice University  
Soong-Chan Rah, North Park Theological Seminary  
George Hunsberger, Western Theological Seminary  
Terry Muck, Louisville Institute  
Lon Allison, Wheaton Bible Church  
Mark DeYmaz, Mosaic Church & Mosaix Global Network  
Andrea Smith, University of California at Riverside  
Christena Cleveland, Bethel University  
Hugh Halter, pastor & author  
Josh Butler, Imago Dei Community

**Proven ministry experience** – *Our faculty live what they teach.* We live in a broken world and bringing Christ into our everyday context is imperative. Students learn alongside passionate practitioners who intentionally engage those around them.

**Focused coursework** – *Courses you take emphasize your field of interest.* 100% of your in-class seat time is in your ministry track. Over 90% of your academic work is dedicated to your ministry track (30 out of 32 credit hours). The core coursework you take is determined by your faculty mentor, and they have tailored the program to a specific educational and ministry outcome.

The money you invest into this program is a gift – from God to you, and you to us. We are partners with your stewardship of these funds so we have purposely designed our program to maximize instruction in your chosen area of ministry focus.

Furthermore, you have people investing in your ministry – congregants, leadership and family. Because of they are indirectly participating in your work, we intentionally assign

homework that overlaps your ministry work and benefits those supporting your education.

**Ministry partners every step of the way** – *You will get to know the faculty and your classmates, and they will know you.* The program is set-up to foster a learning environment that is cooperative and working for your success.

Your faculty mentors will become fairly familiar with your calling, and ministry role and passion. When it comes to the final project, your faculty mentor's knowledge about you will facilitate finding a topic to research and primary reader.

Cohort members will get to know one another and build community during the intensive courses and online discussion forums. They will serve as sounding boards for your ministry and final project. They may also become significant prayer partners and life-long friends.

**Intentional and integrated instruction** – *The work you do for class supports what you do in ministry.* Our instructors assign homework that has direct connection and relevance to your ministry. As your faculty mentor gets to know you and your ministry, they are able to help you focus on projects and homework that augments what you are doing in your role for the Kingdom.

**Holistic approach to learning** – *Foundationally, we ground our program instruction and objectives in the Trinity.* We have given thought to what it means to be Trinitarian, and what teaching and living out this foundational truth can look like.

The following figure describes how we have designed our program.

*To equip ministry leaders to retool and prepare for the future through biblical Trinitarian orthodoxy and progressive missional engagement with proven faculty mentors.*

	TRINITARIAN	RIGOROUS ORTHODOXY	PROGRESSIVELY MISSIONAL
THINK (orthodoxy)	Relational ontology & epistemology	theology framed by the Trinity	transcultural & inculturated theology cultural exegesis
BE (orthopathy)	Relational identity	identity anchored in the Trinity	identity shaped by the Gospel minister out of our identity & gifting in Christ
DO (orthopraxis)	Relational missiology	mission & cultural engagement framed by the Trinity	co-mission w/ God mission w/ Community of God (Trinity & local church) engage community of 'not-yet' believing

## Doctor of Ministry Coursework – General Schedule

### Year 1

Orientation, research prep & ELO (online)	1
Seminar 1	3
Lab 1	1
Seminar 2	3
Lab 2	1

### Year 2

Research prep & ELO (online)	1
Seminar 3	3
Lab 3	1
Seminar 4	3
Lab 4	1

### Year 3

Seminar 5	3
Lab 5	1
Seminar 6 (capstone seminar)	3
Lab 6	1

### Final project (years 2 – 4)

Final project/Dissertation	6
Tutorial	0

*Total* *32 units*

### Particulars...

- 1 one-week intensive = 40 hours in-seat classroom time = 3 units
- Each seminar includes 1 unit of online community interaction = online discussion forum that “meets” between intensives.
- Workload estimate: A credit hour can involve 500-800 pages (reading) and 10-15 pages (written). Translating this to a typical 15-week term, this could involve 2-3 hours of work outside of class per credit hour (240-360 hours). NOTE: This work is presumed to overlap with a student’s regular ministry responsibilities.

