

MASTER OF ARTS IN MINISTRY

The Master of Arts in Ministry is an advanced degree for ministers and other church workers who have grown in their professions to the point that they require training beyond the baccalaureate level to make a greater ministry impact or increase effectiveness in their careers.

MASTER OF ARTS IN MINISTRY PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Graduate students will gain:

1. Access to an atmosphere for equipping for ministry while performing ministry and identifying and enhancing ministry specialties
2. An opportunity to develop and articulate a philosophy of ministry that integrates their calling with their personal responsibilities
3. A learning community of committed, experienced instructors who live out their own ministry goals and share those experiences in the coursework.
4. A venue for completing an advanced degree without relocation.
5. Access to a network of lifelong learners who will encourage one another through future ministry challenges.
6. An orientation to relate cross-culturally in a variety of ministry or professional situations for evangelism, discipleship, and being salt and light.

MASTER OF ARTS IN MINISTRY AIM

The Master of Arts in Ministry program is designed to:

1. Prepare students for effective service in local churches (as pastors, associate pastors, Christian education directors, etc.) and leadership positions in businesses, parachurch organizations, mission agencies, and non-government organizations (NGOs).
2. Enhance knowledge and expertise in Bible (study and interpretation), theology (doctrine, philosophy, apologetics), and Christian ministry (homiletics, pastoral care, homiletics, evangelism, discipling, spiritual direction); i.e. anything necessary for Christian service.
3. Include appropriate and adequate reading material, integrational writing assignments, and critical thinking assignments.

Resulting Competencies

Students who successfully complete the program will be able to:

Spiritual abilities

1. Understand and maintain a core devotion to God that will equip and sustain the graduate for any calling.
2. Disciple and mentor others in spiritual activities.

Intellectual abilities

3. Conduct academic research and writing which reflects a significant level of understanding, critical thinking, and philosophical reflection.
4. Understand key concepts of the Christian faith, including revelation, inspiration, soteriology, ecclesiology, eschatology, and other critical doctrines.

5. Integrate theology, philosophy, and culture to develop and maintain a Biblical worldview.

Ministry abilities

6. Articulate key concepts of the Christian faith, including revelation, inspiration, soteriology, ecclesiology, eschatology, and other critical doctrines in sermons, lessons, and evangelistic presentations, and daily conversations.
7. Provide effective leadership to congregations, organizations, teams and coalitions in all types of God-glorifying activities, including works of evangelism and benevolence.
8. Utilize available means of communication (electronic, print, visual, aural, etc.) to communicate God's message and will.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Submission of required application forms (see application process below).
2. Documented proof of completion of an earned accredited baccalaureate degree (BA or BS).
3. Grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better (on a 4.0 scale), in the BA (or BS) degree, documented by official transcripts.

Exceptions: Any applicant not meeting the above-stated requirements may petition the Graduate Faculty Committee (which serves as the exceptions body in any academic policy matters) for an exception.

GREEK LANGUAGE COMPETENCY

The Master of Arts in Ministry degree requires that a Greek Language Competency be met as a part of the degree plan. Students must demonstrate a working knowledge of Greek sufficient to translate and exegete selected passages from the Greek New Testament.

This requirement may be met through one of the following options:

- Successful completion of 2 semesters of Greek (with a grade of C or higher in the final term) at the college level from Randall University or the equivalent from another accredited college or university. Official transcripts will be required.
- Successful completion of LANG 5103 New Testament Greek Appreciation with a grade of C or higher.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application is a simple process. Expedient submission of the following forms or documentation to the Admissions Office should result in prompt acceptance to the Master of Arts program.

