

Doctor of Divinity, Minor in Leadership & Cultural Management

HBI University

Course Duration: 3 Years

Total Credit Hours: 105

Program Description

The Doctor of Divinity at HBI University prepares students for scholarly and spiritual leadership in faith-based organizations, global ministries, and culturally diverse communities. Rooted in advanced theological exploration, the program develops deep biblical literacy, ethical clarity, and practical leadership for complex and multiethnic contexts.

Students engage with scripture, church history, theology, and ecclesial leadership from a global and interdisciplinary perspective. The program emphasizes spiritual formation, doctrinal fidelity, and contextualized ministry models for leading within churches, non-profits, and theological institutions.

The Minor in Leadership & Cultural Management focuses on managing diverse teams, navigating cultural sensitivities, and cultivating visionary leadership grounded in faith. This minor empowers students to lead transformational initiatives in culturally dynamic environments while promoting inclusive decision-making, cross-cultural dialogue, and sustainable ministry practices.

Admissions Requirements

- Master of Divinity, Theology, or equivalent degree
- GPA of 3.5 or higher in graduate theological education
- Statement of Purpose (1,000–1,500 words) describing spiritual calling and cultural leadership goals
- Three letters of recommendation (including one from a pastoral leader)
- Resume or CV highlighting ministry or leadership experience
- Writing sample (theological essay, sermon, or ministry project)
- Interview with Divinity faculty panel

Practicum Experience

The practicum offers real-world ministry or organizational leadership in multicultural congregations, denominational offices, or global Christian NGOs. It includes mentorship in pastoral leadership, organizational development, or cross-cultural communication.

Practicum Requirements:

- 600 hours of supervised leadership in ministry or cultural management

- Practicum report detailing strategic initiatives and cultural impact
- Presentation before academic and spiritual leaders

Doctoral Thesis

The doctoral dissertation addresses theological, cultural, or ecclesial leadership challenges. Topics may explore leadership development, cultural engagement, liturgical reform, or global Christianity.

Thesis Requirements:

- Proposal with theological and practical problem statement
- Extensive research from scripture, theology, and cultural theory
- 100+ page thesis with implementation framework for ministry or education
- Oral defense before committee and optional publication submission

Program Outcomes

Graduates will:

- Lead global, multicultural ministries with strategic and spiritual integrity
- Articulate sound theology with cultural and ethical sensitivity
- Design faith-based education, leadership, and outreach programs
- Mentor emerging Christian leaders in diverse settings
- Engage in theological scholarship and ecclesial transformation

Core Foundational Courses (60 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
DIV 801	Advanced Theology of Ministry	3
DIV 802	Biblical Hermeneutics and Exegesis	3
DIV 803	History of Christian Thought	3
DIV 804	Spiritual Formation and Discipleship	3
DIV 805	Doctrine and Denominational Distinctives	3
DIV 806	Ethics, Justice, and Moral Theology	3
DIV 807	Preaching and Homiletics	3
DIV 808	Church Administration and Leadership	3
DIV 809	Ecumenism and Global Christianity	3
DIV 810	Pastoral Counseling and Care	3
DIV 811	Sacramental Theology and Worship	3

DIV 812	Contemporary Issues in Ministry	3
DIV 813	Christian Education and Discipleship Models	3
DIV 814	Mission and Evangelism Strategies	3
DIV 815	Apologetics and Faith in Public Life	3
DIV 816	Theology and Technology	3
DIV 817	Scriptural Engagement in Postmodern Culture	3
DIV 818	Servant Leadership in the Church	3
DIV 819	Capstone in Theological Integration	3
DIV 820	Field Practicum in Ecclesial Leadership	3

Minor in Leadership & Cultural Management (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
LCM 801	Cross-Cultural Communication and Ministry	3
LCM 802	Leadership Theories and Transformational Models	3
LCM 803	Strategic Planning for Faith-Based Organizations	3
LCM 804	Cultural Identity, Race, and Social Engagement	3
LCM 805	Conflict Resolution and Change Management	3

Specialized Electives (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
ELE 801	Faith and Culture in the Global South	3
ELE 802	Social Justice and the Prophetic Church	3
ELE 803	Multicultural Preaching and Worship	3
ELE 804	Leadership Development for Marginalized Communities	3
ELE 805	Technology and Virtual Ministry Models	3

Research, Dissertation, and Defense (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
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DISS 901	Theological Research Methods	3
DISS 902	Problem Statement and Contextual Framework	3
DISS 903	Biblical Integration and Qualitative Study	3
DISS 904	Thesis Writing and Peer Review	3
DISS 905	Oral Defense and Ministry Application	3

Career Outcomes and Potential Pay Scale

Career Path	Average Salary (Annual)
Senior Pastor or Church Leader	\$85,000 – \$135,000
Dean of Divinity or Theology School	\$95,000 – \$150,000
Director of Multicultural Ministry Initiatives	\$90,000 – \$140,000
Faith-Based Organizational Consultant	\$100,000 – \$145,000
Cross-Cultural Ministry Trainer	\$80,000 – \$125,000

Dissertation Outline

1. Introduction

- Theological problem and cultural context

2. Literature Review

- Analysis of historical, doctrinal, and cultural perspectives

3. Methodology

- Qualitative case studies or contextual theological analysis

4. Results

- Impact analysis and leadership implications

5. Discussion

- Ecclesial, cultural, and spiritual applications

6. Conclusion

- Recommendations and future ministry implications

7. References and Appendices