

Admission Requirements

Open admission — all applicants are welcome.

Program Requirements

A total of 96 quarter credit hours are required for completion:

- Bible and Theology – 36 credits
 - Missional Leadership – 24 credits
 - Mission and Spiritual Formation – 20 credits
- General Studies – 16 credits
Total = 96 credits

Certificate Program Objective

The Certificate in Missional Leadership equips emerging leaders with a firmly biblical foundation for life and ministry. The program focuses on cultivating a missional identity, fostering a missional worldview, and discerning God's calling. Students are empowered to interpret culture, vocation, and community through God's redemptive purposes, embrace their calling to serve the Church, and engage the world with the Gospel.

The curriculum integrates biblical knowledge with spiritual formation, ensuring that leadership develops from a transformed heart and a Spirit-led life. Through 96 quarter credit hours of study, students are prepared not only to think biblically but also to live missionally, embodying leadership that advances God's Kingdom in diverse contexts.

Admission Requirement:

Anyone can apply.

Degree Requirements:

Area of Study	Credit Hours
Bible and Theology	36

Missional Leadership	24
Mission Spiritual Formation	20
General Studies	16
Total	96

Certificate in Missional Leadership (96 Credits)

Bible and Theology (36 credits)

- BT 101 Pentateuch: Foundations of God's Covenant (3 credits)
- BT 111 Historical Books: God's People in the Land (3 credits)
- BT 121 Prophets: Voices of Covenant Faithfulness (3 credits)
- BT 131 Wisdom Literature: Living Faithfully (3 credits)
- BT 151 Gospels & Acts: Life of Christ and Birth of the Church (4 credits)
- BT 161 Paul's Letters: Foundations of Christian Life and Mission and Church Formation (4 credits)
- BT 181 General Epistles & Revelation (4 credits)
- BT 191 New Testament Themes (4 credits)
- BT 195 Church History: Story of God's People (4 credits)
- BT 197 Basic Systematic Theology (4 credits)

Missional Leadership (24 credits)

- ML 101 Missional Worship: Encountering God for Mission (4 credits)
- ML 111 Missional Vocation: Calling and Marketplace Ministry (4 credits)
- ML 121 Missional Communication: Media, Culture, and the Gospel (4 credits)
- ML 131 Missional Movements: World Missions and the Story of Expansion (4 credits)
- ML 141 Leadership Foundations I: Principles of Missional Leadership (4 credits)
- ML 151 Leadership Foundations II: Practices of Missional Leadership (4 credits)

Mission & Spiritual Formation (20 credits)

- MF 101 Missional Spirituality: Practices for Life with God (4 credits)
- MF 111 Missional Counseling: Care for Soul and Community (4 credits)
- MF 121 Missional Worldview: Living Faithfully in Culture (4 credits)
- MF 131 Spiritual Formation Seminar I: Being with Christ (3 credits)
- MF 141 Spiritual Formation Seminar II: Becoming like Christ (3 credits)

- MF 151 Spiritual Formation Seminar III: Leading with Christ's Heart (2 credits)

General Studies (16 credits)

- GS 101 U.S. History and Culture: A Biblical Perspective (4 credits)
- GS 111 Critical Thinking and Logic: Skills for Discernment (4 credits)
- GS 121 Academic Writing: Research and Communication for Ministry (4 credits)
- GS 131 Speech and Communication: Speaking with Clarity and Impact (4 credits)

Curricula

Bible and Theology (36 credits)

BT 101 Pentateuch: Foundations of God's Covenant (3 credits)

This course introduces students to the first five books of the Bible, focusing on God's covenant with His people and His unfolding plan of redemption. Students will study creation, the fall, the calling of Abraham, Israel's deliverance, and the giving of the law, discerning how these themes shape identity as God's people. Aligned with Lumina's principles, this course equips students to read Scripture faithfully, live in a covenant relationship with God, and see their destiny within His redemptive purposes.

BT 111 Historical Books: God's People in the Land (3 credits)

A survey of Joshua through Esther, this course explores Israel's life in the Promised Land, with attention to leadership, kingship, and exile. Students will analyze the successes and failures of God's people as they sought to live faithfully under God's covenant. The course emphasizes

how obedience, courage, and renewal inform the missional life of believers today. Students will connect biblical history to their own call to live faithfully in community and culture.

BT 121 Prophets: Voices of Covenant Faithfulness (3 credits)

This course surveys the prophets of the Old Testament, examining their call to justice, holiness, and hope. Students will explore how the prophets spoke God's truth in times of crisis and pointed forward to the coming of Christ, the Light of the world. By engaging these texts, students learn to listen for God's voice, discern His calling, and embody the prophetic mission of speaking truth and hope in today's world.

BT 131 Wisdom Literature: Living Faithfully (3 credits)

Through study of Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs, students will explore biblical wisdom for navigating suffering, decision-making, and relationships. The course highlights how wisdom shapes the heart and cultivates patterns of godly living. Students will practice applying wisdom to real-life issues, learning to pursue integrity and faithfulness in their missional vocation. This course embodies Lumina's vision of moving from knowledge to transformation.

BT 151 Gospels & Acts: Life of Christ and Birth of the Church (4 credits)

This course surveys the four Gospels and Acts, focusing on the person of Jesus Christ and the mission of the early church. Students will study the teachings, miracles, death, and resurrection of Christ, as well as the Spirit-empowered witness of the apostles. By tracing the church's expansion, students will see how Christ's light spreads into the world and how they are called to continue this mission. The course integrates biblical knowledge with missional identity and practice.

BT 161 Paul's Letters: Foundations of Christian Life and Mission and Church Formation (4 credits)

Students will study Paul's letters, focusing on Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Thessalonians, and the Pastoral Epistles. Themes include justification by faith, unity in the body of Christ, mission, and leadership. The course emphasizes how Paul's teaching shapes Christian identity and guides the church's mission. Students will practice reading Paul missionally, discerning how his vision for the church equips them to serve Christ faithfully today.

BT 181 General Epistles & Revelation (4 credits)

This course examines Hebrews, James, Peter, John, Jude, and Revelation, highlighting perseverance, hope, and victory in Christ. Students will engage themes of endurance in trials and the promise of God's final triumph. Special focus will be given to Revelation as a testimony to Christ's glory and the destiny of God's people. Students will be challenged to live as faithful witnesses in a world longing for hope, bearing testimony to the light of Christ.

BT 191 New Testament Themes (4 credits)

A thematic study of New Testament teaching, this course traces key concepts such as the kingdom of God, discipleship, grace, and the Holy Spirit. Students will see the unity and diversity of the New Testament witness and learn how these themes guide Christian living and mission. The course emphasizes integration—how biblical themes move from thought (truth) to heart (transformation) to action (testimony).

BT 195 Church History: Story of God's People (4 credits)

This course introduces major events, leaders, and movements in church history, from the early church to the Reformation and beyond. Students will see how the church has lived out its identity, struggled with challenges, and expanded across cultures. By learning from past faithfulness and failures, students will develop discernment for leading the church today with wisdom and courage. The course aligns with Lumina's commitment to a missional worldview rooted in history.

BT 197 Basic Systematic Theology (4 credits)

This course surveys the central doctrines of the Christian faith, including God, Christ, the Spirit, salvation, the Church, and the last things. Students will learn to articulate a biblical worldview and connect doctrine with faithful living. The course highlights how theology shapes identity, sustains spiritual formation, and equips leaders for mission. Students will complete doctrinal reflections and begin forming their own missional statement of faith.

Missional Leadership (24 credits)

ML 101 Missional Worship: Encountering God for Mission (4 credits)

This course explores worship as both the source and goal of mission. Students study biblical foundations, historical patterns, and contemporary expressions of worship that shape missional identity. Worship is approached not only as personal devotion but also as a witness to the nations. Practical projects include planning worship that integrates prayer, Scripture, and mission, preparing students to lead communities into God's presence for the sake of the world.

ML 111 Missional Vocation: Calling and Marketplace Ministry (4 credits)

Students investigate the biblical principles of calling and vocation, considering how God calls people into diverse fields of service, including the marketplace. The course emphasizes that all work, when surrendered to God, becomes a mission. Students will reflect on their personal sense of calling, study biblical models of vocation, and develop strategies for living missionally in professional and community contexts.

ML 121 Missional Communication: Media, Culture, and the Gospel (4 credits)

This course examines the power of communication in advancing the Gospel, with particular focus on media and cultural engagement. Students learn to evaluate cultural narratives, analyze communication tools, and create Gospel-centered messages for diverse audiences. Projects may include presentations, media reflections, or digital storytelling exercises. The goal is to form leaders who communicate Christ with clarity, creativity, and cultural sensitivity.

ML 131 Missional Movements: World Missions and the Story of Expansion (4 credits)

A survey of mission history from the early church to the present, this course explores key figures, strategies, and global movements. Students study the expansion of Christianity across cultures and the lessons learned through both successes and failures. Special emphasis is given to the Spirit's role in empowering mission. Assignments include case studies of missionary pioneers and reflections on cross-cultural challenges.

ML 141 Leadership Foundations I: Principles of Missional Leadership (4 credits)

This foundational leadership course introduces biblical and theological principles of leadership, emphasizing vision, character, and service. Students examine leadership examples in Scripture and reflect on their own emerging leadership identity. The course stresses that true leadership flows from integrity, humility, and dependence on God's Spirit. Students develop a personal leadership philosophy rooted in Christ.

ML 151 Leadership Foundations II: Practices of Missional Leadership (4 credits)

Building on ML 141, this course focuses on the practical skills needed for effective leadership in church, community, and mission settings. Topics include team development, conflict resolution, strategic planning,

and mentoring. Students engage in simulations and ministry projects to apply their learning. The course equips students to lead with courage, wisdom, and servant-hearted effectiveness.

