

HOW CAN I USE  
WHAT I'VE GOT?



DOCTOR OF MINISTRY  
*Catalog*  
2008-2009

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### Denver Seminary

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## A WORD FROM THE INTERIM PRESIDENT

Could I share a secret?

I'm feel poorly about graduations. Reason? I worry that they signal to some people that they no longer have to keep learning ... and growing. Their education is over.

That's why I love an initiative like Denver Seminary's Doctor of Ministry Program. It's designed for the person who never wants to graduate, who believes that learning—*disciplined, strategic, maturing learning*—never, ever reaches a conclusion.

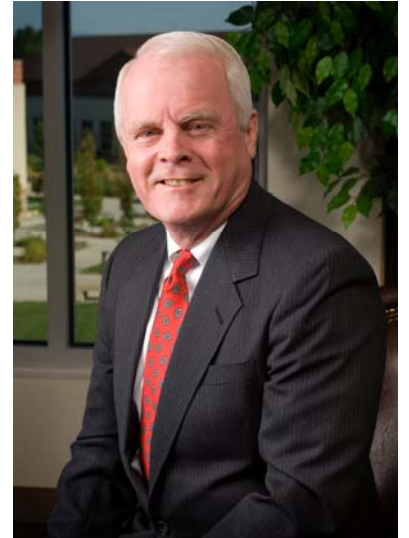
Having taught in Denver's doctoral program, I've seen this hunger to keep on learning in the men and women who return to the campus to push themselves to deeper thought and greater faith. They read their books, write their papers, dialogue with professors and peers with a great purpose: to grow in their knowledge of God, to sharpen their ability to lead, to enlarge their capacity to think more deeply.

The men and women who enter the Doctor of Ministry program are people who've been "out there" doing the work of the Kingdom. When they come to Denver they've got stories to tell, questions to ask, and curiosities to satisfy. They're a serious group because they've usually taken some of the bullets that come to a life invested in serving people. They've faced real-world problems and issues and figured out that easy answers don't work. They know something about the loneliness that can come with being out in front. Most of them are very optimistic because they've had experience in seeing the power of God change a life or build an organization. So when they come back to a new course of study, they're ready to dive in.

I suspect Denver's Doctor of Ministry people appreciate my secret. They don't believe in graduations either. They want to keep on deepening and broadening, and here they've found some people and a program that are prepared to help them make that happen.

Why don't you become a part of them?

Gordon MacDonald



## A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Students are God's gift to us. Helping them grow is our gift to God's people and the world. Every week we spend time in prayer for our students. We are privileged to be a part of their lives.

Our goal is to help students become everything God wants them to be. God gifted them and we help develop those gifts by helping each one to be uniquely "me." We glorify God by becoming the best "me" that we can, not by trying to be something that he hasn't made us. Leaders lead out of who they are, not out of who they aren't.

We help them use what they've got. For more information on what we're about, go to [www.usewhatyouvegot.com](http://www.usewhatyouvegot.com).

I invite you to join us in a journey of transformation into a better "me."

Blessings,

David



## COME TO BE TRANSFORMED

Transformation is what our Doctor of Ministry program is about: transformation of your life and ministry. You can't move forward if nothing changes. You are transformed into "a better me," not into someone else.

We teach you to ask: **"How can I use what I've got?"** rather than,

**"How can I be what I'm not?"**

**Students say**, "I am now more accepting of myself as a leader. I feel more equipped and understanding about what leadership is." "It has helped me better understand myself and my skills/weaknesses/strengths."

Mentoring is a part of the transformation process. You work with mentors of your choosing to implement what you're leaning. You and your mentors are trained in the mentoring relationship through an online course. It's part of the growth process.

Two areas are key to your development. You must **see reality and respond effectively**. If you don't see reality you can't know what to do. Only when you see reality can you respond effectively.

**Students say**, "I was encouraged to think in different ways (outside the box)." "This is revolutionary to my life and thought." "[I] figured out some organization position issues – very, very relevant."

Denver Seminary's goal for master's level students is to teach them to **think biblically, live faithfully, and lead wisely** for a lifetime. The aim of our Doctor of Ministry program is to help you accomplish that with people in your ministry.

**Students say**, "My thinking and approach has been altered significantly." "Addressing the relationship between the gospel and the moral health of the church has been most helpful to my ministry."

## AREAS OF STUDY

There are two tracks:

**Leadership and Marriage and Family Counseling.**

Leadership has four concentrations with different emphases.

## LEADERSHIP



- **Church and Parachurch Executive Leadership** emphasizes "doing," that is, you lead your people forward to accomplish what the Lord has for you to do. "Knowing" and "being" are suspect if nothing ever gets done. People "do" out of what they know and are.
- **Leadership in Preaching and Pastoral Ministry** emphasizes "knowing," that is, you communicate truth in ways that lead people – they know the right direction. You learn to lead people from where they are to where they need to go. You give them purpose.
- **Leadership in Community Spiritual Formation** emphasizes "being," that is, you lead the whole community to grow spiritually by first accepting them as they are. "It's O.K. to be me." You lead different people differently depending upon their spiritual level.
- **Leadership in Global Urban Ministry** emphasizes ministry through understanding and addressing systems that constrain life in the urban centers of the world. Salvation, compassion, and commitment are no guarantee that we will produce good social systems, fair employment structures, or good politics. Helping people live their life in Christ not only requires personal transformation, but utilizing and changing systems if we are to take Galatians 6:10 and Matthew 25:34-40 seriously.



- **Marriage and Family Counseling** increases students' effectiveness as marriage and family counselors. They also learn to multiply themselves by establishing a variety of programs, in Christian and non-Christian settings, to further healthy marriages and families. They learn to lead through teaching, training, mentoring, and discipling others.

Students say, "I like how the professors took abstract concepts and helped us to use them in a practical situation." "Immediate impact on my personal and professional life." "Open doors to access more accurate utilization of Scripture in ministry to marriages and families."

