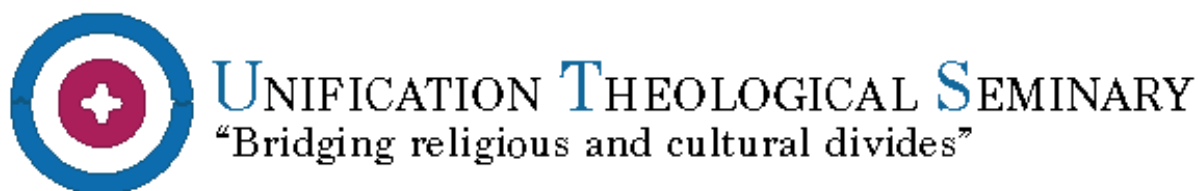


UTS Doctor of Ministry

Kathy Winings
March 28, 2018



Greetings from UTS!

Happy Easter. I pray that you and your family are doing well.

I am writing to you to invite you to seriously consider applying to the [Doctor of Ministry program](#) at UTS. I believe that this is the right degree for you at this time. It allows you to gain increased and relevant skills in your chosen area of ministry today, providing you with the advanced credentials that will increase your marketability, while also being the most cost-effective doctorate in higher education.



*[Dr. Kathy Winings](#)
Professor of Religious
Education
Director, Doctor of
Ministry Program*

I am enclosing [an FAQ sheet](#) about the program to help you in your deliberations. As you can see, you do not need to relocate to Barrytown to do the degree. All you need to do is to come to Barrytown for a 2-week intensive session for a total of 4 visits. The bulk of your work is done at home. And for those of you who graduated from UTS before 1988, you do NOT need to upgrade your diploma – we can accept your UTS diploma with no problem. If you graduated from the Master of Divinity program, you can apply and begin this August. If you graduated from the Master of Religious Education program, then you may need to take a few courses to gain equivalency - or eligibility- for the program. But apply now anyway and we can see what you need to do for your equivalency work. It may be possible to do some of these courses online.

Many of your fellow classmates and friends may have already been awarded their doctorate. Just imagine that you too might be walking across the UTS stage to receive your diploma and doctoral hood in a mere three years from now if you apply for this year's entering class. As one D.Min. graduate noted:

"If you want to have an experience that is spiritually transforming, then come to UTS for the DMin. degree." (Dr. Delores Harrison, UTS'94; DMin'10)

Each of our D.Min. graduates have completed amazing dissertation projects that they have since implemented in their ministries or work. Their projects have ranged from enhancing the effectiveness of the [Universal Peace Federation](#); the creation of a marriage enrichment and counseling program for couples; the development of an association of storefront churches that provides on-going training for pastors; the formation of an afterschool program sponsored by churches to support public school teachers; a curriculum for small group ministries; to the development and implementation of an online training program for NGO representatives seeking to work at the U.N.. All are vital projects that have dealt with real issues and have allowed each doctoral student to achieve greater satisfaction with their work and to expand their competency in what they do. Dr. William Selig (UTS '81, DMin '12) turned his dissertation project into [a small book](#) on the meaning of death and how to prepare for it. It was an amazing moment to hold his book in my hands knowing that his dissertation project served as a seed for the book.

You too can be part of this growing group of graduates from the doctoral program at UTS. Take a moment to view the videos and articles on the UTS website about the DMin. program. The students

themselves will tell you what a great experience it is and that it is worth your investment of time and money.

[Dr. Michael Balcomb](#)

[Dr. Edmond Charley](#)

[Dr. Idris Kone](#)

[Dr. Frank LaGrotteria](#)

[Dr. Ebony Kirkland](#)

[Mari Curry](#)

[Dr. Abdou Gaye](#)

If, after the videos and reviewing the FAQ sheet, you have additional questions, please contact me as soon as you can and I will be more than happy to answer them and guide you through the admissions process. I can be reached at k.winings@uts.edu.

You will also find a downloadable [DMin. application form](#) on the UTS website, or fill out your application online: [begin application](#)

I really want to encourage you to apply today. It will be a life-changing decision and one of the best decisions that you will ever make in your life. So don't delay. Contact me now and let's talk about it.