Mission & Spiritual Formation (20 credits)

MF 101 Missional Spirituality: Practices for Life with God (4 credits)

This course introduces students to spiritual disciplines that sustain a missional life. Practices such as prayer, fasting, Scripture meditation, and hospitality are explored as ways to cultivate intimacy with God and availability for His mission. Students create a personal spiritual rhythm plan and reflect on how formation practices shape their identity and calling.

MF 111 Missional Counseling: Care for Soul and Community (4 credits)

An introduction to biblically grounded counseling, this course equips students to care for individuals and communities with wisdom and compassion. Students learn basic listening skills, principles of pastoral care, and approaches to supporting those in crisis. The course emphasizes that counseling is an extension of God's mission of healing and reconciliation. Role-plays and case studies provide practical application.

MF 121 Missional Worldview: Living Faithfully in Culture (4 credits)

This course explores the concept of worldview, focusing on how biblical truth shapes the way Christians interpret culture and live missionally within it. Students compare biblical and secular worldviews, analyze cultural trends, and reflect on their own perspectives. The goal is to form leaders who live with discernment, courage, and grace, bearing witness to Christ in diverse cultural settings.

MF 131 Spiritual Formation Seminar I: Being with Christ (3 credits)

This seminar focuses on cultivating intimacy with Christ through prayer, worship, and reflective practices. Students meet in small groups for guided spiritual exercises, journaling, and accountability. The course nurtures identity in Christ and emphasizes that leadership begins with a life rooted in His presence.

MF 141 Spiritual Formation Seminar II: Becoming like Christ (3 credits)

Building on MF 131, this seminar emphasizes transformation into Christ's character. Students practice disciplines of confession, service, and community engagement, reflecting on how these practices form Christlike maturity. Group discussions and peer feedback encourage growth in integrity and humility.

MF 151 Spiritual Formation Seminar III: Leading with Christ's Heart (2 credits)

The final seminar focuses on integrating spiritual formation into leadership. Students consider how spiritual practices inform decision-making, service, and mission. Special emphasis is given to leading from the heart of Christ—with love, compassion, and vision. The course concludes with a capstone reflection on personal growth and future leadership.

General Studies (16 credits)

GS 101 U.S. History and Culture: A Biblical Perspective (4 credits)

This course provides an overview of American history and culture, interpreted through the lens of a biblical worldview. Students examine historical movements, cultural shifts, and their impact on society and faith. The course challenges students to evaluate cultural narratives

critically and discern how Christians can engage history and culture missionally.

GS 111 Critical Thinking and Logic: Skills for Discernment (4 credits)

Students learn foundational skills in reasoning, problem-solving, and argument analysis. Emphasis is placed on developing discernment to engage ideas and evaluate truth claims from a biblical perspective. Practical exercises and case studies help students apply logic to cultural, ethical, and theological issues.

GS 121 Academic Writing: Research and Communication for Ministry (4 credits)

This course develops skills in grammar, composition, and academic research writing. Students practice clear communication in essays, research papers, and ministry writing projects. Emphasis is placed on writing as a tool for both academic success and Gospel witness. By the end of the course, students produce a research paper integrating biblical truth with ministry application.

GS 131 Speech and Communication: Speaking with Clarity and Impact (4 credits)

An introduction to public speaking and interpersonal communication, this course trains students to communicate with confidence, clarity, and grace. Topics include speech preparation, delivery, persuasion, and cross-cultural communication. Students deliver presentations and sermons that integrate biblical truth and missional purpose, preparing them to speak as leaders in the church and society.

Bachelor of Christian Education (180 Quarter Credits)

Program Objective

To equip students as effective missional leaders who can impact the mission field, this program develops biblical and theological perspectives for a Christian worldview and faith integration. It emphasizes spiritual formation—being with Christ, becoming like Christ, and engaging in His missional work—while cultivating lifelong learning habits and skills: clear reading, writing, and speaking; critical thinking; team communication; and collaborative leadership.

Admission Requirement: High school diploma or equivalent.

Degree Requirements

Area of Study	Credit Hours
Bible and Theology	48
Christian Education	52
General Studies	46
Missional Leadership	34
Total	180

Bible & Theology (48 credits)

BIB 110 Old Testament Survey (3 credits)

BIB 120 Pentateuch: Genesis to Deuteronomy (3 credits)

BIB 130 Psalms and Wisdom Literature (3 credits)

BIB 140 The Prophets: Isaiah to Malachi (3 credits)

BIB 150 New Testament Survey (3 credits)

BIB 160 The Gospels: Life and Teachings of Jesus (3 credits)

BIB 170 The Acts of the Apostles (3 credits)

BIB 180 Pauline Epistles (3 credits)

THE 250 Biblical Theology I: Creation–Covenant–Kingdom (4 credits)

THE 260 Biblical Theology II: Christ–Spirit–Church (4 credits)

THE 310 Theology of Mission (4 credits)

THE 320 Theology & Spiritual Formation (4 credits)

THE 330 Theology of Work & Marketplace Vocation (4 credits)

THL 400 Biblical Apologetics Seminar for Missional Life (4 credits)

Christian Education (52 credits)

CED 210 Theology & Philosophy of Christian Education (4)

CED 220 Family Life & Ministry (4)

CED 230 Missional Worship & Music in Teaching Ministries (4)

CED 241 Curriculum & Assessment in Christian Education (4)

CED 314 Life-Span Formation for Christian Education (4)

CED 322 Educational Psychology in Christian Perspective (4)

CED 332 Technology & Media for Christian Education (4)

CED 342 Classroom Management & Learning Environments (4)

CED 350 Administration of Christian Education Ministries (4)

CED 410 Teaching in Ministry & Mission (Seminar) (4)

CED 420 Issues & Solutions in Christian Education (Seminar) (4)

CED 499A Christian Education Internship I (4)

CED 499B Christian Education Internship II (4)

General Studies (46 credits)

COM 110 English Composition I: Writing for Testimony & Ministry (4)

COM 210 English Composition II: Ministry and AI (4)

COM 230 Speech for Ministry: Speaking with Clarity & Impact (4)

MTH 130 Financial Stewardship for Ministry (4)

SSC 240 Intercultural Communication & Cross-Cultural Ministry (4)

CCO 240 Introduction to Counseling for Helping Professions (4)

HIS 250 Church History & Global Mission (4)

HUM 240 World Religions & Worldviews (4)

HUM 350 Western Civilization & the Biblical Worldview (4)

SCI 140 Creation Care: Science, Ecology & Stewardship (4)

HUM 499 Senior Seminar: Faith, Calling & Culture (Capstone) (6)

Missional Leadership (34 credits)

SPF 110 Spiritual Leadership: Identity, Character & Practices (3)

MIN 120 Missional Formation: Being with Christ for Mission (3)

MIN 130 Disciple-Making: Principles & Pathways (4)

CLS 210 Christian Leadership: Teams, Ethics & Influence (4)

MIS 220 Perspectives on the World Christian Movement (4)

MIN 240 Christ & Culture: Theology, Ethics & Engagement (4)

PRC 240 The Practice of Preaching: From Text to Transformation (4)

MIS 310 Evangelism & Church Planting: Models & Methods (4)

MIN 490 Special Topics in Missional Leadership (Seminar) (4)

Curricula

Bible & Theology (48 credits)

BIB 110 Old Testament Survey (3 credits)

A panoramic introduction to the Old Testament's story, structure, and theology, tracing God's covenant purposes from creation to return from exile. Students learn major themes, key people and places, and how law, narrative, poetry, and prophecy interlock. Emphasis is placed on reading Scripture as one redemptive storyline that shapes Christian identity and mission. Assignments cultivate basic interpretive skills and practical application.

BIB 120 Pentateuch: Genesis to Deuteronomy (3 credits)

A focused study of the Torah, exploring creation, fall, covenant, promise, exodus, and law as foundations for biblical faith. Attention is given to covenant identity, holiness, sacrifice, and God's presence with His people. Students practice reading narrative and legal texts responsibly and consider how the Pentateuch frames a life of worship and faithful witness. Course work includes thematic tracing and contemporary application.

BIB 130 Psalms and Wisdom Literature (3 credits)

An introduction to Psalms, Proverbs, Job, and Ecclesiastes as voices that shape the heart and habits of God's people. Students engage prayer, lament, praise, and wisdom for everyday life, learning to bring real experience before the Lord. Emphasis falls on spiritual formation—cultivating resilience, integrity, and joy. Projects invite students to craft devotionals that integrate text, theology, and practice.

BIB 140 The Prophets: Isaiah to Malachi (3 credits)

A survey of the writing prophets with emphasis on covenant faithfulness, justice, judgment, and hope. Students explore historical settings, prophetic poetry, and messianic expectation, learning to “hear” the prophets in their world and ours. The course equips students to speak truth with grace, embodying God's heart for renewal in church and society. Assessments foster contextual reading and contemporary application.

BIB 150 New Testament Survey (3 credits)

A broad overview of the New Testament's message, genres, and historical context, highlighting the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ. Students trace themes of kingdom, grace, discipleship, and the Spirit across Gospels, Acts, Letters, and Revelation. The course strengthens biblical literacy and frames a missional worldview for Christian life and leadership. Practice includes theme tracing and ministry application.

BIB 160 The Gospels: Life and Teachings of Jesus (3 credits)

A concentrated study of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, exploring Jesus' identity, mission, parables, miracles, cross, and resurrection. Students compare Gospel portraits and consider discipleship under Jesus' lordship. Formation is central—following Jesus in mind, heart, and practice. Application moves from exegesis to teaching and witness in contemporary contexts.

BIB 170 The Acts of the Apostles (3 credits)

A narrative and theological study of Acts that follows the Spirit-empowered spread of the gospel from Jerusalem to the nations. Students examine mission patterns, community life, leadership, and cross-cultural engagement. The course equips learners to discern biblical models for church multiplication, justice, and unity in diversity. Projects connect Acts' practices to local and global ministry.

