

HAMPTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL *of* RELIGION

Darrell K. Williams, Hampton University President



WHERE SCHOLARSHIP IS
MINISTRY

MASTER OF DIVINITY

INFORMING YOUR
THEOLOGY

ENRICHING YOUR
MINISTRY

BLESSING YOUR
LIFE



Master of Divinity Degree (MDIV)

Thank you for your interest in the Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree program at Hampton University. This booklet includes course listings and brief program descriptions.

Seventy-two hours of academic course work including twelve hours of field-based experiences, arranged in five eight-week sessions, lead to the Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree. This degree offers two specialized areas of concentration: Pastoral Leadership and Executive Ministry. Students are prepared for congregational and religious leadership in diverse faith settings. Module-based courses may be selected from each concentration for leaders of faith organizations who need a combination of both areas of emphasis to meet contextual needs.

This expanded university-based program of religious and theological study is undergirded by the larger academic community of Hampton University as a comprehensive institution. In addition, communities of faith will serve as hands-on laboratories and teaching sites for supervised practicum as a part of field education and practical experiences in religious education and congregational leadership.

MASTER OF DIVINITY

Concentration: Pastoral Leadership

The Master of Divinity degree program is designed to prepare men and women for excellence in pastoral leadership, theological scholarship, and community service. This program provides university-based comprehensive and advanced knowledge in the core areas of religion and theology. Students will have opportunities to acquire and cultivate a body of specialized knowledge that will prepare them to become leaders of the church, community, and academy.

FIRST YEAR					
FALL COURSES		CREDITS	SPRING COURSES		CREDITS
REL 611	Advanced Studies in Old Testament	3	REL 612	Advanced Studies in New Testament	3
REL 614	Hebrew Language and Tools	3	REL 624	Greek Language and Tools	3
REL 621	Biblical Hermeneutics	3	REL 622	Biblical Exegesis	3
REL 627	The Phenomenon of Religion: Integrating Faith and Life	3	REL 628	World Religions in Christian Context	3
TOTAL		12	TOTAL		12

SECOND YEAR					
FALL COURSES		CREDITS	SPRING COURSES		CREDITS
REL 631	Systematic Theology I	3	REL 641	Church History I	3
REL 632	Systematic Theology II	3	REL 642	Church History II	3
REL 635	Homiletics I: Introduction to Preaching	3	REL 633	Christian Ethics and Theology	3
REL 636	Homiletics II: Advanced Preaching	3	REL 650	Introduction to Pastoral Care	3
TOTAL		12	TOTAL		12

THIRD YEAR					
FALL COURSES		CREDITS	SPRING COURSES		CREDITS
REL 680	Pastoral Leadership Formation Module I: <i>Self-Care, Pastoral Ethics</i>	3	REL 684	Pastoral Leadership Formation Module III: <i>Church Administration, Leadership and Management</i>	3
REL 682	Pastoral Leadership Formation Module II: <i>The Church, Organizational Leadership and Development</i>	3	REL 686	Pastoral Leadership Formation Module: IV: <i>Missions, A Global Gospel: Models of Evangelism and Discipleship</i>	3
REL 690-691	Pastoral Leadership Internship	6	REL 697-698	Pastoral Leadership Project and Final Assessment	6
TOTAL		12	TOTAL		12

TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS: 72

MASTER OF DIVINITY

Concentration: Executive Ministry

The Master of Divinity degree program is designed to prepare men and women for excellence in pastoral leadership, theological scholarship, and community service. This program provides university-based comprehensive and advanced knowledge in the core areas of religion and theology. Students will have opportunities to acquire and cultivate a body of specialized knowledge that will prepare them to become leaders of the church, community, and academy.