1. *Application for Admission.* Complete and submit the *Application Form* (online) and with a **\$75 Application Fee.**

2. *Statement of Goals.* Write a Statement of Goals which lists your goals/plans and explains how the degree will help you fulfill them.
3. *Official Transcripts.* Send a *Request for Official Transcripts* to each college or university you have previously attended. (Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted.) Sealed transcripts must be sent by the college/university to:

Admissions
 Randall University
 3701 S. I-35 Service Road
 Moore, OK 73160

4. *References.*
 - Request your pastor to complete a *Validation of Church Relationship Form* and return to you in a signed, sealed envelope. Submit the form with your application.
 - Request an adult who knows you well to complete a *Reference Form* in a signed, sealed envelope. Submit the form with your application.
5. *Biblical Foundations Statement.* Read and sign the *Biblical Foundations Statement*. Submit the form with your application.
6. *Financial Aid.* If needed, apply for Financial Assistance or scholarships by filling out the *Scholarship Application Form* and the *FAFSA*. After the forms are completed, schedule an appointment with the Financial Aid Officer.

COURSE FORMAT

All courses can be completed without leaving your career position. Master of Arts in Ministry courses may only be completed online. A list of the available courses is published prior to the beginning of each semester. Course schedules are organized for two annual semesters (January-June, July-December). Each semester three eight-week sessions. A new cohort begins every semester. The schedule is organized so a cohort may complete the master's degree in two years by completing the core courses and electives.

Independent Study Courses

The Randall University Master of Arts in Ministry Program also offers courses that may be completed independently under the supervision of regular faculty and adjunct faculty who are well-regarded professors in their prospective fields.

REPEATED COURSES

Courses may be repeated under the following guidelines:

- 1) Repeat and have only second grade counted in graduation GPA...even if second grade is lower than first grade
- 2) Limit to first four courses and not to exceed total of 18 credit hours
- 3) If course is repeated more than once, only the first grade will be replaced. Second (and subsequent) grade will remain as part of GPA calculation.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To graduate with a Master of Arts in Ministry degree the student must achieve the following:

1. Complete 36 semester hours acceptable to the University, including one of these options:
 - a. *Thesis option*
 - i. 3 Orientation/Immersion hours
 - ii. 12 required core hours
 - iii. 15 elective hours
 - iv. 6 Thesis research hours
 - b. *Non-thesis option*
 - i. 3 Orientation/Immersion hours
 - ii. 12 required core hours
 - iii. 18 elective hours
 - iv. 3 Summative Project hours
2. Grade requirement: Satisfactorily complete every course in the degree with a C or better.
3. Complete a minimum of 50% of the required credit hours (and all of the core courses) at Randall University.
4. Satisfactorily complete every course in the degree with a C or better and earn a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better.
5. Satisfy all financial obligations to the University and be in good standing with the University.
6. Graduation preparation
 - a. Submit an *Intent to Graduate* form by mid-term of the last semester before graduation and pay the nonrefundable Graduation Fee.
 - b. Participate in Commencement Exercises unless excused by the Academic Affairs Committee.

MASTER OF ARTS IN MINISTRY

The following courses are required for the Master of Arts in Ministry degree (Thesis and Non-Thesis options):

ADVANCED STANDING

- IDIS 5113 Christian Ministry Immersion & Integration (3 hours). *Students achieving a score of 90% or more in IDIS 5113 will receive an additional 3 hours advanced placement credit in CMIN 5913 Advanced Christian Ministry.*
- *The Master of Arts Program Director will review the official transcripts of applicants and determine any advanced standing or award of credit toward the M.A. degree.*

CORE REQUIRED

12 hours

PHIL 5003 Apologetics
 THEO 5213 Hermeneutics
 LEAD 5233 Strategic Planning

CORE OPTIONS (choose one)

PHIL 5013 Philosophy of Religion OR
 THEO 5013 NT Theology OR
 THEO 5123 Historical Theology

ELECTIVES

12-18 hours

SUMMATIVE CAPSTONE PROJECT

3-6 hours

Each student must complete a summative project:
 BIBL5973/CMIN 5973 Masters Project OR
 BIBL 5996/CMIN 5996 Masters Thesis

ARMY CHAPLAINCY

Randall University courses and degrees are recognized by the United States Armed Services for Chaplaincy preparation. Candidates may use Randall University course work to meet the military's educational requirements of a Masters degree in theological or religious studies and at least 72 graduate hours that includes 30 hours of Bible. In addition, each successful candidate must gain an ecclesiastical endorsement from the faith group the student is serving and meet the military requirements for the branch of the U.S. Military enlisted. (For example of current requirements see <https://www.goarmy.com/chaplain.html>)

SAMPLE M.A. COMPLETION SCHEDULE, 36 HOURS

Students may be required to enroll in IDIS 5113 with the benefit of possible advanced standing and/or additional credits toward the M.A. (see previous page).