BIB 180 Pauline Epistles (3 credits)

An introduction to Paul's letters with attention to justification, sanctification, the church, spiritual gifts, and mission. Students read selected epistles closely, learning how Paul forms communities in the gospel. Emphasis is placed on doctrine for life—identity in Christ, Spirit-led living, and faith expressing itself through love and service. Assessments include exegetical work and ministry integration.

THE 250 Biblical Theology I: Creation–Covenant–Kingdom (4 credits)

This course traces the unity of the Old Testament storyline, following God's purposes from creation and covenant to kingdom hope. Students learn to read canonically across genres, connecting texts to the whole. The aim is identity formation—seeing ourselves within God's redemptive project and learning to interpret life through Scripture's plotline. Expanded seminar time develops thematic synthesis and teaching skills.

THE 260 Biblical Theology II: Christ–Spirit–Church (4 credits)

Building on THE 250, this course explores the New Testament climax of the story—Christ's person and work, the gift of the Spirit, and the formation of the church for mission. Students integrate doctrine and discipleship, considering how union with Christ reshapes community and vocation. Emphasis is on life in the Spirit for witness, worship, and holiness. Seminar components foster integrative projects for ministry.

THE 310 Theology of Mission (4 credits)

A theological exploration of the missio Dei from Genesis to Revelation: God's character, the sending of the Son and Spirit, the church as witness,

and the hope of new creation. Students evaluate historical and contemporary mission models through biblical lenses and discern their calling within God's global purposes. The course advances destiny—equipping students to articulate and embody mission theologically and practically.

THE 320 Theology & Spiritual Formation (4 credits)

An integrative study of how doctrine shapes desire, habits, and holiness. Topics include Trinity and prayer, Christology and discipleship, pneumatology and practices, ecclesiology and community. Students craft a personal Rule of Life anchored in Scripture and sound theology. The goal is a Spirit-led life that joins orthodoxy (right belief) to orthopraxy (right practice) for sustained ministry.

THE 330 Theology of Work & Marketplace Vocation (4 credits)

A theological framework for calling, work, economics, and stewardship in the everyday world. Students engage creation theology, wisdom literature, justice and mercy, and New Testament visions of labor and generosity. Practical focus includes ethical decision-making, excellence, and witness at work. Learners develop a vocation plan that integrates faith, competencies, and mission for the common good.

THL 400 Biblical Apologetics Seminar for Missional Life (4 credits)

A capstone seminar in persuasive witness that unites biblical theology, cultural exegesis, and communication. Students practice answering contemporary questions (e.g., Scripture's reliability, suffering, sexuality, science, religious pluralism) with truth and grace. Emphasis is on character, clarity, and Spirit-dependent courage in public discipleship. The course culminates in a portfolio—talk, essay, and outreach plan—ready for ministry use.

Christian Education (52 credits)

CED 210 Theology & Philosophy of Christian Education (4 credits)

Explores the biblical, theological, and historical foundations of Christian education and how they inform philosophy, purpose, and practice.

Students compare classic and contemporary educational philosophies, articulate a theology of teaching and learning, and situate Christian education within the church's missional calling. Emphasis is placed on integrating doctrine with pedagogy for whole-person formation. Major projects include a personal philosophy statement and a ministry context analysis.

CED 220 Family Life & Ministry (4 credits)

Introduces family systems, intergenerational discipleship, and church-home partnerships that nurture faith across the life span. Topics include marriage and parenting support, care during crisis, boundaries, and child/youth protection practices. Students design a realistic family-ministry strategy that aligns theology, formation, and mission. Assessments include case studies, a resource toolkit, and a family-ministry plan.

CED 230 Missional Worship & Music in Teaching Ministries (4 credits)

Examines worship and music as formative, missional practices that teach the faith and send the church into the world. Students evaluate song texts theologically, plan age-appropriate worship experiences, and explore cross-cultural and intergenerational expressions. Practical labs develop skills in planning, facilitating, and assessing worship for formation and mission; ethical topics include copyright and accessibility. Deliverables include a worship plan and a reflection portfolio.

CED 241 Curriculum & Assessment in Christian Education (4 credits)

Covers backward design, learning outcomes, and assessment strategies that measure spiritual and cognitive growth. Students craft scope-and-sequence plans, write measurable objectives, and build assessments (formative/summative, rubrics, self/peer assessment) that feed instructional improvement. Emphasis is placed on biblical fidelity, cultural relevance, and inclusive design. Course products include a curriculum unit with assessment plan and evaluation report.

CED 314 Life-Span Formation for Christian Education (4 credits)

Surveys developmental theory (cognitive, social-emotional, moral/faith) from childhood to older adulthood and its implications for ministry. Students translate insights into age-appropriate, trauma-aware, and neurodiversity-sensitive practices that foster identity in Christ and growth in grace. The course equips learners to map milestones and rites of passage within a local church. Outputs include a life-span formation map and age-specific teaching plans.

CED 322 Educational Psychology in Christian Perspective (4 credits)

Applies learning theory—motivation, memory, metacognition, behaviorism, constructivism, sociocultural perspectives—to Christian teaching contexts. Students analyze classroom dynamics, design interventions that support engagement and persistence, and interpret assessment data to guide instruction. A biblical view of the person frames discussions of dignity, discipline, and hope. Students complete a classroom research brief and a learning-strategies toolkit.

CED 332 Technology & Media for Christian Education (4 credits)

Equips students to use digital tools (LMS, video, audio, interactive media) for formation, teaching, and mission in face-to-face, hybrid, and online settings. Topics include media literacy, accessibility/UDL, privacy and safety, and ethical communication. Students design a multi-modal learning module and evaluate its impact on engagement and discipleship. Deliverables include a media artifact, implementation plan, and post-use reflection.

CED 342 Classroom Management & Learning Environments (4 credits)

Focuses on cultivating spiritually rich, safe, and orderly learning environments in church and school ministries. Students develop routines, expectations, and restorative practices; address challenging behaviors; and design spaces (physical/digital) that support participation and belonging. Attention is given to trauma-informed and inclusive

strategies, volunteer training, and risk management/child protection. Students submit an environment plan and behavior-support framework.

CED 350 Administration of Christian Education Ministries (4 credits)

Introduces organizational leadership for education ministries: vision and strategic planning, budgeting and stewardship, recruiting/training volunteers, communications, calendaring, and evaluation. Legal and ethical topics include safeguarding, incident reporting, and policy development. Students build an annual ministry plan with goals, budget, org chart, and assessment metrics. The capstone project is a board-ready administrative portfolio.

CED 410 Teaching in Ministry & Mission (Seminar) (4 credits)

An advanced pedagogy seminar that refines instructional design, facilitation, and contextualization for diverse learners. Students engage in micro-teaching, peer feedback, and supervised observations, translating biblical truth into transformational learning experiences. Emphasis falls on aligning content, method, and mission. The final deliverable is a curated teaching portfolio with video, lesson artifacts, and reflective analysis.

CED 420 Issues & Solutions in Christian Education (Seminar) (4 credits)

A case-based seminar addressing contemporary challenges: secularization, religious literacy, digital disruption, mental health, inclusivity, cross-cultural dynamics, and ethical quandaries. Students evaluate problems from biblical, pastoral, and educational lenses and propose implementable solutions for real contexts. The course strengthens practical wisdom, collaboration, and public discipleship. Outcomes include policy briefs and a solutions presentation.

CED 499A Christian Education Internship I (4 credits)

A supervised field experience focused on guided participation in teaching and program support within a church, school, or nonprofit

ministry. Students set goals with a site mentor, maintain reflective logs, and receive formative evaluations. Emphasis is on translating coursework into practice with humility, reliability, and teachability. Artifacts include a goals contract, weekly reflections, and a midterm/final mentor assessment.

CED 499B Christian Education Internship II (4 credits)

A culminating internship emphasizing increased responsibility and leadership of a significant project (e.g., launching a class, event, or curriculum unit). Students demonstrate competence in planning, implementation, assessment, and team coordination, under supervision. The course integrates identity (calling), life (formation), and destiny (service) as students lead for missional impact. Required artifacts include a project plan, impact report with data, and summative evaluation.

General Studies (46 credits)

COM 110 English Composition I: Writing for Testimony & Ministry (4 credits)

Builds foundational college-level writing with a ministry focus. Students practice clear sentences and paragraphs, thesis development, audience awareness, and revision. Genres include personal testimony, devotional/reflection, informative essays, and ministry correspondence. Instruction covers citation ethics (APA/Turabian), source evaluation, and collaborative peer review. By semester's end, students communicate biblical truth with clarity, charity, and purpose.

COM 210 English Composition II: Ministry and AI (4 credits)

Advances in research writing while training students to use AI tools ethically and transparently for ministry. Emphasis includes argumentation, literature review, source synthesis, and bias/fact-checking. Students practice prompt design, AI-assisted drafting, and human-led revision with clear attribution standards that uphold academic integrity. Deliverables include an annotated bibliography, a position

paper on a contemporary ministry issue, and an AI-use reflection policy for future work.

COM 230 Speech for Ministry: Speaking with Clarity & Impact (4 credits)

Develops public-speaking skills for church, campus, and community contexts. Students learn audience analysis, structure, storytelling, voice, and nonverbal control, visual aids, and feedback. Genres include testimony, persuasive talk, informational briefing, and short homiletic message. Each student assembles a video portfolio demonstrating clarity, conviction, pastoral sensitivity, and mission-minded application.

MTH 130 Financial Stewardship for Ministry (4 credits)

Introduces personal and organizational finance from a stewardship perspective. Topics include budgeting, cash flow, debt, giving, basic nonprofit accounting, and project cost planning. Students build spreadsheets, analyze scenarios, and draft a church/ministry budget aligned to mission and ethics. The course forms wise, transparent leaders who manage resources for Kingdom impact.

