Doctor of Ministry (3 years, 40 units)

Degree	Major	Electives	Capstone	Total Courses
Doctor of Ministry	34	- -	Thesis (6)	40

1. General Description and Program Objective:

AEU's D.Min. is designed to equip ordained pastors and missionaries with dynamic and effective pastoral/missional leadership skills for the contemporary postmodern world. To that end, this program provides students with concrete ministerial knowledge and skills necessary for their ecclesial and missional ministries to flourish in the evolving cultural contexts of the contemporary world. The curriculum fosters orthopraxy in today's ever-evolving pastoral and missional settings while being deeply rooted in the evangelical tradition faithful to the Gospel of Christ. To accomplish this goal, students can choose between two concentrations: Missional Church Leadership, or, Ministry and Counseling.

2. Student Learning Objectives: Students are expected to:

(1) discover and affirm their God-granted ministerial gifts and visions and to envision a concrete road map of ministry.
(2) foster a vision of ministry rooted in the Bible and the evangelical tradition.
(3) develop their unique tools that are employable for fruitful ministry in the 21st-century ecclesial and missional contexts. As a final project, they will have completed their work by publishing it as a book.

3. Admission Requirements

1. At least three years of significant ministry experience.
2. A completed and signed application form.
3. Two recommendation letters: one from an academic mentor, one from a pastoral mentor.
4. An essay (personal and ministry background with vision statement).
5. A transcript of your undergraduate degree from an accredited institution.
6. A transcript of your M.Div. degree (or its equivalent) from an accredited institution.
7. An overall GPA of 2.5 in graduate study. A student with a GPA below 2.5 may petition for conditional acceptance.
8. A non-refundable application fee.

4. Potential Fields of Employment:

The D.Min. program prepares graduates for employment in:

- Senior pastor / preaching pastor positions
- Significant leadership positions & staff supervision in a large church / mega-church
- Leadership positions in a large Christian ministry / non-profit organization
- Ministry leadership (associate pastor, director of church ministries, etc.)
- Chaplaincy

5. Program Overview:

Year One (residency or online) - *Foundation*	Research Writing course, + First two courses with 5-day sessions, + Cohort Presentations at Meetings #1 and #2. : Laying Foundations for Research
Year Two (residency or online) - *Exploration*	Second two courses with 5-day sessions, + Cohort Presentation at Meetings #3 and #4. : Dissertation Research Formulation (by fulfilling four course projects to develop and concretize a dissertation topic)
Years Three (residency or online) – *Immersion*	Focusing on specific topics + Honing a dissertation topic via consultation with a primary mentor; structuring and completing the writing : Completing the Final Project (Thesis)

6. Major Components of the Program

1) Advanced Course Preparation (4 times)

In the semester before each residency, students will be assigned preparatory readings by the faculty. They are to devote one day per week in preparation for the upcoming residency. The required pre-residency readings are to be roughly 2,400-2,500 pages for a four-unit course. The reading provides the theoretical basis for the analysis of practical situations in ministry.

2) Courses with 5-Day Class Sessions (4 times)

In each year, students are to take two courses which have 5-day long class sessions. They may take the class sessions in-residence or online. Students who take the course online may join the sessions live (if possible), or watch them later. By taking these courses, students will acquire an extensive knowledge of the theological and biblical foundations of ecclesial ministry as well as the effective praxis of the Church's missionary identity in pastoral and missional settings.

3) Zoom-conference Cohort Presentations (4 times)

By completing the courses of each year, students are required to carry out a major post-residency ministry project. To that end, they participate in a 3-day-long Zoom conference through which they help each other in honing their research topics for a final project. Once the class is over, students must continue to hone their research interests based on what they learned from the class. In the Zoom conference, students present their provisional research topics so that they can concretize their research topics through peer reviews. Through this process, students must accomplish their post-residency project (a minimum length of 5,000 words or 20 pages) to advance in the program.

4) Final Project / Thesis (1 time)

A final project constitutes the culmination of their previous learning throughout the residencies. Students must demonstrate competencies to engage in ministry as scholar-practitioners. In addition to a primary reader, students will be assigned a second reader. These two faculty members form a project committee and guide their students in completing their final projects. Each student must successfully present the completed final project to his/her mentors.