FIRST YEAR					
FALL COURSES		CREDITS	SPRING COURSES		CREDITS
REL 611	Advanced Studies in Old Testament	3	REL 612	Advanced Studies in New Testament	3
REL 614	Hebrew Language and Tools	3	REL 624	Greek Language and Tools	3
REL 621	Biblical Hermeneutics	3	REL 622	Biblical Exegesis	3
REL 627	The Phenomenon of Religion: Integrating Faith and Life	3	REL 628	World Religions in Christian Context	3
TOTAL		12	TOTAL		12

SECOND YEAR					
FALL COURSES		CREDITS	SPRING COURSES		CREDITS
REL 631	Systematic Theology I	3	REL 641	Church History I	3
REL 632	Systematic Theology II	3	REL 642	Church History II	3
REL 635	Homiletics I: Introduction to Preaching	3	REL 633	Christian Ethics and Theology	3
REL 636	Homiletics II: Advanced Preaching	3	REL 650	Introduction to Pastoral Care	3
TOTAL		12	TOTAL		12

THIRD YEAR					
FALL COURSES		CREDITS	SPRING COURSES		CREDITS
REL 670	Executive Ministry Formation Module I: <i>Self-Care, The Executive Minister</i>	3	REL 674	Executive Ministry Formation Module III: <i>Strategic Planning, Change and Conflict</i>	3
REL 672	Executive Ministry Formation Module II: <i>Organization, Church Administration and Management</i>	3	REL 676	Executive Ministry Formation IV: <i>Infrastructure, Building and Maintaining a Healthy Church</i>	3
REL 690-691	Executive Ministry Internship	6	REL 697-698	Executive Ministry Project and Final Assessment	6
TOTAL		12	TOTAL		12

TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS: 72

MASTER OF DIVINITY PROGRAM

Course Descriptions

FIRST YEAR COMMON CORE COURSES

REL 611 – Advanced Studies in Old Testament (3 cr. hrs.)

This course provides an introduction to the literature and history of ancient Israel. Special attention is given to the thirty-nine books of the Hebrew Bible. Attention is also given to the development and culture of early Judaism and the theological interpretation of biblical texts. *Required of M.Div. students in the first year of study.*

REL 612 – Advanced Studies in New Testament (3 cr. hrs.)

This course is the first of a two-part study that provides an introduction to the twenty-seven books of the New Testament. Emphasis will be placed on understanding our Jewish and Greco-Roman heritage and development of the New Testament in context. Tools of literary criticism will be used to assist with the interpretation of the Biblical text. *Required of M.Div. students in the first year of study.*

REL 614 – Hebrew Language and Tools (3 cr. hrs.)

This course serves as an introduction and survey of Biblical Hebrew, using various English translations of the Christian Bible to develop skills utilizing concordances, lexicons, software, technological and electronic tools.

REL 621 – Biblical Hermeneutics (3 cr. hrs.)

This course is a study of the history of biblical interpretation, and an overview of various interpretive methodologies needed for biblical observation, interpretation, application, and communication of the Old and New Testaments. *Required of M.Div. students in the first year of study.*

REL 622 – Biblical Exegesis (3 cr. hrs.)

This course will use select books of the Old Testament or select representative passages to analyze biblical text, while developing exegetical skills. *Required of M.Div. students in the first year of study.*

REL 624 – Greek Language and Tools (3 cr. hrs.)

This course serves as an introduction and survey of Biblical Greek language using various English translations of the

Christian Bible to develop skills utilizing concordances, lexicons, software, technological and electronic tools.

REL 627 – The Phenomenon of Religion: Integrating Faith and Life (3 cr. hrs.)

This course is an examination of the ways in which other religions, belief systems and their teachings integrate and intersect with self-understanding, faith and mission. The focus of the course is to introduce religious plurality at the crossroads of American life and faith.

REL 628 – World Religions in Christian Context (3 cr. hrs.)

This course is a systematic exploration and comparison of the themes, practices, major tenets, and belief systems of major world religions investigated through the lens of the Christian system of faith and belief. Referred to as the religion of Jesus by Howard Thurman, this course will do a critical analysis of the life, message and ministry of Jesus Christ of Nazareth in comparison and contrast to the world of other religious deities.

SECOND YEAR COMMON CORE COURSES

REL 631 – Systematic Theology I (3 cr. hrs.)

This course is the first of a two-part study of the Christian faith by introducing systematic theology as an organized approach to biblical Truth and the knowledge of God as He is revealed in His word.

REL 632 – Systematic Theology II (3 cr. hrs.)