SSC 240 Intercultural Communication & Cross-Cultural Ministry (4 credits)

Equips students to communicate across cultures with humility and discernment. Using intercultural frameworks (e.g., high/low context, honor/shame, power distance), students examine barriers, listening habits, conflict styles, and contextualization for witness. Case studies and simulations cultivate empathy, resilience, and collaborative problem-solving for local and global ministry partnerships.

CCO 240 Introduction to Counseling for Helping Professions (4 credits)

Provides helping-skills essentials for ministry and community care: attending, empathy, questioning, goal-setting, crisis triage, boundaries, referral, and basic ethics (confidentiality/mandated reporting per context). Students practice role-plays, develop a care-network map, and

craft a self-care plan. The course frames counseling as compassionate participation in God's redemptive work.

HIS 250 Church History & Global Mission (4 credits)

Surveys major movements, figures, and turning points in Christian history with attention to mission expansion across cultures. Students trace themes of renewal, reform, and evangelization, learning from both faithfulness and failure. Mapping projects and case studies connect past patterns to present strategies, forming historically grounded, missionally wise practitioners.

HUM 240 World Religions & Worldviews (4 credits)

Introduces major world religions and contemporary secular worldviews, emphasizing accurate description, charitable listening, and thoughtful comparison. Students explore beliefs, rituals, ethics, and community life, then practice dialogical engagement shaped by conviction and grace. The course equips learners to bear faithful witness in a pluralistic world.

HUM 350 Western Civilization & the Biblical Worldview (4 credits)

Examines key periods and ideas in Western civilization—classical foundations, medieval synthesis, Reformation, Enlightenment, modern/postmodern turns—evaluated through a biblical lens. Students analyze primary texts, trace intellectual lineages, and assess cultural impacts on faith and public life. A seminar paper integrates historical insight with Christian discipleship and civic responsibility.

SCI 140 Creation Care: Science, Ecology & Stewardship (4 credits)

Introduces ecological principles (systems, cycles, biodiversity) and current environmental challenges, integrating scientific literacy with a theology of creation care. Students practice data interpretation, evaluate policies, and design a local stewardship project (campus, church, or community). The aim is informed, hopeful participation in God's care for the world.

HUM 499 Senior Seminar: Faith, Calling & Culture (Capstone) (6 credits)

A culminating integrative seminar that synthesizes biblical worldview, disciplinary learning, and missional vocation. Students develop a professional portfolio (writing/speaking samples), a vocation plan, and a signature project addressing a real cultural or ministry challenge. The course concludes with a public presentation demonstrating wise judgment, servant leadership, and readiness for Kingdom service.

Missional Leadership (34 credits)

SPF 110 Spiritual Leadership: Identity, Character & Practices (3 credits)

Establishes the core of spiritual leadership as life in Christ. Students explore calling, character, and credibility; craft a personal Rule of Life; and practice disciplines that sustain long-term ministry (prayer, Scripture, Sabbath, examen). Biblical models of servant leadership frame discussions on humility, authority, and integrity. Deliverables include a mentored growth plan, rhythm-of-life portfolio, and reflective assessments.

MIN 120 Missional Formation: Being with Christ for Mission (3 credits)

Connects spiritual formation to missional living: abiding in Christ as the wellspring of witness. Topics include identity in the gospel, communal practices, holy habits in ordinary time, and discerning the Spirit's leading. Students design a formation plan for a local ministry context and evaluate how practices (hospitality, generosity, lament, celebration) shape a people sent into the world.

MIN 130 Disciple-Making: Principles & Pathways (4 credits)

Equips students to design reproducible pathways for making disciples who make disciples. Grounded in the Great Commission, the course covers evangelism-to-discipleship flow, small-group systems, one-to-one mentoring, Scripture engagement, and metrics for fruitfulness. Students

produce a context-specific disciple-making map, a starter curriculum, and a coaching plan for multiplication.

CLS 210 Christian Leadership: Teams, Ethics & Influence (4 credits)

Applies biblical leadership to teams and organizations. Topics include team roles and charters, trust and accountability, conflict transformation, ethical decision-making, power dynamics, and change management. Case studies and simulations develop wise, collaborative leaders who align people and processes with the mission. Students create a team development plan and an ethics case brief.

MIS 220 Perspectives on the World Christian Movement (4 credits)

Surveys the biblical basis, historical expansion, and contemporary challenges of global mission. Students examine unreached peoples, diaspora realities, contextualization, partnership models, holistic mission (word/deed/justice), and the role of prayer. Assignments include a missionary biography analysis, a cross-cultural engagement project, and a strategic proposal for a global initiative.

MIN 240 Christ & Culture: Theology, Ethics & Engagement (4 credits)

Trains students to exegete culture theologically and engage public life with truth and grace. Frameworks for Christ-culture relations, worldview analysis, and moral reasoning guide responses to contemporary issues (technology, sexuality, wealth/poverty, religious liberty, pluralism). Students complete a cultural analysis paper and craft a redemptive engagement plan for a chosen context.

PRC 240 The Practice of Preaching: From Text to Transformation (4 credits)

Covers the full homiletic arc—from exegesis to clear, Spirit-dependent proclamation. Students learn sermon structures, illustrations, gospel movement, contextualization across audiences, and delivery skills (voice, pace, presence, visuals). Each student prepares and preaches

multiple messages with peer and instructor feedback, producing a preaching portfolio ready for ministry use.

MIS 310 Evangelism & Church Planting: Models & Methods (4 credits)

Explores evangelism as a communal way of life and church planting as a missional systems design. Topics include prayerful presence, discovery Bible studies, missional communities, launch and micro-church models, bivocational approaches, governance basics, and sustainability metrics. Fieldwork includes neighborhood exegesis and a phased planting plan with coaching milestones.

MIN 490 Special Topics in Missional Leadership (Seminar) (4 credits)

A rotating, issues-driven seminar addressing emerging opportunities and challenges (e.g., digital mission & AI, ministry in persecution, refugee/diaspora engagement, rural/urban bivocational models, trauma-informed outreach). Students synthesize biblical, theological, and practical insights into a policy brief or pilot project with measurable outcomes for a real ministry context.

Master of Christian Education (96 Quarter Credits)

Program Objective

The Master of Christian Education at Lumina Christian University forms advanced leaders, teachers, and administrators for the church and world. Rooted in biblical and theological identity (Identity), the program cultivates spiritual formation and educational excellence (Life), and equips graduates to lead missionally with wisdom, integrity, and Christlike character (Destiny). Graduates will be able to:

1. Demonstrate advanced competence in Scripture and Christian theology for educational leadership.
2. Apply learning science (ed., psychology, curriculum, assessment, technology) within Christian contexts.
3. Lead ministries and schools with ethical governance, data-informed decisions, and servant leadership.
4. Engage culture missionally, integrating faith with real-world challenges in diverse settings.
5. Formulate and implement a biblically grounded philosophy of Christian education for sustainable impact.

Admission Requirement: Bachelor's degree (or equivalent).

Degree Requirements

Area of Study	Credit Hours
Bible and Education	18
Christian Education	28
General Education	24
Christian Ministry	21
General Studies	5
Total	96 Credit Hours

Curriculum Overview

Bible & Education (18 credits)

THE 510 Biblical Theology & Hermeneutics for Educators (3 credits)

THE 520 Old Testament Foundations for Mission & Formation (3 credits)

THE 530 New Testament Foundations for Mission & Formation (4 credits)

THE 590 Seminar: Theology of the Word in Teaching (4 credits)

THE 610 Worldview & Apologetics for Christian Education (4 credits)

Christian Education (28 credits)

CED 520 Philosophy & Theology of Christian Education (4 credits)

CED 530 Curriculum Design & Outcome Assessment (4 credits)

CED 540 Instructional Design & Learning Experience (4 credits)

CED 550 Educational Leadership & Administration (4 credits)

CED 560 Educational Technology, Media & Analytics (4 credits)

CED 570 Life-Span Discipleship & Formation (4 credits)

CED 680 Practicum in Christian Education Leadership (4 credits)

General Education (24 credits)

EDU 500 Graduate Academic Writing & Research Methods (4 credits)

EDU 510 Educational Psychology & Learning Sciences (4 credits)

EDU 520 Curriculum Theory & Innovation (4 credits)

EDU 530 Assessment, Data Literacy & Improvement Cycles (4 credits)

EDU 540 Diversity, Inclusion & Cross-Cultural Education (4 credits)

EDU 550 Law, Ethics & Policy in Education (4 credits)

Christian Ministry (21 credits)

MIN 500 Spiritual Formation for Leaders (3 credits)

MIN 510 Missional Leadership & Organizational Change (3 credits)

MIN 520 Teaching the Bible in Ministry Contexts (4 credits)

MIN 530 Pastoral Care & Counseling in Communities (4 credits)

MIN 540 Preaching & Christian Communication (4 credits)

MIN 695 Field Formation Colloquium (2 credits)

General Studies (5 credits)

HUM 600 Faith, Culture & Public Theology (3 credits)

INT 700 Graduate Integration Colloquium (2 credits)

Curricula

Bible & Education (18 credits)

THE 510 Biblical Theology & Hermeneutics for Educators (3 credits)

Builds a graduate-level foundation in reading Scripture as one redemptive story—from creation to new creation—and translating exegesis into learning design. Students compare hermeneutical approaches (historical-grammatical, canonical, redemptive-historical, and theological interpretation), practice genre-sensitive reading, and

move from text to outcomes, assessments, and teaching activities. Emphasis: Identity (Scripture shapes the educator), Life (formation through the Word), and Destiny (teaching that serves God's mission). Major work includes an exegetical brief, a hermeneutics position paper, and a unit plan that maps a passage to measurable learning objectives.

