



Transformational Ministry
Leadership for Women
in Ministry & Counseling

Information Packet

June 2012-09



Phillips Theological Seminary

Transformational Leadership for Women in Ministry

Recover. Reclaim. Reconstruct. Reenvision. These are among the tasks women in Christian ministry have been performing for the last 50 years or more as they gained new identity in the feminist waves of the last century.

- ✦ Recovering the history of women in the Christian movement since its beginning.
- ✦ Reclaiming authority and responsibility for ministry within the whole people of God.
- ✦ Reconstructing roles and tasks based on new understandings of what it means to be gendered in this western 21st century society.
- ✦ Reenvisioning possibilities for human community faithful to the way of Jesus and responsive to the needs of all people.

But the work is not finished. As new generations of feminists teach us, cultural realities are changing and not always for the benefit of women. Clergywomen ministers still find themselves trapped in a shifting maze that prevents them from embracing their call as leaders. Younger women experience ministry and church as inhospitable to their own God-given talents. Stifling images of community continue to block movement. The work is not finished.

How are we to participate in God's active vision toward the well-being and wholeness for all people, not just the privileged few?

Specialization Coordinator

Dr. Ellen Blue is the Mouzon Biggs, Jr. Associate Professor of the History of Christianity and United Methodist Studies. She also teaches "Women and Religion in the US," and her reflection on teaching "Issues for Women in Christian Ministry" appeared as "Should Theological Education Be Different for Women?" in *Women and Ordination in the Christian Churches: International Perspectives* (Continuum, 2008). She was awarded a Lilly Faculty Fellowship for her 2008-09 sabbatical project, "In Case of Katrina: Reinventing the United Methodist Church in Post-Katrina New Orleans," an outgrowth of an immersion course she created.



Dr. Blue's book, *St. Mark's and the Social Gospel: Methodist Women and Civil Rights in New Orleans* (University of Tennessee Press, forthcoming in 2011), is an important contribution to the history of women working for social justice. Her book co-authored with Charles Wood, *Attentive to God: Thinking Theologically in Ministry* (Abingdon, 2008), stemmed from her interest in connecting theological education with ministerial practice. An ordained elder in the United Methodist Church, she drew on her experiences in the pastorate for material that appeared in the *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*. Her publications also include chapters in several books.

She holds the Ph.D. from Tulane University, the M.Div. from Southern Methodist University, and the M.A. from the University of Louisiana, Monroe. She joined the PTS faculty in 2002.

Program Goals

Graduates of this DMin specialization will be prepared to:

1. Act as responsible contextual theologians demonstrating advanced skills in biblical studies, history of Christianity, and theology.
2. Exercise advanced skills in leadership including abilities to:
 - a. Articulate an understanding of social change as a function of pastoral leadership that is grounded in theological and biblical reflection and responsive to the histories of Christianity particularly in relation to women and the student's own denominational heritage;
 - b. Articulate and engage from a theological, biblical and ethical standpoint important cultural issues surrounding gender as it intersects with race, economic and cultural globalization, and interfaith relations;
 - c. Develop justice-seeking strategies for community engagement and social change around particular issues of common concern;
 - d. Develop models for being church that build upon values of gender inclusivity, diversity and collaborative and transformative leadership.
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.

Overview of Course Work

The 32 semester hours of the DMin program in Transformational Leadership are distributed in 3 phases as follows:

Foundation Phase: 9 hours in Foundation Courses:

3 hrs	Pastoral Leadership in Context
3 hrs	The Biblical Message and the Praxis of God: Gender in the Bible; Feminist Hermeneutics
3 hrs	Constructive Theology of Ministry: Theology, Ethics and Sexuality

Specialization Phase: 16 hours in Specialization Seminars:

4 hrs	History of Women in Christianity
4 hrs	Immersion/Travel Experience
4 hrs	Strategies for Collaborative and Transformational Leadership
4 hrs	Elective related to DMin project

Project Phase: 7 hours in Proposal and Project Courses:

.5 hr	Project Development Seminar I
2.5 hrs	Project Development Seminar II
2 hrs	Project Proposal Course
2 hrs	Project Course

Most courses will be taught in January and June for two-week periods called “**DMin Fortnights.**” These fortnights will begin on Tuesday of the first week and continue through Wednesday or Thursday of the second week (depending upon the required contact hours of each course). On Friday of the second week the Project Development Seminar II will meet (see below).

