

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP

MASTER OF ARTS
PROGRAM (36 CREDITS)

The Master of Arts in Christian Leadership is designed to expand the student's theological and biblical understanding and skill sets in leadership. Skills acquired through this educational pursuit will equip one to better understand and work with people, with the result of moving others on to meaningful change through biblical, theological, sociological and psychological study. The program explores the health of the leader, development of models for leadership and the need to accurately analyze various cultures and leadership models. The program serves those desiring to pursue a Master of Arts degree, additional degrees, those actively involved in academia, church ministries, Christian organizations and parachurch groups.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

THE	505	Art and Science of Biblical Interpretation	3 cr
PHL	510	Apologetics and Ethics: Contemporary Challenges	3 cr
LED	505	Biblical Leadership Models	3 cr
LED	510	The Leader and Leadership Development	3 cr
LED	515	Developing Leaders	3 cr
LED	520	Creative Leadership	3 cr
LED	525	Organizational Leadership and Communication	3 cr
SOC	550	Cross-Cultural Leadership 1	3 cr
SOC	560	Cross-Cultural Leadership 2	3 cr
SOC	595	Research Dynamics	3 cr
SOC	599	Research Project	3 cr

TOTAL

36 CREDITS

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

THE 505 Art and Science of Biblical Interpretation 3 credits

This course will examine the science of hermeneutical analysis, processes, and methods in which one can derive the most accurate and valid interpretation of passages of the Bible. Due consideration will be given to the art involved in integrating various lines of thought in the Bible to accomplish an adequate understanding and application of any passage in the Bible.

PHL 510 Apologetics and Ethics: Contemporary Challenges 3 credits

An exploration of the integration and interdependence of apologetics and ethics in the contemporary world. The reasonableness of Christianity in both its truth claims and moral determinations is considered. Approaches to apologetics and ethics are analyzed, and the combined insights are applied to contemporary issues.

LED 505 Biblical Leadership Models 3 credits

This course will examine and analyze the variety of leadership models found within both the Old and New Testaments, examine why particular models of leadership were required at particular times and how New Testament leadership is presented and developed in light of the Christological model and its implications for Christians in leadership today. Special emphasis will be placed upon knowledge, skills, attitudes and values involved in "servant leadership."

LED 510 The Leader and Leadership Development 3 credits

This course will address the spiritual formation, psychological development, health and well-being, discipline and ethical decision making of the leader as well as ongoing care and development needed in order to be a truly effective leader.

PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Students will communicate in writing biblical and theological academic research that addresses concerns within the community of faith.
2. Students will analyze empirical, leadership and theological concepts in cross-cultural settings and directly assess and formulate leadership concepts to enrich that particular culture.
3. Students will analyze their own leadership style and develop steps in which to more effectively work as a team.
4. Students will assess various leadership models being used within organizations and the impact those models have on the development of organizations.

LED 515 Developing Leaders 3 credits

This course will work from the foundation that quality leaders develop and equip other leaders. The focus will be to present a workable process on how to develop leaders and equip a team of leaders to work effectively together with understanding and mutual regard to accomplish God-given purposes and goals and then multiply leaders. Surveys of present leadership development materials, as well as transferable concepts from leadership programs will be analyzed.

Prerequisite: LED 505 or 510.

LED 520 Creative Leadership 3 credits

This course will examine extensive examples of creative approaches to leadership and how leaders can generate and maintain creativity to effectively develop and lead a group of people to accomplish outstanding goals. Characteristics of visionary leaders will be examined, exploration of their leadership habits and spiritual disciplines for effective visionary leadership and strategies for conceiving vision and implementing tools for visionary leadership.

LED 525 Organizational Leadership and Communication 3 credits

This course will analyze organizational structures, styles, conflict management, personalities and the impact that they have upon an organization and its development, along with the essentials of effective communication channels to nurture an organization so that it can identify well-articulated processes for decision making and team involvement. Areas of study will also include budgeting, scheduling, staff management, committee structures, leadership and communication. Ethical issues will be addressed to focus upon organizational integrity.

SOC 550 Cross-Cultural Leadership 1 3 credits

This course will consist of an international or stateside cross-cultural experience under the direction of a professor that can take place within settings such as: overseas universities or training centers, mission field experiences, mega-churches or approved stateside cross-cultural settings in which leadership analysis, teaching, and training will be conducted. Field service will be required. This course will expand the cross-cultural understanding of the student to more effectively assess and respond to the realities being faced in that particular setting and evaluate the transferability of various leadership models. The course will examine the role of culture and cultural dynamics in the selection, emergence and functioning of leadership.

SOC 560 Cross-Cultural Leadership 2 3 credits

This course will build upon SOC 550. It will also consist of an international or stateside cross-cultural experience under the direction of a professor that can take place within settings such as: overseas universities or training centers, mission field experiences, mega-churches or approved stateside cross-cultural settings in which leadership analysis, teaching, and training will be conducted. Field service will be required. This course will expand the cross-cultural understanding of the student to more effectively assess and respond to the realities being faced in that particular setting and evaluate the transferability of various leadership models. The course will examine the role of culture and cultural dynamics in the selection, emergence and functioning of leadership. In addition to the requirements of SOC 550, the student will need to either design leadership models to address the cultural context or utilize existing models and how they would interface with that cultural context. The student will need to demonstrate the transferability of such models to other cultural contexts.

Prerequisite: SOC 550.

SOC 595 Research Dynamics 3 credits

This course will train the student in the advanced skills of scholarly research, design, writing and documentation as a direct preparation for the final research project of the degree. The student must receive an “A” or a “B” in this course to proceed to the final Research Project. A “C” will require the student to retake SOC 595.

Prerequisite: completion of at least five of required courses.

SOC 599 Research Project 6 credits

This course will consist of a major written project that reflects graduate-level research and writing on an area of study agreed upon and under the direct supervision of a professor who has specialization in the chosen topic of study in keeping with the degree.

The final project must receive committee approval.

Prerequisite: SOC 595.