## THE CHALLENGE: HOW TO BE EFFECTIVE IN MINISTRY

### LEADERS LEAD OTHERS

Pastors and parachurch leaders must lead their people to do ministry if the needed ministry is to be done. Counselors must lead clients to do the things necessary for growth if counseling is to be effective.

To lead does not require a particular set of traits or skills. If it did, few could lead. For instance, what are the chances of a person having just seven specific strengths out of the thirty-four identified by the Gallup organization in twenty-five years of research? It is one in five million. So if a particular group of seven strengths were required to lead, very few people would have them.

In reality, leading can be done from many different sets of strengths. We teach you to ask: "**How can I use what I've got?**" rather than, "**How can I be what I'm not?**" We teach that to lead, you must develop what God has given you, and not try to be what you're not.

**Our program accomplishes two things:** it helps develop your God given abilities so you can accomplish more, and it helps develop ministry consistent with your abilities and the people you serve. The key is your ability to work with God. God can enable you to travel farther than your abilities alone can take you. Therefore, we offer seminars in spiritual formation.

## OUR GOAL

**Our goal for students in the Doctor of Ministry program is to develop in three areas: knowing, being and doing.** To grow in effectiveness you must integrate what you know into your life. This is part of Denver Seminary's mission.

### THE DENVER SEMINARY MISSION

**Denver Seminary seeks to glorify God by equipping leaders to think biblically, live faithfully and lead wisely for a lifetime.**

## HOW WE ACCOMPLISH OUR GOAL

Growth in knowing, being and doing is a process. This process is called “traveling in ministry.”

**To travel in ministry (grow in effectiveness) you must:**

- **Know where you are**
- **Know where you’re going**
- **Know how to get there**

**Know Where You Are** – When students begin they take tests to help identify their strengths and non-strengths. They write a self-evaluation essay in which they evaluate where they are in knowing, being, and doing. The purpose of this process is to help students learn to evaluate where they are so they can help others to evaluate their own lives.

**Know Where You’re Going** – In a *self-evaluation essay*, students prayerfully set goals for themselves in all areas of life – spiritual, relational (particularly family), professional, educational, and community involvement – which they will seek to accomplish while in the doctoral program. When students have completed all the seminars, they will write an *integrative essay* in which they discuss how well they met their original goals, and set new goals. In the end, it is our belief that this process will help students learn how to help others work toward their particular needs. Mentors also help students through this process.

**Know How To Get There** – We remind students that Jesus said, “Apart from me you can do nothing” (John 15:5). They must depend on him first. If they do, godly professors who have been effective in “traveling” in the area in which they teach can help them learn how to get there. We look for the most effective people we can find to lead the seminars. Students choose the areas to study according to their particular needs. Mentors also help students through this process.

### INTEGRATION

Following each seminar, students write an integrative paper on how that seminar relates to their ministry, to the other seminars, and how the seminar will help them reach their goals. This helps us determine how well the students are integrating into their lives (being) what they have learned. At the end of their seminars, students write an integrative essay covering the entire program.

### PROJECT AND THESIS

The project and thesis bring together knowing, being, and doing. We call this “developing ministry through research.” To be effective, the whole process must be bathed in prayer from start to finish (Jn. 15:5). Students choose an area of need in their ministry. They evaluate where they and their people are, and then set goals for the ministry project. Students do both biblical and theoretical research to develop a training program that is appropriate to help move themselves and their people toward their goal. Once they have completed their ministry project they evaluate how far they have “traveled” – that is, how well they achieved their goal.

### MENTORING

Students choose mentors who will go through training with the student in the mentoring process. Good mentors can walk with the student through the Doctor of Ministry program. In addition, a first reader, second reader, and research consultant will give guidance in the research and design of their project and thesis. The goal is to help students develop ministry that is appropriate to their situation. Once students learn this process they can use it throughout their lives. We then can say they are a “Doctor of Ministry,” balanced in knowing, being, and doing.

### HISTORY

Denver Seminary is a Bible-based evangelical seminary committed to training students to be effective ministry leaders who live what they teach. Denver Seminary’s Doctor of Ministry degree was first offered in 1976. Denver Seminary is accredited by both The Association of Theological Schools and The North Central Association of Schools and Colleges.

The Doctor of Ministry degree is an applicational degree. Students learn how to apply knowledge effectively in their ministry. Men and women in ministry improve their skills and enlarge their vision in order to be effective in ministry at the doctoral level. Research is carried through to action. Theological and theoretical study is demanding, but the application of that study is much more demanding. People don’t want leaders who only know the truth, but those who can also apply it effectively to help others successfully move forward. Effectiveness in ministry is the goal.



## ADVANTAGES OF DENVER SEMINARY'S PROGRAM

- **A Clear Mission**  
Denver Seminary seeks to glorify God by equipping leaders to think biblically, live faithfully, and lead wisely for a lifetime. Knowing, being, and doing are all part of leading. Leaders mobilize ministry by using strengths God has given them. They glorify God by using his gifts.
- **Exceptional Faculty**  
Both resident and visiting faculty are regarded as among the best in their respective fields.
- **A New Campus**  
In the summer of 2005 we moved to our newly built campus, a beautiful campus beside a river and a hiking/biking path that goes for miles throughout the city.
- **Broad Student Interaction**  
Denver Seminary currently has students from a majority of the states and many foreign countries. "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another" (Prov. 27:17).
- **Convenient, One-Week Seminars**  
Seminars meet in one-week intensive classes. Reading and writing assignments are conducted before and after coming to campus for the seminars.
- **Advantageous Travel**  
Denver's beautiful location on the front range of the Rocky Mountains is a major travel center for both air and ground travel for easy access.
- **Cost-Competitive Program**  
Denver Seminary is committed to providing an affordable structure of tuition and fees.
- **An Integrated Program**  
One student's experience: "Denver Seminary integrates the "knowing," "being" and "doing" into the entire curriculum. I was not looking for another theological/ministry degree, but for an institution that deeply fosters and integrates head knowledge with the day to day ministry experience. I am glad to say that I found Denver Seminary the best place that offers what I was looking for."

