

# Master of Ministry & Doctor of Ministry



**Grounded in Ministry. Reflective on Mission.**

The Master of Ministry and Doctor of Ministry are post-graduate professional degrees that aim to assist Christian leaders in developing their personal, spiritual, pastoral and intellectual capacities. They can only be done part-time

and by those with ministry experience. Participants engage with contemporary approaches to action-reflection research and theological reflection.

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**Uniting College**  
for Leadership & Theology



# Master of Ministry Admission and Course Structure

The MMin is taught over four years and can only be undertaken part-time. Admission requirements include BMin or equivalent and at least 2 years ministry experience. The course has four components:

## Coursework

Participants are enabled to broaden their existing knowledge base by exploring recent scholarship in their areas of interest. This includes two compulsory topics, one in research methods, the other in Theology of Ministry Practice.

## Guided reading

Students are enabled to explore selected areas of relevance to their ministry development.

## Programme seminars

Participants are enabled to reflect together on current issues in their ministry experience – as pilgrims on a common journey. The Programme Seminars ensure that post-graduate study is an experience of learning in community.

## Ministry practice project

An extended study in an area of ministry that excites and is considered relevant to ministry in the longer-term is supported throughout the course.

## Current areas of research include

- contemporary practices of evangelism
- the impact of short-term mission trips
- congregations as learning communities
- indigenous responses to theologies of covenant
- gender and mission
- aged care
- denominational identity
- change
- current supervision practices
- insights from historical approaches to pastoral care of depression
- the practice of welcome in the church

## A typical course of study

### First Year

Programme Seminars – theological reflection in a rich and supportive learning community

Research Methods – providing tools to engage in research into ministry practice

Theology of Ministry Practice – an invitation to reflect upon ministry experience to date and how God has been shaping and growing your individual theology of ministry and identity

Ministry Research – begin reading for ministry practice project

### Second Year

Programme Seminars – theological reflection in community continues. Often a person presents their project for group reflection.

Guided Readings/Intensive courses – pursuing selected topics of interest to broaden one's knowledge base

Ministry Research – commence research for ministry practice project

### Third Year

Programme Seminars – theological reflection in community continues

Guided Readings/Intensive topics- pursuing selected topics of interest and learning in new areas

Ministry Research – analyse results emerging from the research for ministry practice project

### Fourth Year

Programme Seminars – theological reflection in community. Often a person presents the findings of their project and receives invaluable feedback in processing the ministry implications.

Ministry Research – present research in a completed ministry practice project

## Missional Focus

The Master of Ministry provides the space for a specific focus on missional church leadership. It draws on the skills and passions of those in the teaching faculty and recognises that major shifts in Western culture have enormous implications for the practice of ministry today.

A distinct cohort of learners participate in online missional Programme Seminars. Each participant is expected to work on missional change within their specific ministry context (Ministry Practice Project). This focus of their leadership skills is supported and grown by coaching (Theology of Ministry Practice), guided reading in leadership and change, missiology and the practices of missional life (Guided Reading) and research support (Research Methods Seminars).

## This stream is ideal for

- those whose initial training might not have included a focus on mission and leadership
- those wanting to enhance their missional leadership skills
- those needing collegial support in cultivating change
- the course is offered to students studying locally or at a distance

## First Year

Theology of Ministry Practice: Using the Leadership 360 to provide a confidential assessment of individual strengths and weaknesses. The insights are then taken forward into Coaching in Year 2–4

Research Methods: introduction to the skills and practices of researching people and communities as living libraries

Peer Support: a cohort that continues over the duration of the learning

## Second Year

Coaching: to guide each individual in leadership development and mission planning

Missional Change Project: an individual change project commences and continues over the duration

Mission as Theology: reading groups in recent theologies of mission

## Third Year

Coaching, Peer Support and Missional Change project continue

Mission as change: reading groups in leading change

## Fourth Year

Missional Change Project concludes: portfolio of learning is submitted as a practicum thesis

Mission as practice: reading groups in the practices of mission life

In order to ensure quality coaching we enrol a maximum of five participants annually in the Missional MMin. Prompt expressions of interest are encouraged. Contact Rosemary Dewerse 08 8416 8434  
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## Doctor of Ministry Admission and Course Structure

The DMin is taught over six years part-time. Admission requirements include BMin (Hon) or equivalent or an MMin and at least 3 years ministry experience. The course has four components:

## Coursework

Participants are enabled to broaden their existing knowledge base by exploring recent scholarship in their areas of interest. This includes three compulsory topics, two in research methods and one in Theology of Ministry Practice.

## Guided reading

Students are enabled to explore selected areas of relevance to their ministry development.

## Programme seminars

Participants are enabled to reflect together on current issues in their ministry experience – as pilgrims on a common journey. The Programme Seminars ensure that post-graduate study is an experience of learning in community.

## Ministry practice thesis and practicum

An extended study in an area of ministry that excites and is considered relevant to ministry in the longer-term is supported throughout the course. The course also includes Supervision in a relevant ministry experience as an option.

# enquiries & enrolment new & existing students



## Grounded

All participants are in ministry, ensuring discussion and engagement is constantly shaped by ministry.

## Flexible

With individualised learning paths through the Guided Reading Topics and Ministry Practice Thesis.

## Reflective practitioners

Regular Programme Seminars throughout the course and an initial personalized unit on Theology of Ministry Practice, give priority to theologies that emerge in and around ministry life.

## Broad

Learning with students from across the body of Christ.

## Living libraries

A research approach in which people are encouraged to be learning in and among the people with whom they minister.

Currently between 20–25 people are engaged in the Master of Ministry postgraduate study. They include Ministers and Chaplains from a range of denominations – Anglican, Baptist, Salvation Army, Churches of Christ, Catholic and Uniting. This ensures a rich and vibrant learning community.

## enquiries

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## enrolment

**CONTACT** ACD Office  
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