This course is the second of a two-part study of the Christian faith by continuing the study of systematic theology as an organized approach to biblical Truth and the knowledge of God as He is revealed in His word. *(Prerequisite: Systematic Theology I)*

REL 633 – Christian Ethics and Theology (3 cr. hrs.)

This course is a systematic treatment of the central themes and issues of Christian ethics with particular attention to the life of the Christian community of faith and its place in the social order.

REL 635 – Homiletics I: Introduction to Preaching (3 cr. hrs.)

This course is designed to be an introductory course on the study of and preparation for preaching. An examination of the place of preaching in the life of the church will be examined. Students will explore both the preparation for and practice of preaching. Models and genres of preaching will be explored with the practice of preaching in peer groups for engagement and feedback.

REL 636 – Homiletics II: Advanced Preaching (3 cr. hrs.)

This course will focus on sermon structure and delivery of the sermon, while refining the basic preaching skills presented in Homiletics I for the purposes of clear and effective communication to the waiting congregation.

REL 641 – Church History I (3 cr. hrs.)

This course is an introduction to the history of Christianity beginning with the first century and continuing until the 15th century. Emphasis will be placed on biblical and theological traditions and the development of the church as a spiritual, political and social institution.

REL 642 – Church History II (3 cr. hrs.)

This course is the second of a two-part study of the history of Christianity beginning with Protestant Reformation and through the 21st century. Emphasis will be placed on biblical and theological traditions and the development of the church as a spiritual, political and social institution.
(Prerequisite: Church History I)

REL 650 – Introduction to Pastoral Care (3 cr. hrs.)

This course is an introduction to the ministry of pastoral care and counseling with an emphasis on the helping relationship, including theological understanding of pastoral care, pastoral uses of psychotherapeutic theories and strategies for change, various forms of pastoral care and counseling, and various cultural contexts.

REL 651 – Congregational Care: Pastoral Limits and Authority (3 cr. hrs.)

This course presents theological and sociological foundations for caregiving as a function of the Christian community. It explores models of congregational care

and develops the competencies needed for equipping lay people to partner with professional staff in the ministry of care. Weekly group labs will provide an opportunity for practicing and teaching basic caregiving skills.
Prerequisite: Introduction to Pastoral Care.

THIRD YEAR COURSES

CONCENTRATION: PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

REL 680 – Pastoral Leadership Formation Module I: Self-Care: Pastoral Ethics (3 cr. hrs.)

This module is designed for students to explore issues of vital importance to persons preparing for the pastoral ministry. Students will probe the theology and practice of pastoral leadership through the process of inquiry into its theological and biblical foundations, the specific tasks of the office of the pastorate, and the importance of the care and vitality of the holistic self. From a biblical, theological, social and spiritual perspective, students will exercise personal reflection and formation to confront areas of the ministry that are essential yet sensitive to the life of the minister and the church.

REL 682 – Pastoral Leadership Formation Module II: The Church, Organizational Leadership and Development (3 cr. hrs.)

This module is part of an interdisciplinary approach to ministry, worship, ritual, prayer, and music. Its primary goal is to provide historical, theological and practical resources for leading and sustaining a healthy church and an engaged congregation. Students will explore a range of historical and contemporary theories of leadership and organizational development from theological, theoretical and practical aspects as they apply to the context of ministry, the minister and the church. Students will gain knowledge of leadership principles by exploring the definition, meaning, mission and functions of effective pastoral leadership.

REL 684 – Pastoral Leadership Formation Module III: Church Administration, Leadership and Management (3 cr. hrs.)

This module investigates the principles of church administration and management, and is designed to better equip pastors and church leaders to manage or handle the ministries and operations of the church. Effective communication and group dynamics will be lifted as two of the most important aspects of successful church administration and management. Students will focus on managing and working with laity, other church staff, and

volunteers to promote excellence and best practices in vital areas within a ministry context.

REL 686 – Pastoral Leadership Formation Module IV: Missions, A Global Gospel: Evangelism & Discipleship (3 cr. hrs.)

This module of study is designed to provide the student with an introductory overview of local, state and world mission initiatives. Students will study missions (Missiology) from biblical, historical, strategic, and cultural perspectives as it relates to Christianity and the world at-large. Students will become equipped to participate in or lead mission efforts and will study the biblical, historical, strategic, and cultural perspectives relative to missions. The course includes a survey of the development, beliefs and practices of the religions of the world and their relationship with Christianity.

