

ACD MASTER OF MINISTRY

With exit at Graduate Diploma in Ministry or Graduate Diploma in Resource Ministry

The ACD Master of Ministry (MMin) is a post-graduate professional degree for those involved in Christian Ministry. It is aimed at assisting Christian leaders in developing their personal, spiritual, pastoral and intellectual capacities. Participants are required to engage with contemporary approaches to empirical research and theological reflection. They interact with the best of the current thinking in a relevant area of pastoral ministry and apply the theoretical knowledge they have acquired in developing a ministry project built around current pastoral practice.

Entry Requirements

Entry to the Master of Ministry normally requires:

1. A Bachelor of Ministry degree or equivalent; and
2. At least two year's pastoral experience; and
3. Permission of the Course Convenor.

However the ACD Board may, under certain circumstances and subject to specific conditions admit others who can show evidence of fitness for candidature.

Course Structure

The Master of Ministry is a 72 unit four year course taught on a part-time basis only. There are two streams in the course, Ministry and Resource Ministry. The Resource Ministry stream is available exclusively by distance education. After successful completion of Levels One and Two (completed over two years part-time) a student may exit with the 36 unit Graduate Diploma in Ministry or the 36 unit Graduate Diploma in Resource Ministry. Students wishing to complete the Master of Ministry continue to complete Levels Three and Four. See Course Structure diagram on p 20.

Course Components

1. *Coursework Topics:* The coursework topics allow participants to explore current scholarship in their area of interest. Coursework topics may also be selected in consultation with the course convenor from 3 and 6 unit advanced level topics from the ACD Bachelor of Ministry course, in which case additional tasks may be assigned in order to increase the content to graduate level. MMin students will be assessed at graduate level in these topics.
2. *Guided Reading Topics:* With the guidance of a topic convenor the student is enabled to read and be assessed in selected areas related to the student's area of research. These 3 unit topics normally require 3,000 words of written work.
3. *Programme Seminars:* There are 21 seminars at 1 unit per seminar which allow participants to discuss current issues in their ministry experience and to present progress reports on ministry projects. Participants will be required to submit a 1,000 word response paper for each seminar. Each participant will be expected to lead at least one segment (approx 1 hr in length) of a Programme Seminar at each of levels 2-4 and will be required to submit a paper (1,500-3,000 words) describing the key issues in their presentation in advance. Seminars will also be led by the course convenor and invited experts in areas of ministry practice.

4. *Ministry Practice Project: Ministry Stream*

Participants will be expected to complete a ministry practice project of 24 units for the Master of Ministry (24,000 words) or 12 units (12,000 words) for the Graduate Diploma in Ministry on a topic associated with a current ministry activity. The topic of the project may be selected from one of the following broad areas:

- Christian Education
- Youth and Children's' Ministry
- Spirituality
- Pastoral Care
- Pastoral Counselling
- Leadership and Parish Development
- Worship and Liturgy
- Social Justice
- Mission and Evangelism

By the end of the first year of the ministry stream of the course participants will need to have submitted to the course coordinators a proposal for their ministry research project. Prior to commencement of the project a supervisor will be appointed

5. *Ministry Practice Project: Resource Ministry Stream*

Participants will be expected to complete a ministry practice project of 24 units for the Master of Ministry. This will involve the production, refinement, and approval of a Learning Plan in the broad area of resource ministry and the subsequent completion of the goals of the plan and a written project of 24,000 words. Prior to commencement of the project a local supervisor will be appointed under the oversight of a designated Director of Field Education.

Master of Ministry Course Structure

Ministry Stream			Resource Ministry Stream		
		<i>Units</i>		<i>Units</i>	
Level 1	MINS9030 Research Methods Seminar <i>and</i>	3	MINS9030 Research Methods Seminar <i>and</i>	3	
	MINS8551 Theology of Ministry Practice <i>and</i>	6	MINS8551 Theology of Ministry Practice <i>and</i>	6	
	MINS8531-8532 Guided Reading Courses A-B <i>or</i>	6	MINS8531-8532 Guided Reading Courses A-B <i>or</i>	6	
	Approved Coursework Topics* <i>and</i>		Approved Coursework Topics* <i>and</i>		
	MINS8501-8503 Programme Seminars 1-3	3	MINS8501-8503 Programme Seminars 1-3	3	
	Total Units Level 1	18		Total Units Level 1	18
Level 2	MINS8504-8509 Programme Seminars 4-9 <i>and</i>	6	MINS8504-8509 Programme Seminars 4-9 <i>and</i>	6	
	MINS8001-8002 Ministry Practice Project I-II	12	MINS8533-8536 Guided Reading Courses C-F <i>or</i>	12	
			Approved Coursework Topics*		
	Total Units Level 2	18		Total Units Level 2	18
Exit	Graduate Diploma in Ministry	36	Graduate Diploma in Resource Ministry	36	
Level 3	MINS8003 Ministry Practice Project III <i>and</i>	6	MINS8001-8002 Ministry Practice Project I-II <i>and</i>	12	
	Approved Coursework Topics* <i>or</i>		MINS8510-8515 Programme Seminars 10-15	6	
	MINS8533-8534 Guided Reading Courses C-D <i>and</i>	6			
	MINS8510-8515 Programme Seminars 10-15	6			
	Total Units Level 3	18		Total Units Level 3	18
Level 4	MINS8004 Ministry Practice Project IV <i>and</i>	6	MINS8003-8004 Ministry Practice Project III-IV <i>and</i>	12	
	Approved Coursework Topics* <i>or</i>	6	MINS8516-8521 Programme Seminars 16-21	6	
	MINS8535-8536 Guided Reading Courses E-F <i>and</i>				
	MINS8516-8521 Programme Seminars 16-21	6			
	Total Units Level 4	18		Total Units Level 4	18
Exit	Master of Ministry	72	Master of Ministry	72	

* Coursework topics will be selected with the approval of the Course Coordinator.

Research Guidelines

All research involving human participants must be approved prior to commencement by the ACD Human Research Ethics Committee in accordance with the ACD *Ethical Guidelines for Research*. The ACD *Guidelines for Research in Postgraduate Courses* set out research procedures including supervision, examinations and appeals. The Guidelines are available on the ACD website www.acd.edu.au, in the Orientation Manual or from the ACD Executive Officer.

Credit Transfer

Students who are deemed by the ACD to have completed the equivalent of Levels One and Two of the course may enter at Level Three.

Delivery Modes

The Ministry stream of the Master of Ministry is available by internal mode with teaching taking place on the ACD Campus. In internal mode coursework topics and Programme Seminars are delivered for the most part in the classroom in the form of lectures, tutorials, workshops and seminars. In internal mode for the Ministry Practice Project and Guided Reading topics, the primary interaction between student and supervisor will take place in face-to-face meetings, supplemented by electronic communications (email, phone).

The Resource Ministry stream of the Master of Ministry is available by external mode with teaching taking place through a combination of printed textual material and online research and supervision. Participants will be required to have regular access to a computer with internet connections.

Course Coordinators

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