## A WORD FROM A GRADUATE

### *Dr. Douglas Nuenke*

#### **President and Director of the U.S. Navigators**

I am so thankful for my years in the Doctor of Ministry program at Denver Seminary. While the program is a rigorous academic pursuit, Denver Seminary has put together an experience that touches not only the head of emerging leaders, but also their hearts and hands - impacting both life and action. Through my years in the DMin program I was led towards transformation of soul and transformation of my leadership. I'll be forever grateful for the faculty and staff at Denver Seminary.



# THE DOCTOR OF MINISTRY SEMINARS

All seminars at the Denver Seminary campus are one week long. There are seminars in January and July. Seminar leaders are experts in their areas and are drawn both from the Denver Seminary faculty and from exceptional people around the country. Emphasis is on the practical application of learning and not just learning alone. Students submit evaluations of each of the seminars. This feedback is used in order to continue to select the most helpful seminar leaders. The seminars themselves use a wide variety of adult education practices that involve the student in the learning process. There is always extensive reading in advance of the seminars as well as a pre-seminar project or a post-seminar project or sometimes both.

Students in any of the four concentrations in the leadership track must average two seminars per year to stay on a reasonable schedule to graduate in six years. Students, however, often take more than two seminars per year. Students have five months or more to complete the 2,000 pages of reading.

## LEADERSHIP TRACK

### REQUIRED FOR ALL LEADERSHIP CONCENTRATIONS

- DML-801 How the Nature of the Church Affects Strategies for Ministry (3 hours)
- DML-802 Becoming a Leader Who Can Lead Effectively (3 hours)
- DMR-801 Research Method and Strategies – Developing Ministry through Research (3 hours)
- DMM-801 Effective Mentoring Relationships which includes one year of mentoring (1 hour)
- DMR-802 Ministry Evaluation Learning Contract (1 hour)
- DMR-806 Thinking Systems in Ministry Learning Contract (1 hour)

### REQUIRED FOR CHURCH & PARACHURCH EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP CONCENTRATION (34 HOURS)

- DML-801, DML-802, DMR-801, DMM-801, DMR-802, and DMR-806 listed above (12 hours)
  - At least two additional DML seminars (6 hours)
  - Three open elective seminars (9 hours) [for a total of eight seminars (24 hours)]
  - DMR-804 Project and Thesis – must be in Church and Parachurch Executive Leadership (7 hours)
- Total – 34 hours**

### REQUIRED FOR LEADERSHIP IN PREACHING & PASTORAL MINISTRY CONCENTRATION (34 HOURS)

- DML-801, DML-802, DMR-801, DMM-801, DMR-802, and DMR-806 listed above (12 hours)
  - DMP-801 Leading through Preaching/Communication (3 hours)
  - At least two additional DMP seminars (6 hours)
  - Two open elective seminars (6 hours)
  - DMR-804 Project and Thesis – must be in Leadership in Preaching and Pastoral Ministry (7 hours)
- Total – 34 hours**



## REQUIRED FOR LEADERSHIP IN COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL FORMATION CONCENTRATION (34 HOURS)

- DML-801, DML-802, DMR-801, DMM-801, DMR-802, and DMR-806 listed above (12 hours)
  - DMS-801 Leadership in Community Spiritual Formation (3 hours)
  - At least two additional DMS seminars (6 hours)
  - Two open elective seminars (6 hours)
  - DMR-804 Project and Thesis – must be in Leadership in Community Spiritual Formation (7 hours)
- Total – 34 hours**

## REQUIRED FOR LEADERSHIP IN GLOBAL URBAN MINISTRY CONCENTRATION (34 HOURS)

- DML-801, DML-802, DMR-801, DMM-801, DMR-802, and DMR-806 listed above (12 hours)
  - Bakke Graduate University of Ministry required courses ([www.bgu.edu](http://www.bgu.edu)):
    - Overture I in Seattle – the first week of the two-week Overture (4 hours)
    - Overture II in a city of the world (8 hours)
  - One open elective seminar (3 hours)
  - DMR-804 Project and Thesis – must include systems theory in an urban setting (7 hours)
- Total – 34 hours**

## MARRIAGE AND FAMILY COUNSELING TRACK

### REQUIRED FOR MARRIAGE & FAMILY COUNSELING CONCENTRATION (34 HOURS)

- Seven three-hour marriage and family counseling seminars (21 hours)
  - DMR-801 Research Methods and Strategies Seminary (3 hours)
  - DMM-801 Effective Mentoring Relationships which includes one year of mentoring (1 hour)
  - DMF-812 Residency (2 hours)
  - DMR-804 Project and Thesis in Marriage and Family Counseling (7 hours)
- Total – 34 hours**



## CHURCH & PARACHURCH EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP CONCENTRATION

### **DML-801** How the Nature of the Church Affects Strategies for Ministry (3 hours)

The nature and purpose of the ministry of the church is studied in-depth. What are the implications for the minister as a servant of God to the congregation and to the community? Students develop personal goals and strategies and they will also define the general and specific goals of their churches. These are evaluated and revised in light of the theological implications.

### **DML-802** Becoming a Leader Who Can Lead Effectively (3 hours)

Students interact with literature, the seminar participants and leaders in the Colorado community in an effort to better understand their own identity. Leading requires character as well as knowledge and leadership skills. The aim is to enrich the students' own personalities, spirituality, godly disciplines, emotions, temperaments and giftedness so they will be more prepared to lead effectively. This involves spiritual gifts and temperament testing for personal enrichment and leadership effectiveness.

### **DML-811** Developing Leaders: A Philosophy and Strategy for Leadership Training (3 hours)

Students are exposed to the latest findings in leadership theory and practice. The need for various levels of leadership requires various models for training leaders. These various training models will be supported by leadership development theory and practice. A direct outcome will be a better understanding of one's own leadership style and philosophy as well as practical tools for mentoring new leaders along the way.