THE 520 Old Testament Foundations for Mission & Formation (3 credits)

Explores OT pillars—image of God, covenant, holiness, justice, wisdom, and presence—as theological anchors for Christian formation and mission. Students trace these themes across Torah, Prophets, and Writings, and design practices (prayer, justice, community rhythms) that cultivate holy living. Attention is given to teaching OT texts with pastoral sensitivity and cultural intelligence. Assignments include a thematic synthesis, a formative practices plan, and an OT teaching module that integrates doctrine, spirituality, and mission.

THE 530 New Testament Foundations for Mission & Formation (4 credits)

Examines the NT's climax of God's story: the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus; the outpouring of the Spirit; and the church's witness among the nations. Students integrate Christology, kingdom, union with Christ, and ecclesiology for identity (who we are in Christ), life (Spirit-empowered formation), and destiny (participation in mission). Course projects include a Gospel pericope teaching plan, an Acts-based missional case study, and a letter-genre learning sequence that forms communities in faith, hope, and love.

THE 590 Seminar: Theology of the Word in Teaching (4 credits)

An advanced seminar on Scripture's nature and role in pedagogy: inspiration, authority, canon, illumination, and the formative power of the Word. Students design "word-shaped" learning environments—devotional rhythms, liturgies of listening, and assessment practices that attend to both understanding and transformation. Lab components feature micro-teaching with peer critique and hermeneutics-in-action

case studies. The capstone deliverable is a Theology of the Word statement paired with an annotated curriculum portfolio for church or school use.

THE 610 Worldview & Apologetics for Christian Education (4 credits)

Equips educators to analyze rival worldviews (naturalism, expressive individualism, moral therapeutic deism, pluralism) and to practice apologetics with truth and grace. Students compare classical, evidential, cumulative-case, and presuppositional approaches; develop persuasive, pastoral responses to contemporary questions; and design learning experiences that cultivate resilient faith and hospitable dialogue. The final project produces a ready-to-teach apologetics module and a communication strategy for school/church settings that models identity in Christ, life in the Spirit, and destiny as witnesses in culture.

Christian Education (28 credits)

CED 520 Philosophy & Theology of Christian Education (4 credits)

Defines the telos of Christian education by integrating biblical theology, historical models, and contemporary philosophy of education. Students articulate a Christ-centered purpose for teaching and learning; compare classical, progressive, and competency-based paradigms; and frame a theology of formation that serves church, school, and nonprofit contexts. Major work includes a personal philosophy statement, a theological rationale for a ministry context, and a rubric aligning aims, virtues, and outcomes to Lumina's Identity → Life → Destiny framework.

CED 530 Curriculum Design & Outcome Assessment (4 credits)

Equips leaders to design coherent, assessable curricula that form minds and hearts for mission. Using backward design, students write program and course outcomes, align biblical/theological essentials, select learning activities, and build assessment plans (formative/summative, rubrics, performance tasks, portfolio evidence). Emphasis on data-informed improvement cycles and accreditation-ready documentation.

Deliverables include a full curriculum map, assessment toolkit, and an evaluation report with actionable recommendations.

CED 540 Instructional Design & Learning Experience (4 credits)

Focuses on designing transformational learning—face-to-face, hybrid, and online—through learning science and spiritual formation. Topics include sequencing and scaffolding, active learning, case-based and problem-based methods, inclusive/UDL strategies, feedback for mastery, and catechesis-through-practice (habits, liturgies, reflection). Students prototype and field-test a multi-session module, gather learner evidence, and revise for impact, demonstrating alignment of content, method, and mission.

CED 550 Educational Leadership & Administration (4 credits)

Prepares students to lead organizations with wisdom, integrity, and strategic clarity. Content includes vision and strategic planning, governance, budgeting and stewardship, HR and volunteer systems, policy and risk management, communications, and change leadership. A Christian ethics lens frames decisions about power, transparency, and care. Culminating project: an annual ministry/academic operations plan (goals, budget, org chart, calendar, assessment metrics) suitable for board review.

CED 560 Educational Technology, Media & Analytics (4 credits)

Trains educators to harness technology for formation and mission. Students evaluate platforms (LMS, video, audio, interactive tools), practice media literacy and digital discernment, implement accessibility/UDL, and design analytics-informed interventions that increase engagement and learning. Topics include privacy, security, AI-assisted workflows with integrity, and ethical communication. Deliverables: a media-enhanced learning module, an analytics dashboard with an improvement plan, and a digital ethics statement.

CED 570 Life-Span Discipleship & Formation (4 credits)

Integrates developmental theory (cognitive, socio-emotional, moral/faith) with a theological vision of growth from childhood to older adulthood. Students design age-appropriate, trauma-aware, and cross-cultural practices that cultivate identity in Christ, resilient faith, and missional vocation. Artifacts include a church/school formation pathway (milestones, rites, mentoring) and age-band teaching plans that embed Scripture, community, and service.

CED 680 Practicum in Christian Education Leadership (4 credits)

A supervised, field-based experience emphasizing applied leadership in a church, school, or nonprofit. Students design and lead a significant project (e.g., program launch, curriculum implementation, assessment cycle, or change initiative), collect and analyze evidence of learning/impact, and present findings to stakeholders. Required components: site agreement, goals plan, midterm and final mentor evaluations, artifact portfolio, and a reflective analysis demonstrating growth in Identity (character), Life (practice), and Destiny (mission).

General Education 24 credits

EDU 500 Graduate Academic Writing & Research Methods (4 credits)

Builds graduate-level fluency in academic argument, research design, and ethical scholarship. Students refine clarity, structure, and voice; practice literature searches, source evaluation, and synthesis; and apply APA/Turabian citation with academic integrity (including transparent, limited use of AI tools). Methods survey includes qualitative, quantitative, and mixed approaches, basics of survey/interview protocols, and IRB/ethics awareness for ministry and education contexts. Major deliverables: an annotated bibliography, a problem-of-practice proposal, and a publishable-quality research paper aligned to Lumina's Identity → Life → Destiny framework.

EDU 510 Educational Psychology & Learning Sciences (4 credits)

Applies learning science to real classrooms and ministry-learning environments. Topics include cognition and memory (retrieval practice, spacing, dual coding), metacognition and motivation, cognitive load and schema building, social/constructivist theories, and classroom climate. Students translate theory into design moves that foster belonging, persistence, and mastery, with attention to trauma-aware and neurodiversity-inclusive practice. Assessments: a learning analysis brief, a design experiment (plan–test–reflect), and a learner-support toolkit.

EDU 520 Curriculum Theory & Innovation (4 credits)

Explores curriculum as a coherent, value-shaped pathway for formation. Students compare classical, progressive, and competency-based models; practice backward design and constructive alignment; and integrate project-/problem-based learning for authentic transfer. Change and innovation frameworks (design thinking, diffusion of innovations) guide iterative improvement. Each student produces a program-level curriculum map and an innovation pilot (with rationale and evaluation plan) that advances Lumina’s mission.

EDU 530 Assessment, Data Literacy & Improvement Cycles (4 credits)

Equips leaders to gather meaningful evidence of learning and act on it. Students design formative and summative assessments; build rubrics; and analyze reliability, validity, and item performance. Data literacy skills include dashboarding, cohort tracking, equity gap analysis, and Plan–Do–Study–Act cycles tied to accreditation-ready outcomes. Deliverables: an assessment plan for a course or program, a data brief with findings and recommendations, and a closing-the-loop improvement report.

EDU 540 Diversity, Inclusion & Cross-Cultural Education (4 credits)

Prepares educators to cultivate welcoming, just learning communities across cultures and abilities. Students engage in culturally responsive pedagogy, Universal Design for Learning, language-support strategies,

trauma-informed and restorative practices, and collaboration with families/communities. Case studies develop wisdom for complex scenarios while a Christian worldview anchors dignity, hospitality, and hope. Final products include an equity-minded course redesign and a cross-cultural engagement plan.

EDU 550 Law, Ethics & Policy in Education (4 credits)

Introduces the legal and policy landscape shaping schools and ministries—governance, risk management, safety and child protection, privacy and data stewardship, accessibility, intellectual property, and nondiscrimination considerations. Students practice ethical decision-making and policy drafting that reflect transparency, accountability, and Christian virtue. Culminating artifacts: a legally informed policy/procedure manual excerpt for a real context and an ethics case brief outlining options, risks, and recommended actions.

Christian Ministry (21 credits)

MIN 500 Spiritual Formation for Leaders (3 credits)

Develops a sustainable life with God as the wellspring of leadership. Students engage classic and contemporary disciplines (prayer, Scripture meditation, Sabbath, examen), craft a personal Rule of Life, and practice discernment, humility, and resilience under pressure. Mentored triads, reflective journaling, and spiritual direction emphasize Identity (being with Christ) that shapes Life (character) and fuels Destiny (service). Major artifacts include a spiritual autobiography, Rule of Life, and a formation plan for a ministry context.

MIN 510 Missional Leadership & Organizational Change (3 credits)

Equips leaders to shepherd people and systems through gospel-centered change. Topics include mission/vision alignment, culture and values, stakeholder mapping, adaptive vs. technical challenges, basic project management, and ethical use of authority. Students design a realistic change initiative with milestones and metrics, practicing communication

that blends conviction and care. Deliverables: stakeholder analysis, change strategy brief, and an implementation roadmap.

MIN 520 Teaching the Bible in Ministry Contexts (4 credits)

Translates sound exegesis into transformational teaching for diverse ages and settings (small groups, classes, retreats). Students align aims, outcomes, activities, and assessments; design series and single sessions; and practice facilitation skills that invite participation and application. Attention is given to accessibility/UDL, cross-cultural sensitivity, and Spirit-dependent teaching. Outputs include a multi-session teaching series, annotated lesson plans, and a recorded micro-teaching with feedback.

MIN 530 Pastoral Care & Counseling in Communities (4 credits)

Introduces biblically grounded care for individuals, families, and congregations. Students practice attending skills, empathy, goal setting, crisis triage, grief/loss care, referral and collaboration with professionals, and safeguarding/ethical boundaries. Trauma-aware and culturally wise approaches shape a theology of comfort and hope. Artifacts: care-plan portfolio, referral network map, supervised practice hours/logs, and an ethics case analysis.