7. The Assessment of Learning Outcomes

Students must have a comprehensive and critical understanding of church leadership in cross-cultural ministry and a concrete blueprint of their ministries within their church and mission field settings. AEU will maintain an evaluation process to make sure that the curriculum meets the needs of students and the overall goals of the program by adopting an effective assessment survey.

Furthermore, for an ongoing systematic evaluation of instructional results, a strict grading policy will be adopted. Each syllabus articulates grading policies, including specific evaluative criteria and methods. The assessment committee will use the outcomes assessment data to develop the curricula.

8. Minimum Acceptable Grades for the DMin Program

The minimum required overall GPA to graduate from the D.Min. program is a 3.0, a "B".
The acceptable grade range for D.Min. courses is A, A-, B+, B, and B-. Any course for which a student receives a grade lower than B- will not count toward completing the D.Min. program. If a student receives a grade of C+ or lower in a course, the student may request an "academic extension" to attempt bring their work for that course up to a "B-" or better, as described in the next paragraph.

9. An Academic Extension to Improve the Grade in a Course for which a D.Min. Student Receives a Grade of C+ or Lower:

For a D.Min. course for which a student receives a grade of C+ or lower, the student may be granted an "academic extension." In the academic extension, at the professor's discretion, the student will either re-accomplish the major assignment for the course, or, will be assigned a new and different assignment which would materially contribute to the insights and skills that the student should acquire from the course.

For a D.Min. student who is granted an academic extension, they will be charged **the current cost of one credit-hour** for the D.Min. program (for 2020-2021: $495). The extension should last no longer than one month, or at most six weeks if over a major academic break. Any such academic extensions of a D.Min. course must by reviewed and approved by the Academic Dean's office.

The new grade, if higher, will replace the former grade in computing the student's grade-point average, and if the new grade is a B- or higher, the course will count toward completing the D.Min. program.

> **To Note:** *A student is not to be awarded a higher grade simply for doing more work. The work that is done for an academic extension in the D.Min. program must demonstrate acceptable doctoral-level quality in order for the student to receive an improved grade.*

10. Academic Probation within the D.Min. Program:

A student in the D.Min. program may be placed on academic probation for either of the following two reasons:

1. A student in the D.Min. whose overall GPA falls below 3.0 will be placed on academic probation.

2. A student in the D.Min. Program who receives grades of C+ of lower in two courses in the same semester will be placed on academic probation.

D.Min. students who are placed on academic probation will remain on academic probation until their overall GPA rises to 3.0 or higher. While a student is on academic probation, *as long as the student maintains a 3.0 in their subsequent course work*, they may remain in the D.Min. program. [However, their overall GPA must reach 3.0 in order to graduate.]

If a student fails to achieve a 3.0 GPA for their current work while they are on academic probation (= they have a semester for which their GPA is less than 3.0), they will be dismissed from the program.

11. The Three Concentration Options (Tracks) for the D.Min. Program

1) **Track I: Missional Church Leadership** (40 Units)

This track is designed to help students to cultivate the ability to critically evaluate their ministries from the theological and practical perspectives of the missional Church. In so doing, they are invited to sharpen relevant ministerial and missionary skills so that their ministries can thrive in the diverse contexts of the contemporary postmodern world.

Missional Church Leadership Sequence of Courses:

Year	Semester	Format of Course	Course Number / # of Units	Course Title
Year One	Before 1st Semester	At home, online.	DMGM 701 (Online) / 2 units [Common course]	Introduction to Online Learning and a Research Writing Project (I) *Must be completed before taking DMGM 702.*
	1st Semester	5-Day Class Session	DMGM 702 / 4 units [Common Course]	Missional Context Analysis (I)
		At home, & via Zoom	DMGM 703 / 4 units [Common Course]	Peer-Reviewed Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #1 (I)
	2nd Semester	5-Day Class Session	DMGM 704 / 4 units	Missional Church and Practice in Postmodern Era (I)
		At home, & via Zoom	DMGM 705 / 4 units	Peer-Reviewed Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #2 (I)
Year Two	3rd Semester	5-Day Class Session	DMGM 706 / 4 units	Missional Culture Making (D)
		At home, & via Zoom	DMGM 707 / 4 units	Peer-Reviewed Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #3 (D)
	4th Semester	5-Day Class Session	DMGM 708 / 4 units [Common Course]	Missional Leadership Change (D)
		At home, & via Zoom	DMGM 709 / 4 units [Common Course]	Peer-Reviewed Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #4 (D)
Year Three	5th & 6th Semesters	At home, + Presentation to Mentors	DMGM 710 / 6 units	The Proposal and Completion of the Final D.Min. Project (M)

Explanations/Notes:

- [Common Course] means all D.Min. students take these courses.
- After each cohort presentation meeting, students are required to submit their lecture notes, two book reviews, and a research paper.
- I = Introduced, D = Developed and Practiced with Feedback, M = Mastery at the level appropriate for Graduation.

