

Master of Arts in Christian Ministry & Leadership

Mission & Learning Outcomes

The Master of Arts in Christian Ministry & Leadership with emphases in Pastoral Care & Counseling & Women's Ministries is designed as a professional program for specialized ministry. It has been developed for those whose calling to Christian service is to positions of leadership for which the Master of Divinity or other professional degrees are not normally required.

As a result of this program, the student will:

1. Demonstrate an awareness of their own personal growth issues that will hinder their ability to minister.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of and ability to employ empathic listening skills in leadership and counseling contexts.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of and ability to employ ministry skills in program development of pastoral ministry in a church or para-church environment.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of and ability to employ ministry skills in leadership such as preaching, administration, teaching, counseling, and worship leadership.
5. Demonstrate a commitment to and ability to develop redemptive church ministries to their communities in society and culture, being relevant to current sociopolitical issues and ethical problems.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of and ability to employ leadership capabilities to deal with the growing complexity and challenges that leaders face daily as they guide people toward shared goals.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must possess a Bachelor of Arts degree or its academic equivalent from an accredited college with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale).

All applicants must submit a written statement outlining their vocational objectives and how the degree might relate to those objectives.

Graduation Requirements

- A. Satisfactorily complete 64-66 semester units as outlined in the curriculum charts below.

- B. Submit an acceptable thesis, chosen in consultation with the major advisor, or at the option of the major advisor and in lieu of the thesis, complete four additional units of electives. Students who write a thesis will have a total requirement of 64 units and those who take two additional units in lieu of a thesis will have a total requirement of 66 units.
- C. At least 33 units must be taken at this seminary.
- D. Obtain a 3.0 average with no grade below a "C-" in all courses to be credited toward graduation.
- E. Complete the entire program in no more than five years.

Students are placed on academic probation if their grade point average for any semester falls below 3.0 and will remain on probation as long as the single semester or cumulative grade point average remains below 3.0. Probation students are granted one semester in which to bring their academic work up to the required level (3.0) for continuance in the seminary. A student cannot graduate while on probation.

Emphasis Requirements

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The academic programs leading to the degree Master of Arts in Christian Ministry & Leadership with emphases in Pastoral Care & Counseling or Women's Ministries are comprised of 64-66 units structured in common to include:

1. Biblical and theological foundations
2. Academic specialization in one of four disciplines requiring biblical language studies or general studies in which biblical languages are not required
3. Additional elective courses determined by the student in consultation with the advisor.

ADVANCED STANDING

Applicants who have taken undergraduate courses in biblical or theological studies may request advanced standing based on collegiate work. See Admissions Requirements for details.

Curriculum

First Year

Fall Semester

TTBE 517	Hermeneutics & Bible Study Methods.....	3
TTBE 519	Survey of Genesis–Malachi.....	3
TTTH 511	Theology I—Introduction: Revelation & Nature of God.....	3
TTPT 706	Personal Foundations of Ministry.....	2
TTSS 510	Theological Research Methodologies	1
	Emphasis or electives*.....	3

Spring Semester

TTBE 520	Survey of Matthew–Revelation	3
TTHT 514	Historical Theology Survey	3
TTTH 512	Theology II—Works of God, Angels, Man & Sin	3
TTPT 707	Foundations of Pastoral Care & Counseling	2
TTPT 709	Spiritual Mentoring Group	0
	Emphasis or electives*	6
		17

Second Year

Fall Semester

TTTH 613	Theology III—Christ, Salvation & the Spirit	3
	Emphasis or electives*	14
		17

Spring Semester

TTTH 614	Theology IV—The Church & Last Things.....	3
	Emphasis or electives*	12
	Thesis** or electives*	0-2
		15-17

* Up to 6 graduate elective units may be taken in other schools in Biola University with advisor’s approval.

** Consult the Talbot student handbook for preliminary steps that must be completed prior to enrolling in the thesis course.

PASTORAL CARE & COUNSELING EMPHASIS

ISCL 555	Introduction to World Missions	3
TTPT 604	Pastoral Care & Chaplaincy	3
TTPT 628	Marital Counseling	3
TTPT 696	Internship	3
TTPT 703	Church & Society	3
TTPT 708	Advanced Pastoral Counseling	3
TTPT 725	Counseling Troubled Families	3
TTPT 740	Issues & Ethics in Ministry	2
TTPT 716	Addressing Common Pastoral Counseling Concerns	3

Specializations

TTCE 514	Women & Men in Christian Ministry	2
TTCE 521	Foundations of the Teaching-Learning Process....	3
TTCE 543	Counseling Adolescents & Their Parents	2
TTCE 675	Family Life Education in the Local Church	2
TTTH 717	Theology of Human Nature.....	2
TTPH 624	Seminar in Ethical Issues I	3
TTPT 626	Group Counseling Leadership	3
TTPT 627	Premarital Preparation & Counseling.....	2
TTPT 750	Directed Study	1-4
TTPT 775	Parent Education in Ministry.....	2
TTPT 802	Spiritual Conflicts & Counseling	2

WOMEN’S MINISTRIES

The Master of Arts Women’s Ministries emphasis is designed to equip students for a specific ministry to women in a local church context. It is set up to develop strengths in both Bible / theology and counseling / teaching. The program emphasizes preparation, enrichment, equipping and renewing ministries in such classes as Counseling Ministry, Group Counseling, Women & Men in Ministry, Sex Roles in Society, and Psychology of Women.

A major focus is on actual practice in women’s ministries in local churches. Our purpose is to provide local churches with specialists in the field of Women’s Ministries who have built their counseling, administrative and teaching skills upon a solid biblical and theological base. The program will prepare students for such professional positions as director of women’s ministries or associate pastor of Christian education, while providing special emphasis in the area of women’s concerns.

TTCE 512	Education Leadership & Administration	3
TTCE 514	Women & Men in Ministry	2
ISCL 555	Introduction to World Missions	3
TTPT 628	Marital Counseling	3
TTPT 634	Foundations of Women’s Ministries	3
TTPT 696	Internship	3
TTPT 725	Counseling Troubled Families	3
	Specialization	10
	Electives	8