Sincerely,

Kathy Winings, EdD

Application deadline: May 25

DMin Intensive: August 6-10

August 13-17

Doctor of Ministry Degree Program

FAQ SHEET

1. What is the Doctor of Ministry (D. Min) Degree Program at UTS?

Quite simply, the best, fastest, cheapest and most attainable opportunity to acquire an accredited doctoral degree, while at the same time contributing to the realization of one of the Founder's most cherished goals for UTS.

The Doctor of Ministry Degree Program at UTS is an advanced degree program designed to offer students who are engaged in some form of ministerial/religious leadership, the opportunity to enhance and expand their ministerial skills and competencies as well as reflect more profoundly on their own theological and spiritual development as men and women of God. The DMin. degree is your opportunity to earn the ultimate degree so that you can do even more with your life and ministry.

2. What are the key outcomes of the DMin. Program at UTS?

Relying on peer and adult-based learning, the outcomes of the Doctor of Ministry Program are: (a) be able to use critical and analytical tools to effectively assess the ministerial leadership changes and needs within one's ministry, (b) assess one's strengths and limitations in ministry and reflect on one's theological and personal gifts that one brings to ministry so as to support effective self-care and greater ministerial competency, (c) be able to integrate mastery of scripture, tradition and reason within one's practice of ministry for ministerial effectiveness, (d) re-examine one's personal, theological and spiritual perspectives in light of a global, prophetic understanding of the modern world, (e) be able to demonstrate effective leadership with diversity of skills appropriate to leading one's community of faith.

3. How many credits do I have to complete in the Program?

This non-residential program requires students to complete 28 credits of coursework and 6 credits for a written Dissertation Project for a total of 34 credits. The DMin. is universally described as equivalent to one full year of courses.

4. How often do I have to go to the Barrytown campus?

You only need to attend class on the Barrytown campus two times each year over two years for a total of just 4 times. The actual time period for classes from beginning to end is therefore only 18 months. Each Barrytown visit will be for two weeks. You will register for and complete 7 credits in each two-week Intensive session.

5. What do you mean when you say 80% of the work is done off-campus?

Because it is a non-residential program, you will do most of the preparation for your courses off-campus, at home. You register for your Intensive sessions 2-3 months before you come to campus. Course syllabi are promptly emailed to you, giving you ample time to complete the listed pre-assignments and readings for those courses as preparation for your on-campus Intensive. After completing the two-week Intensive, you will have an additional 6-8 weeks to complete all final assignments.

6. What makes this doctorate different from other doctorates?

The DMin. is considered a "professional doctorate" as opposed to a research-based doctorate. But it is a doctorate nonetheless. The D.Min. is a very practical degree with an emphasis on helping you improve what you do as your ministry. Each course has been selected to support the ministry work of each student. Each assignment is intentionally designed to integrate your daily ministry with your coursework to provide greater insight and opportunities for personal self-reflection and effectiveness in your work. Even the dissertation project is focused on a problem or issue in your particular field of ministry. Consequently, the DMin. successfully integrates theory and practice.

7. What does the D.Min. cost?

Plan to pay approximately \$4,500 for each of the 4 Intensives. This includes tuition, fees, room and board and projected textbook costs. These costs are based on you staying on campus during the Intensive. However, students do not have to live on campus if they make other living arrangements. If you spread your payments over the 6 month period between Intensives, that is just about \$750 a month. The other costs later in the program include: dissertation project registration fee which is tuition costs for the 6 credits; purchase of your doctoral hood, gown and cap; and \$100 for a graduation and binding fee. Payment plans may be arranged with the Finance Office and students also have access to the Student Loan system. You might also consider sponsorship by someone in your church or community or check to see if your employer offers continuing education support. There is also the federal tax credit program, which can apply to your studies – not just to your college-aged son or daughter. When you consider that the typical doctorate costs more than \$175,000 today, certainly the D.Min. is the most affordable doctoral program anywhere.

8. What are the benefits of the D.Min. degree?

A doctoral degree places you in a better position in the job market. More and more employers are encouraging their employees to earn advanced degrees because they know that employees with advanced degrees are better employees and they enhance the image of that company. Not only will the content of the degree program enhance your ministry work, it will also add to your own personal growth and development spiritually, emotionally and academically. The skills and knowledge you gain through the program will keep you relevant and will help you feel great about your ongoing contribution to God's kingdom. Many D.Min. graduates obtain teaching positions in higher education – especially with the expansion of Religious Studies programs in community colleges and 4 year universities. The D.Min. elevates your ministry work in the eyes of the wider public and offers you a stronger platform on which to address community issues and concerns.