Course Descriptions

DMGM 701 Introduction to Online Learning and a Research Writing Project (2 Units)
In this course, students learn research methods and online learning tools. They are required to complete this course before the first semester kicks off.

DMGM 702 Missional Context Analysis (4 Units)
This course introduces students to the biblical and theological grounds of a missional church and the core theoretical and practical principles for an organic leadership. This course is 5 days long (5 hours each day).

DMGM 703 Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #1 (4 Units)
In this course, students proceed with further reading to deepen the learning from DMGM 702 and concretize the final project topics through Zoom peer-review meetings for 3 days (3 hours long each day). They are expected to complete this segment of their project by the end of the course.

DMGM 704 Missional Church and Practice in Postmodern Era (4 Units)
This course focuses on cultivating practical principles of creative, inspiring, and transformative leadership in the context of a postmodern society by learning from the exemplars of the missional church introduced in the lecturer's books: *Re-Form Church* and *Re-New Church*. This course is 5 days long (5 hours each day).

DMGM 705 Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #2 (4 Units)
In this course, students proceed with further reading to deepen the learning from DMGM 703 and concretize the final project topics through Zoom peer-review meetings for 3 days (3 hours long each day). They are expected to complete this segment of their project by the end of the course.

DMGM 706 Missional Culture Making (4 Units)
This course equips students with missional imagination and consciousness for living out the identity of the church as a missional movement by making a transformative impact in their ecclesial and missional settings. This course is 5 days long (5 hours each day).

DMGM 707 Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #3 (4 Units)
In this course, students proceed with further reading to deepen the learning from DMGM 704 and concretize the final project topics through Zoom peer-review meetings for 3 days (3 hours long each day). They are expected to complete this segment of their project by the end of the course.

DMGM 708 Missional Leadership Change (4 Units)
This course introduces students to the essential theories and principles of church leadership transformation. It equips them with competencies to practice those theoretical foundations in their pastoral and missional settings. This course is 5 days long (5 hours each day).

DMGM 709 Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #4 (4 Units)
In this course, students proceed with further reading to deepen the learning from DMGM 706 and concretize the final project topics through Zoom peer-review meetings for 3 days (3 hours long each day). They are expected to complete this segment of their project by the end of the course.

DMGM 710 D.Min. Thesis (6 Units)
In this last stage of this program, students are to complete their final D.Min. project.

2) **Track II: Ministry and Counseling** (40 Units) [Currently Not being Offered]

This track equips students with in-depth academic knowledge as well as a broad array of practical skills in Christian Counseling. To that end, the curriculum is designed to help the students address various problems that face families and individuals in today's complicated contexts. By taking the courses provided, students are expected to have the competencies to provide their congregation with effective counseling that is *biblically-grounded* and *missionally-oriented*.

Ministry and Counseling Sequence of Courses:

Year	Semester	Format of Course	Course Number / # of Units	Course Title
Year One	Before 1st Semester	At home, online.	DMCC 701 (Online) / 2 units [Common course]	Introduction to Online Learning and a Research Writing Project (I) *Must be completed before DMCC 702.*
	1st Semester	5-Day Class Session	DMCC 702 / 4 units [Common Course]	Missional Context Analysis (I)
		At home, & via Zoom	DMCC 703 / 4 units [Common Course]	Peer-Reviewed Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #1 (I)
	2nd Semester	5-Day Class Session	DMCC 704 / 4 units	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Communication Skills in Christian Counseling (I)
		At home, & via Zoom	DMCC 705 / 4 units	Peer-Reviewed Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #2 (I)
Year Two	3rd Semester	5-Day Class Session	DMCC 706 / 4 units	Difference Education, Spiritual Assessment, and Counseling (D)
		At home, & via Zoom	DMCC 707 / 4 units	Peer-Reviewed Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #3 (D)
	4th Semester	5-Day Class Session	DMCC 708 / 4 units [Common Course]	Missional Leadership Change (D)
		At home, & via Zoom	DMCC 709 / 4 units [Common Course]	Peer-Reviewed Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #4 (D)
Year Three	5th & 6th Semesters	At home, + Presentation to Mentors	DMCC 710 / 6 units	The Proposal and Completion of the Final D.Min. Project (M)

Explanations/Notes:
- [Common Course] means all D.Min. students take these courses.
- After each cohort presentation meeting, students are required to submit their lecture notes, two book reviews, and a research paper.