- Final project may be dissertation, ministry-focused project or collaborative work. The final project can be completed in 1 - 3 years after the completion of the capstone seminar – students have up to six years to complete the entire program. We have designed our program to facilitate completing one's degree in four years.
- Three-year option – If a student has a clear vision for their final project and wishes to complete their work as soon as possible, we do offer an option that will allow them to get everything done in as soon as three years.
- Costs do not include travel, housing, meals and costs associated with the final project. Tuition (per credit hour cost) stays the same for as long as a student remains a part of their respective entering cohort.
- For 2015-16, tuition is projected to be \$520/credit hour.
- The program is not eligible for federal financial aid. Students are enrolled part-time, and cannot receive aid or defer student loan payment.

#### FOR MINISTRY PRACTITIONERS:

Our tracks are designed for ministry practitioners. It is accessible for anyone with a bachelor degree. In connection with the DMin program, our Master of Arts in Applied Theology degree shares the same core courses.

The MAAT is for experienced ministry practitioners without a graduate degree or those for whom pursuing the MDiv or its equivalent does not make sense or is prohibitive. They have significant ministry experience and want further education. Admission to the MAAT is contingent on the faculty mentor's approval.

#### IMPORTANT NOTE:

- **Some assembly required...** Because we are taking a cohort approach, classes start when a cohort has the minimum number of students needed for a track to be done well. The size depends in large part on the cost of instruction (adjunct professors and guest presenters who augment and deepen the classroom work of the faculty mentors).

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

There are **no biblical language** requirements for the DMin program or MDiv-equivalence.

The [Registrar's office](#) can assist with identifying accredited institutions and approved coursework for equivalency.

Specific questions about admission requirements are handled by the [Admissions office](#). If you are a Multnomah alum, the [Registrar's office](#) can assist you with reporting your grades and coursework.

## REQUIREMENTS

- **MDiv degree or an equivalent** – For admission into the program, as per Association of Theological Schools (ATS) standards, applicants must have a, “...MDiv (or a qualifying master’s degree) from institutions accredited by agencies recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation or holding membership in the Association of Universities and Colleges in Canada. Qualifying master’s degrees, other than the MDiv, must be equivalent to at least 72 semester hours that represent broad-based work in theology, biblical studies, and the arts of ministry, as well as significant ministerial leadership. Ministerial experience is not considered the equivalent of or a substitute for the master’s degree.”

- **3.0 GPA** – Students are expected to have a 3.0 GPA or higher with a Master of Divinity or its equivalent from an appropriately accredited school.

Students not meeting the grade criteria can be admitted on a provisional basis which would be lifted after they demonstrate the ability to do doctoral level work.

- **Three years of ministry experience** – Applicants “...should have at least three years of experience in ministry subsequent to the first graduate theological degree...” Up to 20% of the students in the program may be admitted in a given year without the requisite three years of ministry experience, if they can show adequate ministry experience at a level of competence appropriate for advanced, professional ministerial studies.

**If you come up short in any of these criteria**, you can contact the director to discuss your qualifications.

**Time to gain MDiv-equivalence** – Depending on how many credits need to be made up to earn equivalence, a student may enter the program and take courses for equivalency concurrent to their DMin program enrollment. While one is enrolled in the

DMin program, they can be taking additional courses that fulfill the MDiv-equivalence requirement.

Students have to complete leveling coursework prior to gaining candidacy and formally starting their final project.

**NOTE for INTERNATIONAL students** – The application deadline is 4 months before the start of the cohort you plan to join.

If your theological education was received at an institution outside of the United States and Canada, then your academic transcript will need to be evaluated through a credentials evaluation service.<sup>1</sup> We encourage you to start the evaluation as soon as possible to make the application process a smooth one. Before we can accept you into the program, the transcript evaluation must be completed.

For students applying for a F-1 student visa, a financial statement listing evidence of ability to meet their educational expenses at Multnomah is needed.

When we complete the I-20, we are required to certify that the student has adequate English ability. Students will need to provide proof of proficiency in the English language.

Additional questions and information needed from international student can be found at Multnomah's site for [international applicants](#).

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<sup>1</sup> You can find accredited services at National Assn of Credential Evaluation Services (<http://naces.org/members.html>).