### **DML-812** Developing People: The Backbone of Leadership (3 hours)

Whatever the relationship – small groups, marriage, parenting, staff, difficult people, etc. – effective leaders develop people. They don't simply use people to accomplish a goal. They develop people as part of the process. To develop people they must understand people. Students are tested in various areas to help them determine their strengths in understanding and developing people as well as their own need for development. If leaders do not develop their people the resources for ministry will not grow.

### **DML-813** Leading and Managing the Church and Parachurch (3 hours)

What makes a good leader? What makes a good manager? What are the differences between leading and managing? Good leaders and good managers complement each other and both are needed to accomplish the mission of the church. This seminar develops each student's ability to lead and manage in a way that produces health and growth in a Christian organization.

### **DML-814** Pastoral Leadership in the 21st Century (3 hours)

This seminar focuses on how the pastor as leader can improve effectiveness as the church's direction-setter and overseer of the decision-making process. By means of the reading, assignments, class discussion, lectures and pastoral consultants, the students analyze and improve their leadership skills for the benefit of their own congregations. Topics include how to (1) use power properly to increase ministerial effectiveness, (2) communicate the church's vision, (3) organize and direct the essential components of the church, (4) influence people for greater Christian growth, and (5) encourage staff and congregation morale.

### **DML-815** Developing Interpersonal Relations in Organizations through Conflict Management (3 hours)

Interpersonal relations are critical to Christian organizations. Conflict can destroy them if not managed. But relationships can be built out of conflict. Students will develop a biblical and theological understanding of conflict, styles of conflict management to reduce conflict, negotiation approaches and principles for organizational handling of conflict.

### **DML-816** Addressing the Ethical Issues that Make or Break Christian Ministries (3 hours)

Organizations have failed because they failed to deal with developing ethical issues. Case studies in modern ethics help to apply ethics to Christian organizations. Foundation and theories of ethics must be related to the Bible, the marketplace and the modern organization.

**DML-817 Strategic Planning for Accomplishing Mission Goals (3 hours)**

Students study visionary planning and implementation for Christian organizations as they interact with issues of contextualization, cross-cultural communication, fund-raising, board policy, marketing and assessment, and organizational change. A strategic plan must take every aspect of the organization into consideration if the mission of the organization is to be fulfilled. It must also be flexible because circumstances constantly change.

**DML-818 Leading Change (3 hours)**

When a vision is established and strategic planning is done, how does one go about leading people through the change process in such a way that change actually happens? What are the dynamics of change? How does one lead through the process of change and keep people on board? These and other questions will be addressed in this seminar.

**DML-819 Building Christian Community (3 hours)**

What is authentic Christian community and how is it nourished and developed in a local congregation or organization? This seminar will explore biblical foundations of Christian community, along with historical, cultural and sociological perspectives on community. A variety of methods for building and strengthening Christian community will be presented with a focus on significant small group models that encourage and express community in particular contexts.

**DML-820 Organize for Life and Ministry (3 hours)**

Organizing for life and ministry is not about time management but about life management. We must manage our life to manage our time. We must “use what we’ve got” in time since we never have more time. Therefore, we reduce what we do to fit the time we have and trust God for the rest. We must learn to work with God and be transparent, which saves a lot of time and energy.

**DML-890 Independent Study in Executive Leadership (3 hours)**

An independent study in leadership may be arranged with an appropriate professor with the approval of the D.Min. Director. Only two independent studies or course transfers from another seminary may be included in the student’s course work.



LEADERSHIP IN PREACHING & PASTORAL MINISTRY CONCENTRATION

**DMP-801 Leading through Preaching/Communication (3 hours)**

Leading well requires that biblical truth be persuasively communicated so that people can understand it and will live it. People need instruction that ties the truth of Scripture together with their church’s philosophy of ministry. For this to happen, the church’s mission must have a unifying theme that is pervasive in weekly preaching. Students learn to communicate vision, mission, values and purpose through a normal year’s preaching.

**DMP-811 Relevant Biblical Preaching I (3 hours)**

For preaching to be relevant as God intends it must first be biblical. Some of the questions addressed are: How does one select and study a passage to discover the exegetical idea? How does one take this exegetical idea and develop a homiletical idea with a biblical purpose? How can the sermon be shaped to carry out that purpose?

**DMP-812 Relevant Biblical Preaching II (3 hours)**

Preaching must not only be biblical, it must be relevant. The gulf between the biblical world and the modern world must be bridged. Biblical truth must be applied to the everyday life of the audience. Students will examine the communication process and analyze the audiences to which they preach in order to structure sermons according to the listeners’ needs.

**DMP-813 Using Narrative Preaching to Raise Interest and Improve Retention (3 hours)**

People in today’s culture are constantly exposed to narrative media. Many people may better listen to and remember a familiar narrative style of presentation than the traditional didactic one. Narrative literature comprises much of the biblical material and demands a special hermeneutic to understand its message. The sermon can also be structured in a narrative style.

**DMP-815 Preaching Creatively to Help People Listen (3 hours)**

The use of storytelling, extended illustration and various approaches to preaching develops a more interesting delivery. The seminar is intended to enhance creativity in sermon style and increase the student's ability to read Scripture well.

**DMP-816 Expository Preaching of Old Testament Narrative (3 hours)**

Narrative preaching and preaching narrative scripture are different. The first is preaching in a narrative style. The second is preaching a narrative passage. One can preach a narrative passage in a narrative style, but also preach a narrative passage in other styles. However one preaches, the keys to preaching narrative scripture must be grasped. This seminar focuses on the development and delivery of expository sermons from O.T. narrative passages.

**DMP-821 Ministering to Adults with Diverse Needs (3 hours)**

Adults have unique needs. A model will be developed for ministering to adults in light of the unique needs of different adult learners: young, middle, senior, singles, and single parents. Adults desire ministry that addresses the needs that they have, not the needs that others have.

**DMP-822 Building a Church of People With Purpose (3 hours)**

It is not sufficient for leaders to know where they are going. For a church to be healthy and move forward the people must know where they are going. Students will study the principles for building a church of people who have a sense of purpose.