9. What if I graduated from UTS before 1988? Do I need to upgrade my diploma?

No matter when you graduated from UTS, for the purpose of the D.Min. degree program, your UTS degree is accepted without you having to go through additional requirements to upgrade your diploma.

10. What are the Admissions Requirements for the D. Min. Program?

Applicants to the D. Min. Program need: (a) the Master of Divinity Degree, or its equivalent, with a minimum overall grade average of B (3.00). In cases where strong ability has been demonstrated in the practice of ministry, applicants with a lower grade average may be considered, with the understanding that they will begin the Degree Program conditionally; and (b) a minimum of three years experience in a ministry of some type subsequent to their first graduate theological degree. For those with extensive experience in their particular ministry field, exceptions can be made in this admission requirement.

11. What do I have to do if I graduated from the MRE degree program?

If you graduated with the MRE degree, don't worry. There is a way for you to enter the D.Min. program with what we call "equivalency." Since the M.Div. degree – or its equivalent – is the required degree for admission to the D.Min. program. The Director of the Program can explain more fully how equivalency is determined. Our Admissions Committee will review your transcript then the program director will contact you to let you know what you need to do to obtain "equivalency." The point of the equivalency courses is to ensure that you have the necessary theoretical content to go through the courses in the D.Min. program. This holds true even if you graduated from another seminary with a different type of graduate theological degree other than the M.Div. degree.

12. Do I have to wait until I have finished all of the equivalency courses before starting the D.Min.

program?

Not necessarily. If you have no more than 2 equivalency courses to take, you may begin your D.Min. coursework on a conditional basis. But you must complete all remaining equivalency courses before completing your DMin. coursework. The best advice is to go ahead and apply to the D.Min. program today and let God work.

13. If I need equivalency, does this mean I have to come to UTS to take these courses?

Again, not necessarily. Of course, UTS alumni are always welcomed to return to campus to take any class that interests them. However, there are other options to help you complete your equivalency needs. Students may take equivalency courses through Adobe Connect or Canvas. This makes it easier for you to complete your entry requirements at home.

For those who live near the metropolitan New York area or near the Washington, DC area, you can also take courses at the New York City or Maryland campus. We offer afternoon, evening and weekend classes that just might fit your schedule in New York and evening courses in Maryland. Of course, you may also take these courses at any other school that offers them. However, please check with the D.Min. program director before registering for those courses just to make sure they match the courses you need. But we certainly hope you will take the courses with UTS.

14. What support structure is there for the students?

The UTS D.Min. program is designed to provide you with multiple levels of support so that you can successfully complete your degree program. We want you to earn your doctoral degree. So we have gone to great lengths to surround you with support. These levels of support include a faculty advisor, a field advisor and a small peer-based site team (selected by you) who serve as a mentoring network for you while you are working your way through the degree program. This is also a great networking model that can also support you in your ministry work. In addition, you also have your entering cohort with whom you share a common experience and a common bond working through your coursework, reflections and discussions. And you also have the program director who is there to help you successfully complete the program.

15. How do I apply?

Applicants can either download the D.Min. Application Form directly from the UTS website or you can contact the D.Min. program director or the UTS Admissions Director and a Form will be emailed to you immediately. The completed Application Form should be submitted to the program director together with (a) a \$30 non-refundable Application Fee, (b) original transcripts of undergraduate and graduate level studies, (if you are an alumni of UTS, we have your original transcripts), (c) 2 recommendation letters, (d) the extended essay, and (e) 1 digital photo and 1 passport size photo. The last page of the Application Form offers the details of what to write about in the application essay. All application materials are due no later than May 20 of the year you wish to begin your studies.

16. What should I expect when I attend the Intensive?

Each Intensive is organized as follows: In the first week, you take one 3-credit course from Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 4:00pm. In the second week, you will then take your second 3-credit course, again Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 4:00pm. In addition, you will also register for and complete a 1-credit Research Methodology Seminar during each of the Intensives which is held each weekday during the two weeks from 4:30pm – 5:30pm. This is where the UTS D.Min. program is unique. Rather than take one large Research Seminar at the end of your coursework, you will take one segment of the Research program each time you come to campus. This allows you to better digest all that information and complete your coursework having written at least a first draft of your Dissertation Project proposal. This helps ensure that you earn your degree in a timely manner. Evenings and weekends are study and free time for students. Each new entering class will also have an on-campus orientation session on the Sunday evening before classes begin in their first August Intensive.

