

Doctor of Ministry Program

"Leadership for Change and Reconciliation in Africa"

Beginning 2010

THE DISTINCTIVE NATURE OF THE DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) is an advanced, professional theological degree for pastors and other Christian leaders in church, non-governmental organizations, and mission communities. In keeping with the vision of AIU-ISAR-NEGST, this program seeks to address itself to the unique needs and opportunities of ministry in the African context. Designed primarily as in-service continuing education for working pastors, it seeks to integrate the wisdom of ministry experience with the highest levels of theological reflection. This process involves a series of modular seminars, year-round reading and writing assignments, and mentoring, culminating in a publishable ministry-based research dissertation.

Doctor of Ministry Program Components

At ISAR-NEGST, the Doctor of Ministry program is specialized and designed to be taken in an uninterrupted sequence of experience over four years. There are 2 residencies each year for three years. One course is engaged in during each residency as a cohort.

*** Each DMIN course will require 5 months of intensive work

- a. 1 MONTH PRIOR TO RESIDENCE ---Prior to arrival at residency "class" candidates will do assigned reading and evaluative exercises preparing to present case studies, etc.
- b. 10 DAY COHORT RESIDENCY (8 + 2 Days of Spiritual Formation)
- c. 3.5 MONTHS integrative self-directed study with consultation/mentoring

AUGUST – DECEMBER

FEBRUARY - JUNE

Module #1 – PA 901 Formation of the Leader as Person [Research Methods Workshop]	Module #2 - PA 905 Leadership for Transformation: Change, Vision, Discernment
Module #3 – PA 950 Theology and Practice of Personal Peacemaking	Module #4 - PA 960 Conflict Transformation
Module #5 – PA 965 Peace-making in Church and Community [Qualifying Oral Exam]	Module #6 – PA 910 Leadership as Building Human Capacity
Dissertation and Oral Defense	

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What exactly is a Doctor of Ministry program?

The Doctor of Ministry is designed as the professional degree to broaden and deepen a person's understanding and skills for ministry. The goal is "reflective practitioners." It focuses on the practice of ministry rather than on doing research in an academic setting. It is the highest degree offered for practitioners in Christ's service. The process is in every sense as "academically" rigorous and disciplined as a traditional doctoral degree but alternative disciplines and cognitive activities are emphasized (e.g. reflection on praxis, synthesis, creative application of knowledge, problem solving, etc.)

2. Is it possible to fit a Doctor of Ministry program into my busy life?

Probably. You'll have to make a place in your schedule for reading, attending seminars, and projects. In the D.Min. Program, however, everything you do can be integrated directly or indirectly into your current ministry setting. **The program requires about 12 hours of study and preparation per week throughout the three years.**

3. How much time would I have to spend on campus and how much is the fees?

There are 2 residencies each year for three years. Each residency requires you to be on campus for ten days. 1 course is engaged in during each residency as a cohort. Since the Doctor of Ministry program is adult education, much of what you learn, you can learn in your place of service.

The cost per year will be US\$ 2000 and thus the total for the three years is US\$ 6000. This excludes the cost for the dissertation project.

4. Do I have to write a thesis?

Yes and no. As we said, this is not a traditional "academic" program. It is a professional degree. Whether you write a thesis or do a project depends on what you would like to accomplish. Some participants have used the final thesis project to write a book. Others have done projects that benefited their local congregations. What you will do can be as wide as your imagination and as practical as your needs.

Admission Requirements for the Doctor of Ministry Programme

In addition to the minimum entrance requirements for every university programme, all applicants for admission to the Doctor of Ministry programme shall meet the following requirements:

- a) Normally, an applicant will possess a Master of Divinity degree from an accredited institution of higher learning with a cumulative grade point average of at least a B+ or 3.30.
- b) Students who have earned the degree of Master of Arts in a theological discipline will also be considered for admission. Because the D.Min. presupposes that the applicant has a broad background in Biblical, Theological and Pastoral disciplines, the transcript of the M.A. applicant will be evaluated by the Director of the Doctor of Ministry Programme.
- c) A minimum of 3 years of post-MDiv. ministry experience in which the applicant was carrying out leadership responsibilities. Applicants will present an integrative portfolio as part of the application process. [M.A. applicants will be required to have 5 years of post-masters relevant field work.]
- d) An ongoing position of responsibility in an African organization and the endorsement by that organization of the applicant's continuing education. The organization will certify its willingness to provide the "laboratory" context in which the D.Min. student's integrative work will take place.

For more information and to discover if the Doctor of Ministry is the right professional degree programme for you, CONTACT: Dr. George Renner, Director of Doctor of Ministry email: leadership@negst.edu