- I = Introduced, D = Developed and Practiced with Feedback, M = Mastery at the level appropriate for Graduation.

Course Descriptions

DMCC 701 Introduction to Online Learning and a Research Writing Project (2 Units)
In this course, students learn research methods and online learning tools. They are required to complete this course before the first semester kicks off. This course is identical to DMGM 701.

DMCC 702 Missional Context Analysis (4 Units)
      This course introduces students to the biblical and theological grounds of a missional church and the core theoretical and practical principles for an organic leadership. This course is a 5-day-long on-campus course (5 hours each day). This course is parallel to DMGM 702.

DMCC 703 Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #1 (4 Units)
In this course, students proceed with further reading to deepen the learning from DMCC 702 and concretize the final project topics through Zoom peer-review meetings for 3 days (3 hours long each day). They are expected to complete this segment of their project by the end of the course.

DMCC 704 Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Communication Skills in Christian Counseling (4 Units)
This course provides students with biblical foundations, theoretical frameworks, and some practical applications for discovering and developing their individual gifts as communicators. Specifically, this course is based on the study of communication theology and theory, as applied to a variety of ministerial contexts. These theological/biblical foundations pave the ground for studying both behavioral therapy (BT) and cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT). While students study the theoretical framework of BT and CBT, they learn to apply specific cognitive and behavioral skills in myriad settings including pastoral care ministry. This course is 5 days long (5 hours each day).

DMCC 705 Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #2 (4 Units)
In this course, students proceed with further reading to deepen the learning from DMCC 704 and concretize the final project topics through Zoom peer-review meetings for 3 days (3 hours long each day). They are expected to complete this segment of their project by the end of the course.

DMCC 706 Difference Education, Spiritual Assessment, and Counseling (4 units)
This course provides students with a broad understanding of psychological and spiritual assessment. Emphasis is placed on developing skills in interviewing, understanding and interpreting assessment data and reports, and gaining knowledge of referral questions. Based on these assessments, students are introduced to the "difference counseling" method as an effective way of pastoral consultation. This course is 5 days long (5 hours each day).

DMCC 707 Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #3 (4 Units)
In this course, students proceed with further reading to deepen the learning from DMCC 704 and concretize the final project topics through Zoom peer-review meetings for 3 days (3 hours long each day). They are expected to complete this segment of their project by the end of the course.

DMCC 708 Missional Leadership Change (4 units)
This course introduces students to the essential theories and principles of church leadership transformation and equips them with competencies to practice those theoretical foundations in their

pastoral and missional settings. This course is 5 days long (5 hours each day). This course is identical to DMGM 708.

DMCC 709 Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #4 (4 Units)
In this course, students proceed with further reading to deepen the learning from DMGM 706 and concretize the final project topics through Zoom peer-review meetings for 3 days (3 hours long each day). They are expected to complete this segment of their project by the end of the course. This course is parallel to DMGM 709.

DMCC 710 D.Min. Thesis (6 Units)
In this last stage of this program, students are to complete their final D.Min. project.

3) Track III: Ministry and Coaching (40 Units)

This track equips students with in-depth academic knowledge as well as a broad array of practical skills in Christian Coaching and Counseling. To that end, the curriculum is designed to help the students address various problems that face families and individuals in today's complicated contexts. By taking the courses provided, students are expected to have the competencies to provide their congregation with effective counseling that is *biblically-grounded* and *missionally-oriented*.