17. Who do I contact and what should I do now?

The D.Min. program director is Dr. Kathy Winings. Feel free to contact her at: k.winings@uts.edu.

What should you do now? Download the Application Form and send it in immediately! There is still time before the deadline for this year's entering class.

Now is the time for you to take your ministry work to a whole new level. The time has come for you to invest in yourself and your career. This is your chance to fulfill your dream of earning a D.Min. degree. Don't wait any longer. Begin this journey today.

Apply Today for a Truly Life-Changing Experience!

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Doctor of Ministry (D.Min) Program



The Doctor of Ministry is an advanced theological degree that provides students who are engaged in ministerial leadership the opportunity to enhance and expand their ministerial skills and to reflect on their own theological and spiritual development as men and women of God. It is the capstone professional degree program for individuals who hold the Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent, providing them with the opportunity for further study and reflection and to develop the advanced skills and knowledge required for ministry in the 21st century.

The program challenges students to: 1) assess their ministerial effectiveness and leadership; 2)

reflect on their theological and spiritual development in light of their current ministerial responsibilities; 3) develop greater competency in their ministry; 4) pursue a comprehensive research project that leads to a critical examination of some aspect of their ministry in light of congregational needs, societal changes and theological commitments; and 5) become peers and mentors to their colleagues in the program.

In order to accomplish these purposes, the D.Min. Program needs to be integrated with the actual practice of ministry. All students are expected to be fully engaged in their own ministry—whether it is a congregational ministry, youth ministry, social service ministry or some other form of ministry—while enrolled in the degree program.

The UTS Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) Program

Graduation Requirements

To be awarded the degree, a student completes 28 credits of coursework offered in four 2-week Intensive Sessions over two years, plus 6 credits for the doctoral-level Dissertation Project utilizing an action-research model. A student must fulfill the following requirements:

- A Learning Contract prepared at the beginning of the program and revised periodically in consultation with his/her Faculty Advisor and Field Supervisor to reflect personal learning goals
- Four Doctor of Ministry Seminars
- Four Research Seminars
- Four doctoral-level courses in a chosen concentration—either Family and Educational Ministry or Peace and Justice Ministry
- A grade-point average of at least 2.50
- An approved Dissertation Project Proposal
- Acquire a Field Advisor and develop a Site Team to provide support and mentoring
- The Dissertation Project Defense
- The completed Dissertation Project and Abstract submitted to the library

D.Min. Course Requirements: Courses listed are for 3 credits unless otherwise noted.

D.MIN. Seminars (4 courses, 12 credits) The four required courses are:

- MIN 8101 Spiritual Formation and Integration
- MIN 8102 Theological and Ethical Perspectives of Ministerial Leadership
- MIN 8103 The Changing Face of Society: Diversity and Its Impact on Ministry
- MIN 8104 Transformational Leadership in a Postmodern World

Research Seminars (4 courses, 1 credit each) The four required Research courses are:

- MIN 8802 Dissertation Research Seminar I: Formulating the Question
- MIN 8801 Dissertation Research Seminar II: Bibliographic Research and Overview of the D.Min. Dissertation
- MIN 8803 Dissertation Research Seminar III: Research Design Strategies
- MIN 8804 Dissertation Research Seminar IV: Designing the Project Proposal

Elective Courses (4 courses, 12 credits) Students select a total of four courses from one of the two concentrations offered: Family and Education Ministry, and Peace and Justice Ministry:

Family and Educational Ministry

MIN 8501 Ministry Among Diverse Lifestyles

MIN 8502 Religious Education and Ministry Needs of the Postmodern Family

MIN 8503 Challenges and Possibilities of the Emerging Global Family

MIN 8504 Faith Formation, Spirituality and Counseling in the Contemporary Family

Peace and Justice Ministry

MIN 8701 Multiculturalism, Diversity and Non-violent Conflict Resolution

MIN 8702 Issues in Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

MIN 8703 Faith, Spirituality and Social Justice in the Global Market

MIN 8704 Change Management for Faith Leaders



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