Semester A

BIBL 5533 Old Testament Wisdom Literature, Eaton
BIBL 5233 Jesus and the Gospel Tradition, Blair
LEAD 5223 Strategic Planning, Hunter

Semester B

LANG 5103 N.T. Greek Appreciation or
5000+ Graduate Elective, TBA
THEO 5013 New Testament Theology, Eaton
CMIN 5103 Ministering Cross-Culturally, Ledbetter/Eaton

Semester C

THEO 5213 Hermeneutics, Blair
CMIN 5223 Discipleship Ministries, Hunter
5000+ Graduate Elective, TBA

Semester D

COMM 5433 Advanced Biblical Preaching, Blair
PHIL 5003 Apologetics, Kuhn
BIBL/CMIN 5973 Masters Project

Master of Arts Faculty and Lecturers

(The Faculty Section of Catalog provides more detail)

M.A. Program Director:

TIMOTHY W. EATON, PH.D.

Chancellor

Teaching emphasis: Bible, Theology, Education & Research

B.Th., Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College
M.A., Randall University
M.Ed., University of Oklahoma
M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
Ph.D., University of Oklahoma
Postdoctoral Studies, Harvard Institute of Higher Education

Faculty:

STEPHEN M. ASHBY, PH.D.

Professor of Philosophy of Religion

Teaching emphasis: Bible, Philosophy, Religion

B.S., Free Will Baptist Bible College
M.Ed., Lynchburg College
M.R.E., Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary
M.Div., Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary
Ph.D., Bowling Green State University

JEFFREY BLAIR, JR., D.MIN.

Teaching emphasis: Bible, Hermeneutics, Homiletics

B.A., Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College
M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
D.Min., Northern Baptist Theological Seminary

COLONEL BRAD HANNA, D.MIN.

Teaching emphasis: Bible, Chaplaincy, Theology

B.A., Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College
M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
D.Min., Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary
Chaplain U.S. Army Reserve, Oklahoma 45th Brigade

RON HUNTER, JR., PH.D.

Teaching emphasis: Discipleship, Leadership

B.A., Welch College
M.P.A., University of Colorado
Ph.D., Leadership from Cook School of Leadership at Dallas Baptist University
President/CEO, Randall House Publications, Inc.

DENNY KUHN, PH.D.

Teaching emphasis: Apologetics, Philosophy

B.S., Ball State University
M.A.R., Reformed Theological Seminary
Ph.D., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

SPENCER LEDBETTER, D.PHIL.

Teaching emphasis: Bible, Ministry

B.A., Oberlin College
M.T.S., Harvard Divinity School
D.Phil., Oxford Graduate School

BRENT SYKES, PH.D.

Teaching emphasis: Psychology, Educational Leadership

B.A., University of Central Oklahoma
M.Ed., University of Oklahoma
Ph.D., University of Oklahoma

TIM YORK, D.MIN.

Teaching emphasis: Christian Ministry, Spiritual Formation

B. S., Liberty University
M.Div., Liberty University
D.Min., Liberty University
Moderator, National Association of Free Will Baptists

Lecturers:

CORY THOMPSON, M.TH.

Teaching emphasis: Bible, Greek

B.A., Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College
M.Div., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
M.Th., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

KEVIN WILLIFORD, M.DIV.

Teaching emphasis: Bible, Hebrew

B.A., Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College
M.Div., Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
Ph.D., Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (In Progress)