ENOCH ASCENSION CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY · DEGREE COMPLETION PLAN

Doctor of Ministry 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
CREDITS BEYOND THE MASTER'S	COURSES	CREDITS PER COURSE	FOUR WAYS TO LEARN

Program Overview

The Doctor of Ministry in Pastoral Leadership and Care is a professional doctorate for pastors and ministry leaders. Students study ministry models and contexts, spiritual formation and discipleship, preaching for transformation, and leading healthy 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 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.

> **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. Evaluate ministry models across contexts.
2. Lead spiritual formation and discipleship.
3. Preach for transformation.
4. Lead healthy congregations.
5. Design, conduct, and defend an original doctoral project.

Where This Degree Can Lead

- Senior pastor
- Denominational or network leader
- Trainer of pastors
- Author and speaker

Admission

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

D.Min. in Pastoral Leadership and Care

Degree Completion Plan · Student: _____

EACU Required Core — 12 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	
☐	FINC 801	Organizational Stewardship and Ministry Finance	3	
☐	MHLT 801	Trauma, Forgiveness, and Healing	3	

Major: Pastoral Leadership and Care — 12 credits

	CODE	COURSE	CR	TERM COMPLETED
☐	PAST 810	Ministry Models and Contexts	3	
☐	PAST 820	Spiritual Formation and Discipleship	3	
☐	PAST 830	Preaching for Transformation	3	
☐	PAST 840	Leading Healthy Congregations	3	

Research Sequence — 12 credits

	CODE	COURSE	CR	TERM COMPLETED
☐	EACU 880	Literature Review and Research Proposal	3	
☐	EACU 885	Research Design and Ethics	3	
☐	EACU 890	Doctoral Project I	3	
☐	EACU 891	Doctoral Project II	3	

The Doctoral Project. Students identify a real problem in their ministry or field, review the literature, design and carry out a study or intervention, and present their findings in a written project defended before a faculty committee. The project may lead to a published book, curriculum, or program.

Credit Summary

EACU Required Core	12
Major	12
Research Sequence	12
Total Required	**36**

Suggested Sequence

Year 1
Doctoral Orientation, Advanced Interpretation, Finance, Mental Health

Year 1 to 2
Major courses

Year 2
Literature Review and Proposal, Research Design

Year 2 to 3
Doctoral Project I and II, defense