**DMP-823 Relating Theology and Culture (3 hours)**

In a world wallowing in relativism, the church and individual Christians must be called back to biblical values as the only foundation for any genuine and lasting impact on their culture. The church must respond to the current debate on culture wars and the church's place in modern society. Christian leaders must understand both theology and culture if they are to communicate Christian principles in a way that will be understood by people whose thinking has been molded by cultural relativism rather than the Bible.

**DMP-825 Navigating the Minefields of Ministry (3 hours)**

There is a need to step away from the daily pressure of public Christian service and observe some of the personal dimensions of life in leadership. Engaging in self-examination through dialogue with peers and class instructors helps students see themselves more clearly. Formulating ideas and plans for the future that might make leadership more sustainable and satisfying is the goal.

**DMP-826 A Systems Approach to Churches and Organizations (3 hours)**

Churches and organizations are not a group of people, they are a complex whole. They are interrelated in a system that includes interactions and processes. You never deal with one person, for that person interacts with others and affects the whole. Understanding the whole is necessary to effectively address changes, transitions, and conflict.

**DMP-890 Independent Study in Preaching and Pastoral Ministry (3 hours)**

An independent study in pastoral ministries may be arranged with an appropriate professor with the approval of the D.Min. Director. Only two independent studies or transfer of credits from another seminary may be included in the student's course work.

## LEADERSHIP IN COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL FORMATION CONCENTRATION

### **DMS-801 Leadership in Community Spiritual Formation (3 hours)** (Required Seminar)

Individual and corporate spiritual formation in community leads to mission in the world. Students learn how to follow God's unique path to move into this kind of community. This seminar emphasizes leading entire communities in spiritual formation out of the leader's own formation while respecting where everyone is in their spiritual journey. Ministry is the focus, and spiritual formation becomes the means to God's end.

### **DMS-811 Integrating Spiritual and Leadership Principles (3 hours)**

Areas of struggles for Christian leaders include spiritual formation and leadership principles. Effective leadership involves properly integrating the two. Divorcing the two results in spiritual leaders who can't lead and leaders who cause things to happen without developing spiritually dynamic people. Leaders are needed who are strong in both areas and can integrate them.

### **DMS-812 How to Develop a Biblically Based Spiritual Journey (3 hours)**

With its serious attention to doctrine and action, evangelicalism appears to have under-emphasized the inner life. One of the results is that Christians have often been left without direction in developing a personal spiritual journey. This can lead in non-biblical directions. An integrated model of theology, spirituality and care-giving will be developed. This model can then be used for a biblically based spiritual journey.

### **DMS-813 Spiritual Mentoring: The Ministry of Evangelical Soul Care (3 hours)**

God is leading the church today to recapture the Christian ministry of soul care that offers rich resources for spiritual growth in wholeness and holiness. This seminar explores the biblical and theological basis for spiritual mentoring or soul care, and develops a sound approach to growing disciplines in relationship with Christ, in practical obedience, and in fruitfulness of life.

### **DMS-814 Ministry Effectiveness Through Personal Growth in Christian Spirituality (3 hours)**

Neglecting the inner life in our drive to succeed has forced us to repair what has been neglected: lives, marriages and careers wounded by a lack of preventative care and cure of souls (spirituality). Spiritual

development that experiences the joy and power of the Spirit comes through the study of Scripture and historic models of spiritual life and nurture. Experiencing heart-intimacy with God, a contemplative lifestyle, spiritual disciplines and spiritual direction can lead to recovering the joy and power of the Spirit in personal life and leadership.

### **DMS-815 Interpersonal and Corporate Spiritual Formation (3 hours)**

Spiritual formation emphasizes the spiritual disciplines necessary to develop a relationship with God that helps us become more like him. But spiritual formation is not just a matter of a disciplined person developing spiritually without the help of others. Our interaction with others and our corporate worship and ministry work together to form us spiritually. The practice of giving and receiving grace is basic to spiritual formation. This seminar is about leadership focused on making these things happen.

### **DMS-816 Spiritual Formation Evangelism (3 hours)**

The seminar integrates evangelism with spiritual formation/discipleship and considers their interrelationship from biblical, philosophical, and theoretical perspectives. It will explore spiritually directed pragmatic ideas for effective implementation in the local church. This integrated approach prepares non-Christians to seamlessly move into Christian spiritual formation / discipleship once they accept Christ.

### **DMS-817 Developing Leadership Teams through Spiritual Retreats (3 Hours)**

People change gradually, but the direction can be set quickly through a spiritual retreat. A long retreat can teach the rhythms of grace, engagement in ministry and disengagement from ministry, to form a pattern of restoration which can be repeated in the life of the individual and teams throughout the year. This changes life together from our frantic activity to trust in God's leading. Combining this retreat with a post-retreat year-long plan reinforcing the learning conceptualized at the retreat can become the reality of everyday ministry.

### **DMS-890 Independent Study in Leadership in Community Spiritual Formation (3 hours)**

An independent study in Leadership in Community Spiritual Formation may be arranged with an appropriate professor with the approval of the D.Min. Director. Only two independent studies or transfers from another seminary may be included in the student's course work.



## LEADERSHIP IN GLOBAL URBAN MINISTRY

### Exegeting the City

A part of the program is to learn to exegete the city. You can't make an impact on what you don't understand. *Bakke Graduate University of Ministry* in Seattle has a Doctor of Ministry program that helps students learn to understand the city. Our students will spend one week in Seattle and two weeks at another time exegeting a foreign city under the guidance of Dr. Ray Bakke in the BGU program. You can learn about Overture I (you will take the first week only) and Overture II, as well as the dates and locations of the Overtures, at [www.bgu.edu](http://www.bgu.edu). Dr. Grace Barnes directs their program.

#### **OVI-701 Overture I**

(4 hours – the first week only of two weeks)

The major perspective presented are: Reflective, Global, Urban, Transformational, and Cultural. Case studies from ethnic, gender, and global perspectives will challenge students to look beyond their own context. The course will focus on character development of leaders and the creation of culture and ethos within transformed and transformational organizations. For registration information go to [www.bgu.edu](http://www.bgu.edu).

