ENOCH ASCENSION CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY · DEGREE COMPLETION PLAN

Master of Arts in Pastoral Leadership and Care

Catalog Year 2026–2027 · 100% Online · *We don't teach what to think. We awaken truth and walk in love.*

36	12	3	VARK
TOTAL CREDITS	COURSES	CREDITS PER COURSE	FOUR WAYS TO LEARN

Program Overview

The Master of Arts in Pastoral Leadership and Care prepares pastors to preach expository sermons from text to delivery, care for people in crisis, and lead healthy, growing congregations.

How EACU Is Different

Students learn pastoral ministry across traditions, not just one. They examine preaching, sacraments and ordinances, governance, and care from every side, and develop their own philosophy of ministry while learning practical skills for leading and caring for people.

At the graduate level, students weigh the biblical text, ancient witnesses, research, and later interpretation side by side, then build and defend their own position with scholarly rigor while remaining grounded in the foundation of truth.

> **Required in every EACU degree:** Biblical Interpretation (Rightly Dividing the Word), Biblical Finance and Stewardship, and Biblical Mindset and Mental Health. Every course is built with visual, auditory, reading and writing, and hands-on learning.

Program Outcomes

1. Develop expository sermons from text to delivery.
2. Provide pastoral care in crisis.
3. Lead church health and revitalization.
4. Sustain the leader's own spiritual formation.
5. Complete and defend graduate-level research or an applied project.

Where This Degree Can Lead

- Senior or executive pastor
- Church planter or revitalization leader
- Pastoral care director
- Further study in the D.Min. in Pastoral Leadership and Care

Admission

A completed bachelor's degree. See Admissions for full requirements.

M.A. in Pastoral Leadership and Care

Degree Completion Plan · Student: _____

EACU Required Core — 12 credits

	CODE	COURSE	CR	TERM COMPLETED
☐	EACU 500	Graduate Orientation and Research	3	
☐	BIBL 501	Biblical Interpretation III: Advanced Rightly Dividing the Word	3	
☐	FINC 501	Biblical Finance and Stewardship II	3	
☐	MHLT 501	Biblical Mindset and Mental Health II	3	

Bible Core — 6 credits

	CODE	COURSE	CR	TERM COMPLETED
☐	BIBL 510	The Old Testament in Its Ancient Near Eastern and Second Temple Context	3	
☐	BIBL 520	The New Testament in Its Second Temple and Greco-Roman Context	3	

Major: Pastoral Leadership and Care — 15 credits

	CODE	COURSE	CR	TERM COMPLETED
☐	PAST 610	Expository Preaching I: From Text to Sermon	3	
☐	PAST 620	Expository Preaching II: Sermon Delivery	3	
☐	PAST 630	Pastoral Care in Crisis	3	
☐	PAST 640	Church Health, Growth, and Revitalization	3	
☐	PAST 650	Spiritual Formation and the Leader's Life	3	

Capstone — 3 credits

	CODE	COURSE	CR	TERM COMPLETED
☐	PAST 690	Master's Thesis or Applied Project	3	

Students complete either a research thesis or an applied project, such as a program, curriculum, or book manuscript, and defend it before faculty. With advisor approval, one major course may be replaced by a course from the EACU Approved Elective List.

Credit Summary

EACU Required Core	12
Bible Core	6
Major	15
Capstone	3
Total Required	**36**

Suggested Sequence

Term 1
Graduate Orientation, Advanced Rightly Dividing the Word

Term 2
Bible Core, Finance II, Mental Health II

Term 3
Major courses

Term 4
Remaining major courses and Capstone