

MASTER OF MINISTRY

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN 2011



Grounded in Ministry. Reflective on Mission.

The Master of Ministry is a post-graduate professional degree that aims to assist Christian leaders in developing their personal, spiritual, pastoral and intellectual capacities. It can only be done part-time and by those with ministry experience. Participants engage with contemporary approaches to action-reflection research and theological reflection.

Grounded

All participants are in ministry, ensuring discussion and engagement is constantly shaped by ministry.

Flexible

With individualised learning paths through the Guided Reading Topics and Ministry Practice Thesis.

Reflective practitioners

Priority, through the Programme Seminars and in Theology of Ministry Practice, on theologies that emerge in and around ministry life.

Broad

Learning with students from across the body of Christ.

Living libraries

A research approach in which people are encouraged to be learning in and among the people with whom they minister.



Uniting College
for Leadership & Theology

Currently between 20-25 people are engaged in the Master of Ministry postgraduate study. They include Ministers and Chaplains from a range of denominations - Anglican, Baptist, Salvation Army, Churches of Christ, Catholic and Uniting. This ensures a rich and vibrant learning community.

Current areas of research include

- contemporary practices of evangelism
- the impact of short-term mission trips
- congregations as learning communities
- indigenous responses to theologies of covenant
- gender and mission
- first-third ministry
- aged care
- denominational identity
- change
- current supervision practices
- insights from historical approaches to pastoral care of depression

Admission and Course Structure

The MMin is taught over four years and can only be undertaken part-time. Admission requirements include BMin or equivalent and at least 2 years ministry experience. The course has four components:

Coursework

Allow participants to broaden their existing knowledge base, by exploring recent scholarship in an area of interest. This includes two compulsory topics, one in research methods, the other in Theology of Ministry Practice.

Guided reading

Enable students to explore selected areas of interest to their ministry development.

Programme seminars

Allow participants to reflect together as shared pilgrims on current issues in their ministry experience. They ensure your post-graduate study is more of a community learning experience.

Ministry practice project

Allow extended study in an area of ministry that excites and is considered relevant to ministry in the longer-term.

The Master of Ministry is an excellent opportunity to reflect practically and theologically on issues of ministry with people who are traveling the same journey.
- Ernest

A typical course of study

First Year

Programme Seminars - theological reflection in a rich and supportive learning community

Research Methods - providing tools to engage in research into ministry practice

Theology of Ministry Practice - an invitation to reflect upon ministry experience to date and how God has been shaping and growing your individual theology of ministry and identity

Ministry Research - begin reading for ministry practice project

Second Year

Programme Seminars - theological reflection in community continues. Often a person presents their project for group reflection.

Guided Readings/Intensive courses - pursuing selected topics of interest to broaden one's knowledge base

Ministry Research - commence research

Third Year

Programme Seminars - theological reflection in community continues

Guided Readings/Intensive topics- pursuing selected topics of interest and learning in new areas

Ministry Research - analyse results emerging from the research

Fourth Year

Programme Seminars - theological reflection in community. Often a person presents the findings of their project and receives invaluable feedback in processing the ministry implications.

Ministry Research - present research in a completed ministry practice project



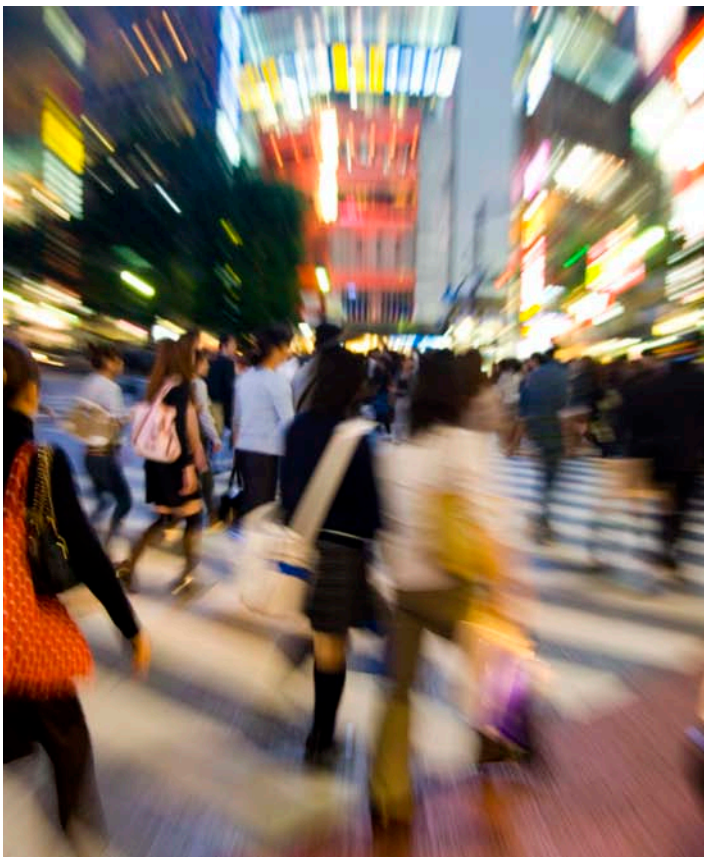
Missional Focus New in 2011

The Master of Ministry provides the space for a specific focus on missional church leadership. It draws on the skills and passions of those in the teaching faculty and recognises that major shifts in Western culture have enormous implications for the practice of ministry today.