#### **OVI-701 Overture II**

(8 hours – in a foreign city)

Students will experience an international learning experience hosted and taught by Dr. Ray Bakke and guests. Locations in Asia provide a different approach to the subject of the post colonial realities of the Church in the world, acknowledging that 80% of the world's Christians do not live in North America or Western Europe. For registration information visit their web site: [www.bgu.edu](http://www.bgu.edu).

## MENTORING COURSES

#### **DMM-801 Effective Mentoring Relationships**

(1 hour) (Required for MFC Students)

This one-year of mentoring begins with an 8-week online course designed to assist students and their mentors in developing a biblical and theological framework for personal development in a mentored relationship. Through the mentored ministry experience the student learns how to grow in the context of community as well as develop a strategy for mentoring others.

#### **DMM-802 Mentored Ministry Evaluation – Substitutes for DMR-802 (1 hour)**

This one-year of mentoring is more student directed but includes an evaluation of the student's ministry through the eyes of the people they serve with mentors sharing in the evaluation. It is designed to help surface issues to be addressed, one of which might become the basis for a project and thesis.

#### **DMM-803 Mentored Ministry Motivation – Substitutes for DMR-803 (1 hour)**

There are people who have a vested interest in how ministry is currently being done. To make changes they must be motivated to change. This one-year mentored learning experience identifies who the stakeholders are in the current ministry and who will be impacted by changes being considered. Then strategies to motivate them to accept the changes will be developed.

#### **DMM-806 Mentored Thinking Systems in Ministry – Substitutes for DMR-806 (1 hour)**

To understand a church or organization it is necessary to see it as a system rather than a collection of individuals. With their mentors, students will learn to "think systems" in order to discover the systemic structures at work within their church or organization, understand the complex interactions that occur among elements of the system, and identify possible points of intervention to bring change.



### **DMR-801 Research Methods and Strategies – Developing Ministry Through Research (3 hours)**

This seminar is designed to assist students in developing their D.Min. project and thesis. It will assist students in developing the project title paper and proposal, finding and evaluating available resources, designing the project, evaluating the results, and writing the thesis. The development of the thesis will be presented and its various chapters explained. Topics include quantitative and qualitative research, sampling, library research, developing operational definitions and instructional objectives, administering tests, conducting surveys, and guidelines for writing. This course must be taken as one of the last two seminars.

### **DMR-802 Ministry Evaluation Learning Contract (1 hour)**

This learning contract helps students evaluate their ministry (strengths and weaknesses) through the eyes of their people in order to determine what project and thesis might strengthen their ministry. Deciding what to do for a project is very difficult without knowing what is needed in ministry. Learning from others makes it much easier.

### **DMR-803 Research Implementation Learning Contract (1 hour)**

Students must keep in mind throughout their thesis research how their project will be implemented. This involves considering the concerns of the stakeholders who will be involved in implementing (or at least supporting) the project that develops from the student's research. Keeping these people in mind can be the difference between implementing and not being able to implement your project effectively.

### **DMR-804 Project and Thesis (7 hours)**

This summative project enables students to make a significant contribution to ministry. Their thesis records the research done to address a significant need in their ministry. Their project is focused on addressing that need, and is based upon the research.

### **DMR-805 Project and Thesis Continuation (no credit)**

Each subsequent term after students have registered for their project and thesis, they must register that they are continuing to work on their project and thesis. This non credit course allows students who have completed their seminars to register that they continue to be active in the program.

### **DMR-806 Thinking Systems in Ministry Learning Contract (1 hour)**

To understand a church or organization it is necessary to see it as a system rather than a collection of individuals. Students will learn to “think systems” in order to discover the systemic structures at work within their church or organization, understand the complex interactions that occur among elements of the system, and identify possible points of intervention to bring change.

### **DMR-890 Studies in Project and Thesis (no credit)**

This week long workshop is occasionally offered for those who are struggling with their project and thesis.

# ALL SEMINARS IN THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY COUNSELING TRACK

## SEQUENCE ON THE SEMINARS

Students normally begin with an introductory seminar in July. It is possible, however, to begin in January. Students take one one-week seminar in July and one in January for three and one-half years to complete their seminars (which can be reduced to two and one-half if two seminars are taken together the two times that is possible).

## BENEFITS OF THE SEMINARS

The students in the Marriage and Family Counseling program grow professionally, personally, spiritually and relationally. They learn how to put in place an effective marriage and family counseling program which will benefit their church, themselves, their marriage and the wider community. The following are some specific benefits the students have affirmed.

1. The students learn how to integrate counseling principles with scriptural principles so that their counseling can be biblically sound.
2. The students learn how to implement an effective prevention program for reducing family problems and developing strong families.
3. The students learn to develop a policy procedure for effective pre-marital counseling.
4. The students learn how to have a greater impact on the community through a more comprehensive program that produces practical results.
5. The students learn to work from a systematic approach to marriage and family counseling which is more effective and works more quickly.
6. The students learn solution based brief therapy which can bring about positive changes in fewer sessions. They also learn a number of other approaches to use in counseling.
7. The students learn how to shape the counseling load so as not to be overwhelmed with counseling.
8. The students are better able to know when to make a referral for more serious problems, and learn an effective procedure for signing a release in order to be a part of the treatment team as pastor and not as therapist.
9. The students have 30 hours of supervision for their counseling which will shape counseling techniques and personal understanding for a lifetime of ministry.
10. The students are challenged in spiritual formation and to develop a plan for stronger personal relationships.
11. The students interact with persons from diverse background which helps them in self understanding.
12. The students learn the strengths and limitations for personal ministry which came from their family of origin.
13. The students read, write and reflect on their own marriage to grow in this area of their lives.

Students interested in licensure as marriage and family therapists should check with their state licensing board to see what is required for licensure and compare it to our program. Completing our program would take students in some states fairly close to licensing requirements. In many states, however, students would still have many more requirements to meet.

