Pastoral Ministry

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About the discipline
The pastoral ministry program is designed to: (1) cultivate a broad perspective on Christian life as ministry; (2) introduce the student to an expanding variety of pastoral ministries, particularly in the church; (3) provide significant preparation for pastoral service in one of several vocational areas; and (4) help the student assess what further education might be needed for effective service in the chosen area of ministry. For students from the Free Methodist Church, the program also fulfills the educational requirements for ministry ordination.

Career opportunities
The pastoral ministry major is a “career entry” program for students who anticipate beginning a career in pastoral ministry or other forms of church ministry immediately after college graduation or after further education. In specialized ministries, such as counseling, additional education may still be required, yet generally this program should fulfill the minimal entry requirement for certain agencies. In these and other cases, the church or agency through which an individual will minister will determine the level of education required—some churches and agencies require seminary preparation.

Program strengths and emphases
A primary objective of the pastoral ministry program is the meaningful integration of academic and experiential learning, of the theoretical bases of ministry as well as practical skills in ministry. The student is required to do vocational exploration in ministry (through class and service experience) as well as a formal internship after the completion of most course work. Adjunct faculty serve also to bring into the classroom current practices in ministry for additional perspectives.

All ministry programs in the Department of Theology offer a creative blend of solid academics, practical ministry training and application, and spiritual formation. Included in all department programs is a central theological curriculum, which provides an essential foundation for all forms of Christian ministry. This curriculum includes courses in the four areas that make up what is commonly known as the Wesleyan Quadrilateral: Scripture, tradition, reason and experience.

Requirements
The 63-69-hour pastoral ministry major requires:

COMMON THEOLOGICAL CURRICULUM

Scripture (12 hours)
REL 220  Biblical Interpretation (3)

One of the following:
REL 301  Pentateuch (3)
REL 302  Old Testament Historical Books (3)
REL 303  Old Testament Prophets (3)
REL 404  Theology in Psalms and Wisdom Lit (3)
(Any of these four courses will replace REL 218 in the liberal arts requirements)

One of the following:
REL 331  Synoptic Gospels and Acts (3)
REL 332  Gospel of John and Revelation (3)
REL 333  Pauline Letters (3)
REL 434  Theology in Romans (3)
(Any of these four courses will replace REL 212 in the liberal arts requirements)

One additional Bible course from the above (3)

Tradition (6 hours)
REL 306  Doctrines of the Christian Faith (3)
REL 343  History of Christianity (3) OR
REL 346  History of Christianity in America (3)

Reason (6 hours)
PHI 200  Introduction to Philosophy (3) OR
PHI 210  Survey of Worldviews (3)
REL 324  Christian Ethics (3) OR
PHI 314  Contemporary Moral Issues (3)
### Experience (6 hours)
- CMI 361 Spiritual Formation (3)
- REL 410 Theological Praxis and the Essentials of Ministry (3)

### PASTORAL MINISTRY

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMI 210</td>
<td>Philosophy of Ministry</td>
<td>(3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMI 227</td>
<td>Exploring Ministry</td>
<td>(2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMI 285</td>
<td>Exploratory Experience (1-2)</td>
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<td>CMI 310</td>
<td>Communication in Ministry</td>
<td>(3)</td>
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<td>CMI 337</td>
<td>Principles of Preaching</td>
<td>(3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMI 344</td>
<td>Church Leadership</td>
<td>(3)</td>
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<td>CMI 422</td>
<td>Counseling in Ministry</td>
<td>(3)</td>
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<td>CMI 450</td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>(4-8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHI 381</td>
<td>Philosophy of Religion OR REL 394 World Religions</td>
<td>(3)</td>
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<td>REL 470</td>
<td>Development of Wesleyan Thought</td>
<td>(3)</td>
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Choose one of the following:
- REL 318  Patristic Theology (3)
- REL 320  History and Theology of the Reformation Period (3)
- REL 420  Sources and Norms of Theology (3)

Choose one elective:
- REL 322  Introduction to Free Methodism (2)
- Any course from CMI, HEB, GRE, PHI, REL or YMI (2-3)

Support courses:
- BUS 325  Principles of Management (3)
- PSY 100  Introduction to Psychology (4)

### The 21-hour pastoral ministry minor requires:

- CMI 210  Philosophy of Ministry (3)
- CMI 227  Exploring Ministry (2)
- CMI 337  Principles of Preaching (3)
- CMI 344  Church Leadership (3)
- REL 306  Doctrines of the Christian Faith (3)
- REL 470  Development of Wesleyan Thought (3)

Electives from CMI, HEB, GRE, PHI, REL or YMI to reach 21 hours

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**Notes for general education:** The following courses required for the Pastoral Ministry major also fulfill requirements for general education: One Old Testament Biblical Literature course, One New Testament Biblical Literature course, PHI 200 Introduction to Philosophy or PHI 210 Survey of Worldviews, and CMI 361 Spiritual Formation.

**Course descriptions:**

See course descriptions under Business, Christian Ministries, Philosophy, Psychology and Religion.