During DMin Fortnights students and faculty will gather for morning worship at 9:00 a.m. Classes will run from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with an hour and a half for lunch and appropriate breaks.

The first DMin Fortnight for this specialization is **June 18-29, 2012** at the PTS campus in Tulsa. Orientation will begin Monday afternoon, June 18. The first Foundation course, “Pastoral Leadership in Context,” begins Tuesday morning, June 19. Students will be required to read and prepare some assigned materials beforehand.

The dates for subsequent DMin Fortnights are:

January 7-18, 2013
 June 17-28, 2013
 January 6-17, 2014
 June 16-27, 2014
 January 5-16, 2015
 June 22-July 3, 2015

Tuition and Financial Aid

The tuition rate for all PTS students is \$500.00 per semester hour; all DMin students receive seminary tuition assistance of 35% which decreases their tuition to \$325.00 per semester hour. Service fees for DMin students are \$100.00 per semester.

For students who complete the degree in 4 years (3 semesters per year) the approximate costs would include:

Tuition for 32 hours (at \$325 per hour)	\$10,400
Student fees for 12 semesters	1,200
Continuation Fees	500
Matriculation and graduation fees	<u>130</u>
TOTAL	\$12,230

Application Information

Applications are available in the PTS Admissions Office or at the PTS Website. **PLEASE NOTE:** The deadline for application to this track, beginning in June 2012, is **March 15, 2012.**

Foundation Phase Courses



Pastoral Leadership in Context

June 19-28, 2012

Instructor: Dr. Nancy Claire Pittman, Associate Professor of the Practice of Ministry and DMin Director

In this course students will engage and critique current leadership concepts and theories drawn from Christian traditions and a variety of current disciplines and arenas. They will also be given opportunities to reflect upon leadership issues for women in conversation with the material studied in class. In addition, students will be introduced to methods of analysis of context that will enable them to begin to study their own ministerial settings. Lectures, large and small group discussions of readings, and case studies are among the methods that will be used to achieve the outcomes of the course.

Constructive Theology of Ministry

June 17-28, 2013

Instructors: Dr. Melinda McGarrah Sharp, Assistant Professor of Congregational Care and Ethics and Sarah Morice Brubaker, Lecturer in Theology

This foundational course in theology and ethics will enable students to situate the embodied practices and ethical considerations of ministry within an explicit theological framework. Readings, in-class work, and assignments (both written and face-to-face) will foster competence in diverse theological methods, responsible regard for one's own and others' contexts, attention to how power shapes theological imagination, and awareness of denominational perspective. Students who successfully complete the course will articulate a vision of the Christian faith which both coheres with their stated theological method and seeks justice in our time.



The Biblical Message and the Praxis of God 2014

January 7-16,

Instructor: Dr. Lisa Davison, Johnny Eargle Cadieux Professor of Hebrew Bible

This course will explore, through the lens of gender, various biblical paradigms that define a theological approach to the practice of ministry. Using newer methods of biblical interpretation (e.g., feminist, womanist, queer, etc.), students will identify how the concept of gender influences the interpretation of the Bible. Students will use this knowledge in developing models for ministry that build upon values of gender inclusivity, diversity, and collaborative and transformative leadership as they reflect biblical traditions.



**Specialization Phase Courses:
Transformational Leadership for Women in Ministry
Specialization Coordinator: Dr. Ellen Blue**

History of Women in the Churches (Christianity) January 7-18, 2013

Instructor: Dr. Ellen Blue, Mouzon Biggs, Jr., Associate Professor of the History of Christianity and United Methodist Studies

This course is a survey of the history of women's leadership in Christianity. Students will explore the contributions of women to Christianity's development and expressions. They will gain deeper understanding of the complex relationships among society, religious, culture and acquire the ability to articulate ways that these relationships have impacted, and been impacted by, the lives and work of women. Much emphasis will be given to women in the U.S. from the colonial period to the present. While the primary focus is on women who practice the Christian faith, some attention is given to women in other religions.

