ENOCH ASCENSION CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY · HYBRID DUAL DEGREE COMPLETION PLAN

Master of Arts in Pastoral Leadership and Care + Doctor of Ministry in Biblical Counseling

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

63	2	9	VARK
TOTAL CREDITS	DEGREES EARNED	SHARED CREDITS	FOUR WAYS TO LEARN

Program Overview

The Hybrid Dual Degree pairs the Master of Arts in Pastoral Leadership and Care with the Doctor of Ministry in Biblical Counseling in one continuous program of 63 credits instead of 72. 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. The Doctor of Ministry in Biblical Counseling is a professional doctorate for leaders who build, train, and oversee counseling ministries.

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 doctoral level, EACU students become the ones who walk others through the evidence. Every course requires students to examine a question from every side, then build and defend their own position, and the doctoral project turns that work into something that can be taught, published, or put into practice.

> **How the dual degree works.** Nine doctoral credits count toward both degrees. The master's degree is conferred after the Master's Portion and the Shared Courses are complete (36 credits). The Doctor of Ministry is conferred after the Doctoral Portion is complete (36 doctoral credits, including the shared courses). Students need a completed bachelor's degree to enter.

Please note: This degree prepares students for counseling within ministry, church, and community settings. It does not lead to state licensure or professional certification, including as a professional counselor or therapist.

Program Outcomes

1. Develop expository sermons from text to delivery.
2. Provide pastoral care in crisis.
3. Lead church health and revitalization.
4. Integrate Scripture, psychology, and counseling practice at an advanced level.
5. Apply and evaluate trauma and forgiveness models.
6. Build and lead sustainable counseling ministries.

Where This Degree Can Lead

- Director of a counseling or care ministry
- Trainer of lay counselors
- Author and speaker on healing and forgiveness
- Founder of a faith-based counseling center

Career paths above are examples only; EACU does not provide job placement or promise employment (Handbook Section 12).

M.A. Pastoral Leadership and Care + D.Min. Biblical Counseling

Student: _____

Master's Portion — 27 credits

	CODE	COURSE	CR	TERM COMPLETED
☐	FINC 501	Biblical Finance and Stewardship II	3	
☐	MHLT 501	Biblical Mindset and Mental Health II	3	
☐	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	
☐	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	

Shared Courses (count toward both degrees) — 9 credits

	CODE	COURSE	CR	TERM COMPLETED
☐	EACU 800	Doctoral Orientation and Research Methods	3	
☐	BIBL 801	Advanced Interpretation: Rightly Dividing the Word at the Doctoral Level	3	
☐	EACU 880	Literature Review and Research Proposal	3	

Doctoral Portion — 27 credits

	CODE	COURSE	CR	TERM COMPLETED
☐	FINC 801	Organizational Stewardship and Ministry Finance	3	
☐	MHLT 801	Trauma, Forgiveness, and Healing	3	
☐	COUN 810	Integrating Scripture, Psychology, and Counseling Practice	3	
☐	COUN 820	Advanced Trauma and Forgiveness Models	3	
☐	COUN 830	Building and Leading Counseling Ministries	3	
☐	COUN 840	Training and Supervising Lay Counselors	3	
☐	EACU 885	Research Design and Ethics	3	
☐	EACU 890	Doctoral Project I	3	
☐	EACU 891	Doctoral Project II	3	

Suggested Sequence

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 3 to 4
Master's Portion	Shared Courses; master's degree conferred	Doctoral core and major	Research Design, Doctoral Project, defense

Credit Summary

Master's Portion	27
Shared Courses	9
Doctoral Portion	27
Total Required	**63**