MIN 540 Preaching & Christian Communication (4 credits)

Covers the homiletic journey from text to proclamation: exegetical work, sermon structure, illustrations and stories, gospel movement, contextualization, and delivery (voice, presence, visuals). Students prepare and preach multiple messages for varied occasions (evangelistic, pastoral, funeral, topical), receiving peer and faculty critique. The final preaching portfolio includes manuscripts, slides/outlines, video recordings, and reflective self-assessments.

MIN 695 Field Formation Colloquium (2 credits)

A reflective, cohort-based seminar that integrates spiritual formation, ministry competency, and vocational clarity alongside field experience. Students synthesize learning across courses, engage guided reflection

with mentors, and articulate growth in Identity (character), Life (practice), and Destiny (mission). Required components: reflection journals, supervisor evaluations (if applicable), a vocation statement revision, and an integrative presentation.

General Studies (5 credits)

HUM 600 Faith, Culture & Public Theology (3 credits)

Examines how Christian belief engages public life—arts and media, science and technology, economics, justice, and pluralism. Students learn frameworks for cultural exegesis and practice hospitable, persuasive communication in contested spaces. Projects include a public-theology essay, a moderated forum plan, and a communication strategy for church/school settings that embodies conviction with grace.

INT 700 Graduate Integration Colloquium (2 credits)

A capstone synthesis seminar that weaves together biblical/theological identity, educational practice, and missional leadership. Students curate a graduate portfolio (signature artifacts from across the program), map competencies to Lumina's Identity → Life → Destiny framework, and present an oral defense of their philosophy of Christian education and leadership plan. The colloquium finalizes readiness for Kingdom service with clarity and courage.

Master of Missional Leadership (M.M.L.) (96 Quarter Credits)

Program Objective

The Master of Missional Leadership forms advanced Christian leaders who are rooted in Christ (Identity), shaped for Spirit-led service (Life), and sent to multiply gospel impact (Destiny). Grounded in Scripture and missional theology, the program develops spiritual maturity and practical competencies to exegete culture, disciple and mobilize God's people,

build healthy teams, and lead change across diverse communities and global contexts. Graduates are equipped to design disciple-making systems, communicate the gospel persuasively (in person and digitally), foster just and merciful witness, and steward ministries with integrity for the advance of God’s Kingdom.

Graduates will be able to:

1. Articulate a biblical-theological foundation for the *missio Dei* and the church’s participation in it.
2. Demonstrate a sustainable Rule of Life that models Christlike character and spiritual resilience.
3. Exegete neighborhoods and cultures; form contextual mission strategies and partnerships.
4. Design and lead disciple-making systems (evangelism, groups, leadership pipelines, church planting).
5. Communicate the gospel with clarity and grace—preaching, teaching, digital media, and apologetics.
6. Lead organizations through change with ethical governance, team development, and wise stewardship.
7. Measure impact and iterate ministry using assessment and reflective practice.

Admission Requirement

Minimum: Bachelor’s degree (or equivalent).

Preferred: Ministry experience, statement of calling/vision, references, résumé/CV, and a brief writing sample.

Area of Study	Credit Hours
Bible and Mission	36

Mission as Spiritual Formation	20
Missional Studies	16
Missional Leadership	24
Total	96 Credit Hours

Curriculum Overview

Bible & Mission (36 credits)

BM 510 Old Testament Survey I: Torah & Former Prophets (3 credits)

BM 520 Old Testament Survey II: Writings & Latter Prophets (3 credits)

BM 530 Missional Themes in the Old Testament (3 credits)

BM 540 New Testament Survey I: Gospels & Acts (3 credits)

BM 550 New Testament Survey II: Letters & Revelation (3 credits)

BM 560 Missional Themes in the New Testament (3 credits)

BM 570 Gospel in a Multicultural World (3 credits)

BM 580 History of World Christian Mission I (to 1650) (3 credits)

BM 590 History of World Christian Mission II (1650–Present) (3 credits)

BM 600 Church & Mission: Ecclesiology for the World (3 credits)

BM 610 Systematic Theology for Mission I (God, Christ, Spirit) (3 credits)

BM 620 Systematic Theology for Mission II (Salvation, Church, Hope) (3 credits)

Mission as Spiritual Formation (20 credits)

MF 510 Spiritual Formation for Mission Leaders (4 credits)

MF 520 Missional Counseling & Care (4 credits)

MF 530 Missional Life & Worldview (4 credits)

MF 540 Field Training in Mission: Practices & Disciplines (4 credits)

MF 550 Missional Practices Lab: Evangelism & Discipleship (4 credits)

Missional Studies (16 credits)

MS 520 Global Mission Trends & Issues (4 credits)

MS 530 Cultural Anthropology for Mission (4 credits)

MS 540 Contextualization & Cross-Cultural Communication (4 credits)

MS 560 Mission Strategy, Evaluation & Innovation (4 credits)

Missional Leadership (24 credits)

ML 520 Missional Worship & Prayer Movements (4 credits)

ML 530 Vocation & Marketplace Mission (4 credits)

ML 540 Media, Technology & Digital Mission (4 credits)

ML 550 Global Mission Partnerships & Networks (4 credits)

ML 620 Missional Leadership I: Vision, Teams & Change (4 credits)

ML 630 Missional Leadership II: Multiplication & Movement Design (4 credits)

Curricula

Bible and Mission (36 credits)

BM 510 Old Testament Survey I: Torah & Former Prophets (3 credits)

A graduate survey of Genesis–Deuteronomy and Joshua–Kings tracing creation, covenant, exodus, land, kingship, and exile as the backbone of God’s redemptive mission. Students practice genre-sensitive exegesis (narrative, law) and connect Israel’s vocation to Lumina’s Identity emphasis: a people formed by God’s Word. Assessments include a thematic synthesis chart, an exegetical brief on a pivotal passage, and a ministry application memo.

BM 520 Old Testament Survey II: Writings & Latter Prophets (3 credits)

Examines Psalms, Wisdom books, and Isaiah–Malachi with attention to prayer, wisdom in daily life, prophetic justice, and hope. Students learn to read poetry and oracles contextually and to translate prophetic imagination into practices of Life (formation) and public witness. Deliverables: a wisdom-in-practice devotional project, a prophetic justice case study, and a teaching outline for congregational use.

BM 530 Missional Themes in the Old Testament (3 credits)

Explores missional threads—image of God, blessing to the nations, holiness, righteousness/justice, temple/presence—across the OT canon. Students integrate biblical theology with cultural analysis to design practices that embody God’s purposes. Work products include a theme-tracing paper, a congregational learning module, and an action plan linking OT mission to contemporary contexts (Destiny).

BM 540 New Testament Survey I: Gospels & Acts (3 credits)

Surveys the person and work of Jesus and the Spirit-empowered expansion of the church. Students compare Gospel portraits, trace kingdom themes, and analyze mission patterns in Acts (witness, community, cross-cultural engagement). Assessments: a pericope

teaching plan, an Acts-based mission case study, and a reflective paper on discipleship under Jesus' lordship.

BM 550 New Testament Survey II: Letters & Revelation (3 credits)

Covers Pauline and General Epistles and Revelation with a focus on gospel doctrine, church formation, perseverance, and hope. Students read letters as pastoral theology for real communities and interpret apocalyptic literature responsibly. Outputs include an epistle-to-practice ministry plan, a pastoral letter responding to a current issue, and an interpretive brief on Revelation's worship and witness.

BM 560 Missional Themes in the New Testament (3 credits)

Traces NT motifs—kingdom, cross and resurrection, union with Christ, Spirit and gifts, reconciliation, and new creation—and their implications for mission. Students design learning experiences that move from doctrine to discipline to public witness (Identity → Life → Destiny). Deliverables: a thematic synthesis, a small-group curriculum, and a community engagement proposal.

BM 570 Gospel in a Multicultural World (3 credits)

Equips students to communicate the gospel across cultures with clarity and grace. Topics include worldview translation, honor/shame and guilt/innocence dynamics, diaspora realities, and contextualization principles. Students produce a cultural exegesis report, a contextual gospel presentation (oral/media), and a strategy brief for partnership with local/global communities.

BM 580 History of World Christian Mission I (to 1650) (3 credits)

Studies mission from the early church through medieval and pre-Reformation eras, including monastic movements, Eastern Christianity, and initial global expansions. Emphasis on how worship, theology, and community life propelled witness. Assessments: missionary figure biography, primary-source analysis, and lessons-learned memo for present practice.

BM 590 History of World Christian Mission II (1650–Present) (3 credits)

Continues with early modern to contemporary missions: Protestant awakenings, modern mission societies, indigenization, Pentecostal/charismatic waves, and Majority World leadership. Students evaluate successes and failures, ethics, and the shift of Christianity's center of gravity. Outputs: a timeline with analytic commentary, a case study on contextualization, and a forward-looking trends brief.

BM 600 Church & Mission: Ecclesiology for the World (3 credits)

Develops a mission-shaped ecclesiology—nature, marks, ministries, sacraments, leadership, and community practices for public witness. Students design congregational systems (discipleship, mercy/justice, sending) that align worship and mission. Final artifacts: an ecclesial health assessment, a missional systems blueprint, and an implementation plan with metrics.

BM 610 Systematic Theology for Mission I (God, Christ, Spirit) (3 credits)

Explores Trinity, revelation, and Christology with a view to proclamation and formation. Students articulate how God's being and works ground the gospel, how Christ's person/work shapes discipleship, and how the Spirit empowers the church's life and gifts. Deliverables include a doctrinal position paper, a teaching sequence, and a praxis reflection linking doctrine to ministry.