A separate cohort of learners (Programme Seminars) is envisaged. Each participant will be expected to work on missional change within their specific ministry context (Ministry Practice Project). This focus of their leadership skills will be supported and grown by coaching (Theology of Leadership Practice), guided reading in leadership and change, missiology and the practices of missional life (Guided Reading Topics) and research support (Research Methods Seminars).

This course is ideal for

- those whose initial training might not have included a focus on mission and leadership
- those wanting to enhance their missional leadership skills
- those needing collegial support in cultivating change
- if there is enough interest, this will be offered at distance



First Year

Leadership 360: to provide a confidential assessment of individual strengths and weaknesses. The insights are then taken forward into Coaching in Year 2-4

Research Methods: introduction to the skills and practices of researching people and communities as living libraries

Peer Support: a cohort that continues over the duration of the learning

Second Year

Coaching: to guide each individual in leadership development and mission planning

Missional Change Project: an individual change project commences and continues over the duration

Mission as Theology: reading groups in recent theologies of mission

Third Year

Coaching, Peer Support and Missional Change project continue

Mission as change: reading groups in leading change

Fourth Year

Missional Change Project concludes: portfolio of learning is submitted as a practicum thesis

Mission as practice: reading groups in the practices of mission life

In order to ensure quality coaching, we are expecting to enrol five participants annually. Prompt expressions of interest are encouraged. Contact Steve Taylor 08 8416 8421 steve.taylor@flinders.edu.au

Steve is one of the best, if not the best, teacher I have ever had - and I have had a few.

- Donald

Missional Leadership has developed practical skills and strategies for change within my local church and ministry.

- Louise

Intensives in 2011

A number of intensive courses are being offered in 2011. These can be taken as an alternative to Guided Reading topics. They allow group, in contrast to individual, learning.

Youth ministry

Rev Dr Andrew Root, Associate Professor of Youth and Family Ministry at Luther Seminary, St Paul Minnesota, will be teaching a MMin/BMin topic on 14 - 17 June in the area of youth and young adult ministry. This will be followed by a week of local learning and application on 4 - 7 July.

Living the Bible in a Postmodern Context 11 - 15 July 2011

This course, hosted at the Uniting College for Leadership and Theology, will explore the communication of the Biblical text in a contemporary world, with particular missiological reference to the use of the Bible in the postmodern, emerging church. Taught by Rev Dr Steve Taylor, Director in Missiology at the Uniting College for Leadership and Theology in Adelaide. To be jointly offered with Tabor College.

Faith in stories: mission and discipleship in a liquid culture 21-25 November 2011

People today are happier with stories than with abstract propositions, and knowing how to tell a good story—whether in traditional sermons or in cutting-edge evangelism—is an essential skill for effective Christian ministry. Olive Fleming Drane authored *Clowns, Storytellers, Disciples* and works as a mission consultant worldwide. Her husband Rev Dr John Drane is a biblical scholar and practical theologian and author of *The McDonaldization of the Church* and *Do Christians know how to be spiritual?* To be jointly offered with Tabor College.

The diversity of topics and personal experience of the participants creates a wonderful pool of collective wisdom.

- Ron

I'm really enjoying doing my masters. It's challenging my thinking and it's changing the way we actually do mission and evangelism in the local congregational setting.

- Leanne

Master of Ministry info session * Thursday 10 February, 5.15-6.15 pm

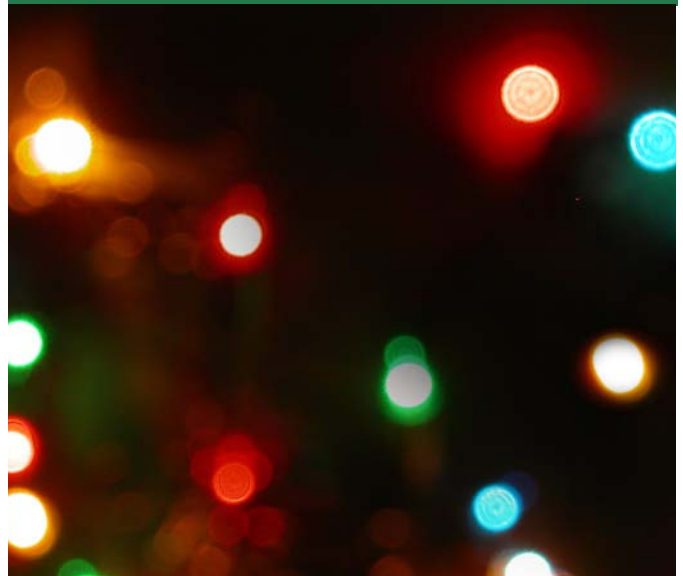
In ministry and thinking about developing your ministry and leadership skills?

Come along to an information evening to
gain 2011 topic information

explore the Masters in Ministry new Missional Leadership focus

ask questions about any and all aspects of study
enjoy drinks and nibbles

* Date to be confirmed early 2011. Call us.



enquiries & enrolment

Contact Steve Taylor on (08) 8416 8421 or email steve.taylor@flinders.edu.au

Websites

www.unitingcollege.org.au
www.acd.edu.au



Uniting College is the ministry training and theological education agency of the Uniting Church, Synod & Presbytery of South Australia. Uniting College is a member college of the Adelaide College of Divinity, a Registered Higher Education Provider.



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