Ministry and Counseling Sequence of Courses:

Year	Semester	Format of Course	Course Number / # of Units	Course Title
Year One	Before 1st Semester	At home, online.	DMMC 701 (Online) / 2 units [Common course]	Introduction to Online Learning and a Research Writing Project (I) *Must be completed before DMCC 702.*
	1st Semester	5-Day Class Session	DMMC 702 / 4 units [Common Course]	A Biblical Theology and Worldview of Why We Work (I)
		At home, & via Zoom	DMMC 703 / 4 units [Common Course]	Peer-Reviewed Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #1 (I)
	2nd Semester	5-Day Class Session	DMMC 704 / 4 units	Christian Ethics and Worldview in Contemporary Cultural Context (I)
		At home, & via Zoom	DMMC 705 / 4 units	Peer-Reviewed Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #2 (I)
Year Two	3rd Semester	5-Day Class Session	DMMC 706 / 4 units	Coaching and Mentoring Strategies and Skills (D)
		At home, & via Zoom	DMMC 707 / 4 units	Peer-Reviewed Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #3 (D)
	4th Semester	5-Day Class Session	DMMC 708 / 4 units [Common Course]	Strategic Leadership & Management of Coaching and Mentoring (D)

		At home, & via Zoom	DMMC 709 / 4 units [Common Course]	Peer-Reviewed Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #4 (D)
Year Three	5th & 6th Semesters	At home, + Presentation to Mentors	DMMC 710 / 6 units	The Proposal and Completion of the Final D.Min. Project (M)

Explanations/Notes:
- [Common Course] means all D.Min. students take these courses.

- After each cohort presentation meeting, students are required to submit their lecture notes, two book reviews, and a research paper.

- I = Introduced, D = Developed and Practiced with Feedback, M = Mastery at the level appropriate for Graduation.

Course Descriptions

DMMC 701 Introduction to Online Learning and a Research Writing Project (2 Units)
In this course, students learn research methods and online learning tools. They are required to complete this course before the first semester kicks off. This course is identical to DMGM 701.

DMMC 702 A Biblical Theology and Worldview of Why We Work (4 Units)
Three goals of this course: (1) To comprehend how what we do for a living, whether it be running a business or working for someone, fits into God's greater purpose for His creation and the church; (2) To identify factors that have greatly undermined the understanding of God's purpose that have led to unsatisfying work experiences for many; (3) To find spiritual, theological and practical remedies that would enable us to recover and then implement God's original purpose for work.

DMMC 703 Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #1 (4 Units)
In this course, students proceed with further reading to deepen the learning from DMCC 702 and concretize the final project topics through Zoom peer-review meetings for 3 days (3 hours long each day). They are expected to complete this segment of their project by the end of the course.

DMMC 704 Christian Ethics and Worldview in Contemporary Cultural Context (4 Units)
This course explores the unique challenges of engaging today's technological, post-Christian culture in light of various biblical models for Christian life and leadership. Students will demonstrate comprehension of emergent technologies, the impact of those technologies on the church, ethical and theological implications of worldviews in conflict, and practical principles to lead and disciple others in today's world.

DMMC 705 Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #2 (4 Units)
In this course, students proceed with further reading to deepen the learning from DMCC 704 and concretize the final project topics through Zoom peer-review meetings for 3 days (3 hours long each day). They are expected to complete this segment of their project by the end of the course.

DMMC 706 Coaching and Mentoring Strategies and Skills (4 units)
The course focuses on developing vision, perspectives, tools, and commitments to ensure strategic and theologically-guided ministry in a contextualized coaching/mentoring ministry. This course designs a

system for coaching (both individuals and small groups) and mentoring to facilitate leadership development and enhance individual and group performance. The course design is structured to foster a student's discovery, observation, experiences, experimentation, and the adoption of current processes, strategies, and skills for real world coaching and mentoring applications.

DMMC 707 Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #3 (4 Units)
In this course, students proceed with further reading to deepen the learning from DMCC 704 and concretize the final project topics through Zoom peer-review meetings for 3 days (3 hours long each day). They are expected to complete this segment of their project by the end of the course.

DMMC 708 Strategic Leadership & Management of Coaching and Mentoring (4 Units)
In this course, students will focus on leadership decision making. Analysis, implementation, and assessment methods for the purposes of strategic planning and organizational change. Students will learn about organizational performance, cultural competency, and change theory.

DMMC 709 Cohort Presentations and Project, Session #4 (4 Units)
In this course, students proceed with further reading to deepen the learning from DMGM 706 and concretize the final project topics through Zoom peer-review meetings for 3 days (3 hours long each day). They are expected to complete this segment of their project by the end of the course. This course is parallel to DMGM 709.

DMMC 710 D.Min. Thesis (6 Units)
In this last stage of this program, students are to complete their final D.Min. project.