BM 620 Systematic Theology for Mission II (Salvation, Church, Hope) (3 credits)

Covers soteriology, ecclesiology, and eschatology oriented to the church's Destiny in God's mission. Students examine conversion, sanctification, justice and reconciliation, sacraments, and new-creation hope, crafting language and practices that foster resilient disciples. Outputs: a theological toolkit for leaders (definitions + implications), a catechesis plan, and an apologetic essay on Christian hope for the public square.

Mission as Spiritual Formation (20 credits)

MF 510 Spiritual Formation for Mission Leaders (4 credits)

Shapes a sustainable life with God as the source of all ministry. Students engage classic and contemporary disciplines (Scripture meditation, prayer rhythms, Sabbath, examen, hospitality), craft a personal Rule of Life, and practice discernment in community with mentoring and peer triads. Special focus is given to resilience under pressure, healthy boundaries, and the integration of identity in Christ with missional purpose. Major artifacts include a spiritual autobiography, a mentored formation plan, a rhythm-of-life portfolio, and reflective assessments tied to field practice.

MF 520 Missional Counseling & Care (4 credits)

Introduces biblically grounded, culturally wise care for individuals, families, and congregations. Students develop core helping skills (attending, empathy, questioning, goal setting), learn crisis triage and referral, and apply trauma-aware, ethically sound practices (confidentiality, mandated reporting, safeguarding). Emphasis falls on soul care that nurtures formation and equips communities to embody Christ's compassion. Deliverables include role-play labs with feedback, a care-plan portfolio, a community resource/referral map, and a self-care covenant.

MF 530 Missional Life & Worldview (4 credits)

Equips students to live and lead from a robust biblical worldview amid rival narratives (naturalism, expressive individualism, moral therapeutic deism, pluralism). Frameworks for cultural exegesis and ethical discernment guide engagement with contemporary issues in technology, economy, justice, and family. Students articulate how doctrine shapes desire and daily practice, forming a coherent witness in public life. Outputs include a personal worldview audit, a cultural analysis brief, a position paper, and a congregational conversation plan.

MF 540 Field Training in Mission: Practices & Disciplines (4 credits)

A supervised, field-based experience that integrates spiritual disciplines with on-the-ground mission. Students practice presence, prayer walking, hospitality, discovery Bible conversations, mercy/justice initiatives, and neighborhood/campus mapping, with attention to safety, ethics, and partnership. Learning follows a design–implement–reflect cycle with mentor coaching. Required components: site agreement, weekly field logs, supervisor evaluations, a midterm learning memo, and a final impact report with data and next-step recommendations.

MF 550 Missional Practices Lab: Evangelism & Discipleship (4 credits)

Hands-on lab developing reproducible skills for gospel conversations and disciple-making pathways. Students learn context-sensitive proclamation (guilt/innocence, honor/shame, power/fear frames), facilitate small groups, coach new believers, and design simple tools for Scripture engagement and obedience-based discipleship. Emphasis is on multiplication, metrics, and Spirit-dependent boldness with grace. Deliverables include a disciple-making pathway for a chosen context, role-play evaluations, a starter toolset (studies, prompts, follow-ups), and a measurement plan for fruitfulness.

Missional Studies (16 credits)

MS 520 Global Mission Trends & Issues (4 credits)

Surveys the major forces reshaping mission today: demographic shifts to the Majority World, migration and diaspora networks, religious persecution and resilience, secularization and re-enchantment, technology and AI, creation care, and economic inequality. Students learn to read data responsibly, discern opportunities and risks, and respond with biblically grounded wisdom. Emphasis falls on hopeful realism—seeing challenges as invitations to faithful innovation. Deliverables include a trends dashboard, an issues position brief that integrates Scripture and scholarship, and a strategy memo proposing a ministry response in a selected context.

MS 530 Cultural Anthropology for Mission (4 credits)

Introduces core anthropological concepts—worldview, kinship, honor/shame and guilt/innocence frames, power distance, ritual and symbol, language and meaning—and their value for wise, loving presence. Students practice ethical, small-scale fieldwork (observation, field notes, interviews), develop cultural empathy, and analyze insider/outsider dynamics. A Christian anthropology frames dignity, sin, and redemption. Outputs include a mini-ethnography, interview protocol with consent practices, and an implications report translating insights into disciple-making and community engagement.

MS 540 Contextualization & Cross-Cultural Communication (4 credits)

Equips students to communicate the gospel clearly and graciously across cultures. Topics include translation theory (dynamic/functional equivalence), message framing for different cultural logics (honor/shame, power/fear, guilt/innocence), semiotics and storying, media choices, and common pitfalls (syncretism vs. over-contextualization). Students design a contextualization plan for a target group, craft parallel gospel presentations (oral, visual, digital), and build a small-group discovery Bible study set with facilitator notes and safeguards rooted in Scripture and community discernment.

MS 560 Mission Strategy, Evaluation & Innovation (4 credits)

Focuses on building and improving mission initiatives with integrity and evidence. Students develop a theory of change, create logic models, set meaningful indicators, and use simple dashboards for learning (Plan–Do–Study–Act cycles). Innovation methods (human-centered design, design thinking, lean pilot testing) are practiced alongside theological reflection to keep identity in Christ central. The capstone project is a field-ready pilot: needs discovery, prototype, implementation plan, risk/ethics review, and an evaluation brief with next-step recommendations.

Missional Leadership (24 credits)

ML 520 Missional Worship & Prayer Movements (4 credits)

Explores worship and intercession as the engine of mission—biblically, historically, and practically. Students trace patterns from temple and psalms to early-church doxology, revivals, and contemporary 24/7 prayer and house-church movements, discerning how God forms a praying people for public witness. Skills include planning Scripture-saturated gatherings, crafting prayer rhythms for teams, and integrating mercy/justice in worship life. Deliverables include a theology-of-worship paper, a case study on a prayer movement, and a field-ready plan to launch or renew a local worship-prayer initiative aligned with mission.

ML 530 Vocation & Marketplace Mission (4 credits)

Frames calling, work, and economics within God's mission for the common good. Students develop a theology of vocation, examine workplace ethics (power, profit, transparency, technology), and design witness-through-work practices—excellence, hospitality, justice, and evangelism with wisdom. Topics include entrepreneurship for transformation, bivocational models, and discipleship in professions. Major artifacts: personal vocation rule, ethics case brief, and a marketplace mission strategy (stakeholders, practices, metrics) for a real or anticipated context.

ML 540 Media, Technology & Digital Mission (4 credits)

Equips leaders to communicate the gospel credibly and creatively in digital spaces. Students analyze audiences and platforms, design content arcs (story, visuals, short/long form), and use analytics to iterate for engagement and formation. Attention is given to digital liturgies, AI-assisted workflows with integrity, accessibility/UDL, security, and pastoral care online. Outputs include a multi-week digital mission campaign with original media artifacts, an analytics dashboard and improvement plan, and a digital ethics policy for ministry teams.

ML 550 Global Mission Partnerships & Networks (4 credits)

Prepares students to build healthy, mutual partnerships across churches, NGOs, and movements. Content covers partnership discernment, MOUs, governance and accountability, funding and stewardship, risk and security, crisis response, and prioritizing indigenous leadership. Case studies surface pitfalls (paternalism, dependency) and pathways to reciprocity and sustainability. Deliverables: a regional partnership map, a draft MOU with roles/metrics, and a risk-mitigation and contingency plan for a selected initiative.

ML 620 Missional Leadership I: Vision, Teams & Change (4 credits)

Focuses on leading people and processes from conviction to action. Students craft mission/vision statements, align values and strategy, and develop team charters, roles, and feedback rhythms. Tools include stakeholder analysis, adaptive vs. technical change, communication plans, conflict transformation, and basic project management. The culminating project is a change initiative proposal with milestones, budget, and success indicators, accompanied by a team-health and culture plan.

ML 630 Missional Leadership II: Multiplication & Movement Design (4 credits)

Builds on ML 620 to design scalable systems for disciple-making and church multiplication. Students integrate pipeline design (identify → equip → deploy → coach), simple, reproducible practices, micro-expressions of church, and network governance with evaluation for learning (PDSA cycles). Sustainability, bivocational pathways, and partnership ecosystems are addressed. Final deliverables: a movement blueprint (theory of change, practices, structures), a pilot implementation plan with ethics/risk review, and a measurement framework for multiplication and maturity.

Doctor of Missional Leadership (90 Quarter Credits)

Program Objective

The DML forms advanced scholar-practitioners who are rooted in Christ (Identity), shaped for Spirit-led service (Life), and sent to multiply gospel impact (Destiny). Integrating biblical theology, missiology, organizational leadership, and rigorous research, graduates design and lead transformational initiatives that serve the Church and the world.

Program Outcomes

Graduates will be able to:

1. **Advance missional knowledge & competency** through doctoral-level scholarship and practice.
2. **Construct and apply frameworks** (biblical, theological, anthropological, organizational) for context-appropriate missional leadership.
3. **Contribute original research** that strengthens the discipline and informs the Church's global witness.
4. **Exhibit specialized expertise** in a chosen concentration (e.g., Intercultural Ministry, Theological Education, Organizational/Systems Leadership, Community Transformation).
5. **Model mature spiritual leadership**—a sustainable Rule of Life, ethical discernment, and humble, courageous service.

Admission Requirement: A master's degree (or equivalent). Preferred: relevant ministry experience, statement of purpose, academic writing sample, and references.

Area of Study	Credit Hours
Research and Methodology Core	16

Theological and Missional Core	16
Leadership and Systems Core	16
Concentration/Electives	12
Residencies and Praxis	6
Doctoral Colloquia	4
Proposal Seminar	4
Dissertation	16
Total	90 Credit Hours

Program Duration and Statute of Limitations

The Doctor of Missional Leadership must be completed within a six-year statute of limitations from the date of initial enrollment. Students who fail to complete all program requirements within this timeframe will be dismissed from the program. Extensions are granted only under extraordinary, verifiable circumstances and require formal approval by the Vice President for Academics.

