

**Program Goals for the Doctor of Ministry
As Approved By Faculty Senate
September 20, 2010**

PTS Mission: to prepare women and men for varied Christian ministries in church and society . . . [in order] to help the church make the Christian faith effective in human life and society through a competent, educated ministry.

The purpose of the DMin program at Phillips Theological Seminary is to empower women and men who hold the MDiv degree and are already engaged in various Christian ministries of the church to develop further the talents, competencies, and skills necessary for leading churches in meeting the challenges of the 21st century (*DMin Handbook, June 2007*).

Building upon the knowledge and skills acquired in their M.Div. studies and their experience as leaders in a particular ministry context, graduates of the DMin program will be prepared to:

1. Act as responsible contextual theologians demonstrating advanced skills in biblical studies, history of Christianity, and theology.

Evidence for meeting this goal includes abilities:

- a. to interpret texts from the New Testament and the Hebrew Bible according to advanced standards of exegesis;
- b. to construct a guiding theology for ministerial practice that takes into account a liberative hermeneutic and is responsive to key themes in Christian theology and the student's pastoral experience;
- c. to discuss leadership theories and their relationship to ministerial practice;
- d. to develop a sophisticated analysis of student's ministerial context in conversation with critical studies in arts, culture and the sciences;
- e. to integrate themes in theology, drawn from biblical studies, the history of Christianity, and denominational heritage with skills and practices learned in the specialization phase of the program.

2. Exercise advanced skills in pastoral leadership specific to the objectives of the area of specialization.

Evidence for meeting this goal includes abilities to meet standards of performance and theological integration specific to each student's specialization.

3. Integrate theological research with the praxis of ministry within a particular context and with critical studies in arts, culture and the sciences in order to craft an in-depth study of a specialized area of ministry that will serve the local community and the broader church.

Evidence for meeting this goal includes abilities:

- a. to develop a research proposal that includes a project design that can be carried out in the student's context, an analysis of that context, and theological reflection in dialogue with at least one theologian, biblical text, or historical movement;
- b. to design research with human participants that is acceptable to the Institutional Review Board;
- c. to write a project report according to the standards of scholarly writing that includes the material listed in "evidence a" as well as a report on results of the project;
- d. to make an oral presentation of the project to members of the PTS faculty.