REL 690/691 – Pastoral Leadership Internship (6 cr. hrs.)

In this two-session course, students will gain practical experience tailored to their M.Div. concentration by meeting specific ministry-learning outcomes. Students are encouraged to select contexts of ministry that will enable them to explore issues of ministry, and/or develop specific skills. Students may intern with a church, an agency or other religious organization. (P/F)

REL 697/698 – Pastoral Leadership Project and Final Assessment (6 cr. hrs.)

This two-session course extends the practicum and internship experiences to complete a final project specific to an area of pastoral leadership. Students will complete the project with a church, an agency, or other religious organization. As a part of the pastoral leadership growth and development plan, students will participate in an end-of-program leadership assessment. (P/F)

THIRD YEAR COURSES

CONCENTRATION: EXECUTIVE MINISTRY

REL 670 – Executive Ministry Formation Module I: Self-Care: The Executive Minister (3 cr. hrs.)

This module is designed to allow students to explore issues of vital importance to persons preparing for executive ministry. Students will probe into the theology and practice of the executive minister through the process of inquiry into the theological and biblical foundations, the specific tasks of the executive minister and the importance

of the care and vitality of the holistic self. Students ask the question, “What is an Executive Minister?” and describe the individual as leader, chief operations officer, chief financial officer, coach, human resources director, project manager and infrastructure builder. The essential job functions and expectations of fundamental executive leadership will be explored.

REL 672 – Executive Ministry Formation Module II: Organization: Church Administration and Management (3 cr. hrs.)

This module is designed for students to investigate steps needed to transition into the role of executive minister as the pastor’s key support in accomplishing the missional and organizational direction of the church. Executive leadership is key to successful, effective functioning of the church in all areas of ministry. This forum explores church administration and management, and seeks to equip pastors and church leaders to manage the day-to-day operations of the church. Effective communication and group dynamics will be lifted as two of the most important aspects of successful church administration and management. A clear distinction will be made between administration (handling the affairs) of the church, and management (handling the daily complexities) of the church.

REL 674 – Executive Ministry Formation Module III: Strategic Planning, Managing Change and Mediating Conflict (3 cr. hrs.)

This module is designed to explore the steps involved in strategic planning and its importance in the life of the church. Strategic planning will be defined, described and explored. Students will examine and analyze several sample plans and create a plan based on a mock case study. The SWOT analysis, which leads to sound strategic planning, will be given attention and priority. Expectations of the leader, as well as roles and responsibilities in facilitating and managing organizational change will be examined. Students will study change, analyze conflict, and develop strategies for productive conflict management through case study discussion and small group interaction.

REL 676 – Executive Ministry Formation Module IV: Infrastructure, Building and Maintaining a Healthy Church (3 cr. hrs.)

This module investigates the role of the executive minister as an infrastructure builder who has the responsibility of advancing the causes of ministry and church development. The Book of Acts and other New Testament books will be used to identify and describe a healthy church and how

relationship dynamics between the pastor and the executive minister are pivotal to healthy congregations. Major aspects of church congregational life will be examined.

REL 690/691 – Executive Ministry Internship (6 cr. hrs.)

In this two-session course, students will gain practical experience tailored to their M.Div. concentration by meeting specific ministry-learning outcomes. Students are encouraged to select contexts of ministry that will enable them to explore issues of ministry, and/or develop specific skills. Students may intern with a church, an agency, or other religious organization. (P/F)

REL 697/698 – Executive Ministry Project and Final Assessment (6 cr. hrs.)

This two-session course extends the practicum and internship experiences to complete a final project specific to an area of executive ministry. Students will complete the project within contexts of ministry with a church, an agency, or other religious organization. As a part of the part of the executive ministry growth and development plan, students will participate in an end-of-program assessment. (P/F)

Admission Requirements

Application and \$50.00 Processing Fee

Minimum 3.0 GPA

(3) Letters of Recommendation

Official College Transcripts

Writing Sample of the Applicant's Background



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