Curriculum Overview

Research & Methodology Core — 16 credits (700-level)

DML 701 Advanced Research Design for Missional Studies (4 credits)

DML 702 Qualitative Methods: Ethnography, Case Study & Grounded Theory (4 credits)

DML 703 Quantitative Methods: Survey, Measurement & Applied Stats (4 credits)

DML 704 Theological Method & Scholarly Writing for Publication (4 credits)

Theological & Missional Core — 16 credits (720-level)

DML 721 Biblical Theology of Mission Seminar (4 credits)

DML 722 Global Missiology: History, Movements & Majority World Leadership (4 credits)

DML 723 Contextual Theology & Gospel-Culture Engagement (4 credits)

DML 724 Ecclesiology & Mission Systems (4 credits)

Leadership & Systems Core — 16 credits (730-level)

DML 731 Systems Leadership & Organizational Ecology (4 credits)

DML 732 Strategy, Innovation & Design for Mission (4 credits)

DML 733 Ethics, Governance & Public Theology (4 credits)

DML 734 Measurement, Evaluation & Learning (4 credits)

Concentration/Electives — 12 credits

Choose three doctoral seminars on these subjects:

Intercultural Ministry

Theological Education

Organizational/Systems Leadership

Community Transformation

Residencies & Praxis — 6 credits

DML 741 Doctoral Residency I: Identity & Inquiry (3 credits)

DML 742 Doctoral Residency II: Field Praxis & Leadership (3 credits)

Doctoral Colloquia — 4 credits

DML 790 Doctoral Colloquium I (2 credits)

DML 791 Doctoral Colloquium II (2 credits)

Proposal Seminar — 4 credits (800-level)

DML 801 Dissertation Proposal Seminar (4 credits)

Dissertation — 16 credits (900-level)

DML 910 Dissertation I (4 credits)

DML 920 Dissertation II (4 credits)

DML 930 Dissertation III (4 credits)

DML 940 Dissertation IV (4 credits)

Curricula

Research & Methodology Core — 700 level (16 credits)

DML 701 Advanced Research Design for Missional Studies (4 credits)

Builds the doctoral toolkit for designing rigorous, ministry-relevant studies. Students frame a problem of practice, craft researchable questions, map literature with synthesis matrices, and develop a theory of change that links biblical/theological claims to empirical inquiry. Emphasis falls on aligning purpose, methods, sampling, instruments, and ethics (including IRB readiness). Deliverables include a design brief, annotated literature synthesis, and a draft methods plan tailored to the student's anticipated dissertation context.

DML 702 Qualitative Methods: Ethnography, Case Study & Grounded Theory (4 credits)

Equips students for field-based inquiry in church, community, and cross-cultural settings. Topics include research roles and access, observation

protocols, semi-structured interviewing, focus groups, coding strategies (open/axial/selective), memoing, and establishing trustworthiness (credibility, transferability, dependability, confirmability). Students produce a mini-study (data collection → analysis → findings) with reflexive ethics and a plan for protecting participants and sites.

DML 703 Quantitative Methods: Survey, Measurement & Applied Stats (4 credits)

Covers instrument design, scale construction, reliability/validity testing, and practical statistics for leaders. Students learn sampling, power considerations, and interpretation of descriptive statistics, correlations, t-tests/ANOVA, and regression—always translating results for stakeholders with clear visuals and plain-language implications. Deliverables include a pilot survey, codebook, analysis brief, and a decision memo linking findings to ministry improvement.

DML 704 Theological Method & Scholarly Writing for Publication (4 credits)

Trains scholar-practitioners to reason theologically with academic rigor and pastoral wisdom. Students compare theological methods, integrate Scripture, history, and context, and practice argumentation that serves the Church's mission. Writing labs focus on journal conventions, clarity of voice, citation ethics, and responding to peer review. Each student develops a submission-ready article or chapter segment tied to the emerging dissertation focus.

Theological & Missional Core — 720 level (16 credits)

DML 721 Biblical Theology of Mission Seminar (4 credits)

Traces the missional storyline from creation–covenant–kingdom to new creation, reading canonically across genres. Students synthesize key themes (image of God, nations, temple/presence, justice, reconciliation) and articulate implications for ecclesial life and public witness. Culminates in a teaching module or white paper that applies biblical theology to a defined ministry challenge.

DML 722 Global Missiology: History, Movements & Majority World Leadership (4 credits)

Surveys the flows of mission—from early church expansion to Protestant societies, indigenous movements, Pentecostal/charismatic growth, diaspora dynamics, and polycentric leadership in the Majority World. Students analyze successes, failures, and ethics (paternalism, dependency) and propose principles for mutual, sustainable partnership. Major project: a movement case study and a partnership strategy brief.

DML 723 Contextual Theology & Gospel–Culture Engagement (4 credits)

Explores models of contextualization and theology “from below” in conversation with arts, media, politics, and everyday life. Students practice cultural exegesis, evaluate risks of syncretism vs. over-contextualization, and design practices that keep Christ central while speaking a local “heart language.” Final deliverable: a contextual theology portfolio (framework, sample liturgy or teaching set, and evaluation criteria).

DML 724 Ecclesiology & Mission Systems (4 credits)

Develops a mission-shaped ecclesiology that integrates worship, discipleship, justice/mercy, and sending. Students map systems (groups, pipelines, governance, sacraments/ordinances) that form people for witness in their city/region. The capstone is a church systems blueprint with implementation milestones and metrics for both maturity and multiplication.

Leadership & Systems Core — 730 level (16 credits)

DML 731 Systems Leadership & Organizational Ecology (4 credits)

Introduces systems thinking for complex ministry environments: culture, power dynamics, network effects, and adaptive vs. technical challenges. Students learn diagnostics (surveys/interviews, artifacts, routines), stakeholder mapping, and leverage points for change. Project: an organizational ecology analysis and a leadership intervention plan.

DML 732 Strategy, Innovation & Design for Mission (4 credits)

Applies human-centered design and pilot-driven iteration (PDSA) to real ministry problems. Students move from discovery interviews to prototyping, testing, and reflection—embedding theological discernment and ethical guardrails. The term product is a tested pilot with a scale/replication pathway and risk mitigation plan.

DML 733 Ethics, Governance & Public Theology (4 credits)

Forms leaders for transparent, accountable stewardship in church and nonprofit settings. Topics include board roles, financial oversight, safeguarding, crisis response, and virtue ethics in contested public spaces. Students draft governance artifacts (charters, policies) and a public-theology position that guides engagement with conviction and grace.

DML 734 Measurement, Evaluation & Learning (4 credits)

Builds capacity to measure what matters and learn from it. Students develop logic models, select indicators, design simple dashboards, and conduct utilization-focused evaluations. Emphasis on communicating findings to boards and congregations and closing the feedback loop for continuous improvement. Final: an evaluation plan and learning report for an active initiative.

Concentration/Electives — 12 credits (choose three doctoral seminars)

Intercultural Ministry (sample seminars): Diaspora Mission; Conflict Transformation; Trauma-Informed Ministry.

Theological Education: Curriculum Leadership; Faculty Formation; Digital Pedagogy & Assessment.

Organizational/Systems Leadership: Multi-site/Network Governance; Fundraising & Stewardship; Talent & Pipeline Development.

Community Transformation: Community Development; Faith & Economics; Creation Care & Environmental Mission.

Each elective requires a context application project (design, implement/test, evaluate) and an academic artifact (publishable paper or teachable module) that advances the student's specialization.

Residencies & Praxis — 6 credits

DML 741 Doctoral Residency I: Identity & Inquiry (3 credits)

A face-to-face intensive that weaves spiritual formation with scholarly craft. Activities include guided retreats, peer colloquia, research framing workshops, and mentoring on vocation and rule of life. Students leave with a refined research agenda and a development plan toward comprehensive exams.

DML 742 Doctoral Residency II: Field Praxis & Leadership (3 credits)

Combines site immersions, organizational diagnostics, and stakeholder engagement. Students test tools from the 700-level cores in live contexts and receive executive-style coaching. Deliverables include a field report, leadership reflection, and an action plan that feeds the dissertation proposal.

Doctoral Colloquia — 4 credits

DML 790 Doctoral Colloquium I (2 credits)

Supports portfolio curation (key artifacts from coursework and practice), clarifies research questions, and strengthens vocational clarity. Includes workshops on academic identity, public voice, and time/project management for the dissertation phase.

DML 791 Doctoral Colloquium II (2 credits)

Prepares students for comprehensive exams and public scholarship. Students finalize reading lists, practice oral defenses, and draft an outreach plan (conference proposals, articles, practitioner briefs) that positions their work for impact.

Proposal Seminar — 800 level (4 credits)

DML 801 Dissertation Proposal Seminar (4 credits)

Guides students from problem statement to defensible proposal: literature review, architecture, methodological alignment, instrument protocols, ethics/IRB submission, timeline, and committee process. The

semester ends with a formal proposal hearing and a revision plan approved by the committee.

Dissertation — 900 level (16 credits)

DML 910 Dissertation I (4 credits)

Implements approved methods: instrument piloting, data collection, or (for theological dissertations) corpus assembly and analytical framework. Milestones: IRB clearance (as applicable), field progress reports, and advisor check-ins.

DML 920 Dissertation II (4 credits)

Focuses on analysis/synthesis—qualitative coding, quantitative modeling, or theological argument construction. Students produce core findings/claims and draft central chapters with evidence and limitations.

DML 930 Dissertation III (4 credits)

Completes the full draft; integrates literature, method, results, and implications; and undergoes committee revisions. Students prepare the practitioner brief and visuals for defense.

DML 940 Dissertation IV (4 credits)

Orchestrates the final defense and publication-ready manuscript (formatting, citations, appendices, instruments). Post-defense, students submit archival files and disseminate a stakeholder-focused summary to serve the Church and partner organizations.