**DMF-821 Systems Theory in Family Contexts**  
(3 hours)

This introductory seminar helps students understand and treat marriages and families. Integrated with biblical and theological perspectives, it teaches systems theory as it applies to traditional and alternative family structures and various presenting problems. Models taught integrate information on family, marital, sibling, and individual subsystems and the systemic influences on them, particularly from family of origin and society.

**DMF-822 Healthy Sexuality and Sexual Addictions** (3 hours)

This foundational study of both healthy and maladaptive human sexuality includes biological, psychological, sociological and familial perspectives. Marriage and family therapy theory and practice address issues of gender and sexual functioning, sexual orientation, and sex therapy. Issues include biblical principles and perspectives, socio-cultural values and norms, sexual identity, sexual behavior, sexual disorders, sexual addictions, and resources for treatment.

**DMF-823 Societal and Cultural Dynamics of Marriage and Family** (3 hours)

Developmental and systems theories integrate personality development across the life span with biblical perspectives. Individual and family life cycle tasks and potential problems in each of the developmental stages are studied. Development is addressed within the context of diversity and discrimination, disenfranchisement and oppression, and contemporary family issues, including changing family forms and dynamics. Also considered are issues related to assessment and intervention sensitive to the unique needs of clients. The integration of biblical and theological perspectives on human development and social/cultural perspectives on diversity and social justice will be addressed.

**DMF-824 Psychopathology and Intervening in Family Crises** (3 hours)

The focus of this course is on unhealthy or abnormal development of the individual personality, marital relationships and families. The integration of the theological themes of sin and grace will be central. Multi-generational problems of dysfunctional family systems, including alcohol and/or drug abuse,

physical abuse, incest, mental illness and other disorders, will be considered. The assessment and treatment of individual and systemic problems will be studied, including the use of assessment tools to assist in understanding and diagnosing disorders (DSM IV-TR). Included will be a discussion of the use and potential misuse of psycho-pharmacology.

**DMF-825 Building Strong Marriages and Families**

Preventive efforts aimed at developing strong marriage and family ministries that are consistent with developmental and systemic principles, and integrated with a biblical theology of marriage and family, is the focus of this course. Emerging from efforts to help individuals, couples and congregations to understand their existing strengths and identify growth areas, students will develop a contextualized three-year program for helping their congregations build strong marriages and healthy relationships. Training in specific relationship assessments is included. Spouses of married students are especially encouraged to attend this seminar.

**DMF-826 Relational Therapies** (3 hours)

This course provides an overview of the various approaches to marriage and family therapy, particularly those that utilize a systems perspective of relationships. These approaches to intervention address a broad range of relationship issues and relationship types. They also provide a rationale and resources for the development of a pre-marital counseling program. Biblical perspectives on relational problems and their resolution within relational contexts of social and extended family networks are considered. Various assessment tools are taught.

**DMF-827 Ethical and Professional Issues in MFC** (3 hours)

Biblical, ethical and professional issues in marriage and family therapy are related to licensure or certification legislation, legal responsibilities and liabilities, malpractice, ethics and family law. This includes the scope of practice, confidentiality and mandated reporting, understanding how values impact practice, professional supervision, referral, continuing education, and the unique challenges of a church affiliated ministry. The person of the counselor, personal development, and spiritual formation are considered in the context of professional development.

### **DMF-828** Residency (2 hours)

The residency is a supervised evaluation of students' counseling. It includes a review of their contract hours, the composition of their caseloads, additional related clinical experience, evaluations from other supervisors, review of video samples including case notes, and development of a plan for ongoing professional growth.

### **DMF-890** Independent Study in Marriage and Family Counseling

An independent study in Marriage and Family Counseling may be arranged with an appropriate professor with the approval of the D.Min. Director. Since all DMF seminars are required, this would normally increase the number of hours for the program. It is possible, however, that this might substitute for a required seminar.

### **DMR-801** Research Methods and Strategies - Developing Ministry through Research (3 hours)

This seminar is designed to assist students in developing their D.Min. project and thesis. It will assist students in developing the project title paper and proposal, finding and evaluating available resources, designing the project, evaluating the results, and writing the thesis. The development of the thesis will be presented and its various chapters explained. Topics include quantitative and qualitative research, sampling, library research, developing operational definitions and instructional objectives, administering tests, conducting surveys, and guidelines for writing. This course must be taken as one of the last two seminars.

### **DMM-801** Effective Mentoring Relationships (1 hour)

This one-year of mentoring begins with an 8-week online course designed to assist students and their mentors in developing a biblical and theological framework for personal development in a mentored relationship. Through the mentored ministry experience the student learns how to grow in the context of community as well as develop a strategy for mentoring others.

### **DMR-804** Project and Thesis (7 hours)

This summative project enables students to make a significant contribution to ministry. Their thesis records the research done to address a significant need in their ministry. Their project is focused on addressing that need and is based upon the research.

### **DMR-805** Project and Thesis Continuation (no credit)

Each subsequent term after students have registered for their project and thesis, they must register that they are continuing to work on their project and thesis. This non credit course allows students who have completed their seminars to register that they continue to be active in the program.

### Marriage Enrichment Seminar

All married students and their spouses must attend a three-day and two-night marriage enrichment seminar. This is required even if the student has been leading such seminars. Those who lead these seminars do not receive the benefits with their spouse that those attending do. The seminar must be approved by the D.Min. office.

## THE D.MIN. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All of the forms for application are available from the D.Min. office or at our web page, [www.DenverSeminary.edu/dmin](http://www.DenverSeminary.edu/dmin) or [www.usewhatyouvegot.com](http://www.usewhatyouvegot.com).

1. The applicant must have a Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent with a grade point average of "B" (3.0). Those with lower grade point averages, if accepted, will begin the program on academic probation. Information on requirements for an M.Div. equivalency is available on our website or from the Doctor of Ministry office.
2. The applicant must have been actively involved in a ministry for at least three years subsequent to their first graduate theological degree (an accrediting association requirement for any D.Min. program). Students must remain in ministry throughout their doctoral program.
3. Applicants whose first/native language is not English are required to complete the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Minimum scores required on the Internet-based Test ([www.ets.org/toefl](http://www.ets.org/toefl)) are as follows: Reading minimum score 20; Listening minimum score 20; Speaking minimum score 20; Writing minimum score 22; total minimum score 90.