Immersion/Travel Experience

June 16-27, 2014

Instructor: TBA

Led by a PTS faculty member and offered within either a national or international setting, this required immersion experience will enable students to reflect more concretely and practically on the issues and themes introduced in the foundation courses and the first specialization course.

Strategies for Collaborative and Transformational Leadership in Community

January 5-16, 2015

Instructors: Dr. Ellen Blue and Dr. Nancy Claire Pittman

In this course, students will make use of material, issues and themes from previous coursework as they begin to develop strategies for leadership that is collaborative and transformational for communities seeking to be just, compassionate, and faithful to the way of Jesus. They will also engage models of community and leadership drawn from biblical texts and the history of Christianity as ways of building norms for contemporary communities and leaders. Guest practitioners will be invited to participate in the course.

Elective Course

Each student, in consultation with the DMin Director and the coordinator of this specialization, will select or design one course that relates to her or his proposed project. This course may be chosen from MDiv course offerings at PTS (additional work will be required) or DMin Specialization courses for other tracks. It may also consist of an independent study with an appropriate faculty member.

Project Phase Courses

Project Development Seminar I

January 16, 2014

Instructor: Dr. Nancy Claire Pittman

This course will serve as an introduction to the art and craft of developing a DMin project, methods for research in ministry, and the process of writing a project. Students will participate in this course after completing the second Foundation Course.

Project Development Seminar II

June 27, 2014

Instructor: Dr. Nancy Claire Pittman

This course will meet, on an ongoing basis, on the 2nd Friday of every DMin Fortnight from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This course will be required for all students in the Specialization and Project Phases. Students must participate in a minimum of 5 sessions.

The goal of the Project Development Seminar II is to facilitate peer learning as a tool for achieving clarity about students' research and project interests. Regardless of their year or track in the program, students will meet in seminar format with the DMin Director and one other faculty member to present versions of their proposal to one another, to participate in discussion of the proposals of other students, and to report progress toward completion of the project. Students will also be given opportunity to present materials related to their research interests, ministry settings, and Specialization Track concerns. These materials may take various forms, i.e., case studies, book reviews, sermons, exegetical papers, verbatims, etc.

Project Proposal Course

This course will be arranged between student and advisor. The reader will also be consulted. When a proposal has been accepted by advisor, reader, and DMin Director, the student will be granted candidacy for the DMin degree.

Project Course

Students enroll in this course after passing the Project Proposal Course. It is also arranged between student and advisor; again, the reader and DMin Director will be consulted as needed.

Schedule of Classes

First Year:

June Fortnight 2012

Pastoral Leadership in Context (3 hrs)

January Fortnight 2013

History of Women in Christianity (4 hrs)

Project Development Seminar I (2nd Thursday, .5 hr)

Second Year:

June Fortnight 2013

Constructive Theology of Ministry (3 hrs)

January Fortnight 2014

The Biblical Message and the Praxis of God (3 hrs)

Project Development Seminar II #1 (2nd Friday, .5 hr.)

Third Year:

June Fortnight 2014

Immersion/Travel Experience (4 hrs)

Project Development Seminar II #2 (2nd Friday, .5 hr.)

Fall Semester 2014

Women in Ministry Elective (4 hrs; arranged)

January Fortnight 2015

Strategies for Collaborative and Transformative Leadership (4 hrs)

Project Development Seminar II #3 (2nd Friday, .5 hr)

Spring Semester 2015

Women in Ministry Elective (4 hrs; arranged)

Project Proposal Course (2 hrs; arranged)

Fourth Year:

June Fortnight 2015

Project Development Seminar II #4 (2nd Friday, .5 hr)

Project Proposal Course (2 hrs; arranged for Summer Semester)

Fall Semester 2015

Project Course (2 hrs; arranged)

January Fortnight 2016

Project Development Seminar II #5 (2nd Friday, .5 hr)

Spring Semester 2016

Project Course (continued; arranged)

Oral Presentation

May

Graduation!!!