## THE D.MIN. APPLICATIONS PROCESS

1. Submit a completed application form accompanied by the non-refundable application fee. For Marriage and Family Counseling, include the appropriate testing fee.
2. Write an application essay of at least 3,000 words. It should include one's conversion and Christian experience, call to ministry, goals and purpose in enrolling in the program, relationships with one's spouse (if married) and family, and a resume of all previous positions in Christian ministry. (An applicant who has been divorced should provide specific information concerning that divorce.) Give specific reasons for desiring admission to the Doctor of Ministry program and state the effects the program is expected to have on life and ministry.
3. Sign without mental reservation the National Association of Evangelicals Statement of Faith (see the appendix).
4. Ask six people to give references: three should be personal references and three should be references for the applicant's experience in ministry.
5. Submit official transcripts covering all previous college and seminary work. Official transcripts must be sent directly to the Doctor of Ministry Office, Denver Seminary from the issuing school.
6. An endorsement must be sent from the applicant's church board, organization for whom the applicant ministers, denominational headquarters, or missions agency. It is hard to complete the program if the organization is not in agreement with it being done.

## ADDITIONAL ADMISSION & APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY COUNSELING APPLICANTS

- a. Four semester hours in counseling and/or psychology courses at the master's level if not previously taken.
- b. Four semester hours in pastoral theology or pastoral ministry at the master's level if not previously taken.
- c. Completed answer sheets submitted for the following tests:
  - Taylor-Johnson Temperament Analysis (TJTA)
  - Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI)
  - Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI)
  - Marital Satisfaction Inventory (MMPI) (if married)

These tests must be taken through Denver Seminary. The tests will be sent to the applicant from the D.Min. office.

- d. As soon as the student has been accepted, he/she should apply for the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) student membership. The student will then supply proof of membership to the D.Min. office.

## TRANSFER OF CREDIT

Up to six hours can be transferred into the program from another acceptably accredited Doctor of Ministry program if the hours are suitable to the program for which the applicant has applied. Credits transferred into the program reduce the number of independent study hours the student is allowed to take. A student may take up to six hours of independent studies. Each hour of transfer credit reduces the number of independent study hours by one. If six hours are transferred in, no independent study hours may be taken.

## ACCEPTANCE PROCESS

1. The application packet must be received by April 15 for entrance into the summer seminars (the spring term) or October 15 for Entrance into the January seminars (the fall term).
2. A telephone interview or personal interview may be conducted. Acceptance into the program is provisional pending advancement to candidacy early in the program. Advancement to candidacy requires a self-evaluation essay and a grade of not less than a "B-" and a 3.0 G.P.A. on the early seminars. A candidacy interview may be required.

### LENGTH OF PROGRAM

The length of the program is three to six years. The Association of Theological Schools requires that Doctor of Ministry students take at least three years to complete the program. The student is expected to complete the program in six years unless an extension is granted for extenuating circumstances.

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Information on the application fee, tuition, housing costs, graduation fees, and other expenses connected to the doctoral program is available from the Doctor of Ministry office. To request information you can email [dmin@denverseminary.edu](mailto:dmin@denverseminary.edu), call 1-800-922-3040 ext. 1245, or write to the Doctor of Ministry Office, Denver Seminary, 6399 S. Santa Fe Drive, Littleton, CO 80120.

### RESIDENCE

*The seminary cannot provide housing for students, but provides information on where to learn about any available campus apartments and on motels with special negotiated rates. Since on campus housing is rather limited, any housing available on campus is for students only, not their families. Students accompanied by spouses and children will need to stay off campus.*

### GRADUATION POLICY

Graduating students are expected to attend the graduation ceremonies in the spring. The vice-president and academic dean will consider a petition not to attend when there are extenuating circumstances and participation in the graduation ceremonies would create a hardship for the student. All financial obligations to the seminary must be met prior to graduation. In order to graduate, faculty must determine that the student is theologically, psychologically, spiritually, morally and academically fit as a candidate for some phase of evangelical ministry. This is based on the student's total D.Min. experience and a 3.0 G.P.A. The seminary understands the term "evangelical" to designate the theological position set forth in the Nation Association of Evangelicals' statement of faith (printed in the appendix) and interprets it in keeping with the historic confession of the Christian church.

### VISITING DENVER SEMINARY

Prospective students are encouraged to visit the Denver Seminary Campus. Please call to make an appointment with our director. Denver Seminary is located in the southwest part of metro Denver. The address is 6399 S. Santa Fe Drive, Littleton, CO 80120.

**To approach the seminary from the north** via Hwy. I-25, take the Santa Fe Drive S (US-85) exit (exit 207b). The seminary is on the west side of Santa Fe Drive 7.4 miles south of the I-25 intersection. It is just south of Arapahoe Community College which is on the east side of S. Santa Fe Dr.

**To approach the seminary from the south** via Hwy. I-25, take the C-470 W exit (exit 194). Travel 8.9 miles and merge onto S. Santa Fe Drive (US-85) going north. Travel 2.9 miles to the seminary which will be on your left. Since you cannot turn left you must go past the seminary 3/10 of a mile and turn left at the traffic light into Hudson Gardens. Take the service road to the left which enters directly into the seminary.



All students and the visiting faculty must sign the following National Association of Evangelicals Statement of Faith. Denver Seminary faculty sign Denver Seminary's statement of faith which is printed in the Denver Seminary Academic Catalog and is also available from the Doctor of Ministry office and the Denver Seminary website.

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS' STATEMENT OF FAITH

**The National Association of Evangelicals takes its stand on the changeless Word of God as expressed in the following STATEMENT OF FAITH:**

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
2. We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
4. We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful people, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.
5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.
6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
7. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.





Doctor of Ministry Office  
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[www.denverseminary.edu/dmin](http://www.denverseminary.edu/dmin) • [www.usewhatyouvegot.com](http://www.usewhatyouvegot.com)