Master of Arts in Christian Ministry

Advance your leadership and theological expertise in a program developed to expand practical skills for diverse ministry settings, covering everything from pastoral care to ethical leadership in a multicultural context. Discover how to thrive in ministry and profoundly impact the communities you serve.



FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY



Expand your Ministry Horizons

Getting an M.A. in Christian Ministry can open a world of opportunities, especially if you are passionate about serving others and deepening your understanding of theology and leadership.

Explore diverse methodologies of ministry that empower you to transform lives through a commitment to spiritual growth and holistic leadership.

- **Enhanced Skills:** Develop practical skills in preaching, pastoral care, counseling and leadership, essential for effective ministry in diverse contexts.
- **Impactful Leadership:** Equip yourself to lead and serve communities more effectively, addressing contemporary issues with a solid theological foundation and practical insights.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Connect with like-minded individuals, mentors and professors who can support your growth and provide valuable opportunities for collaboration and learning.
- **Personal Growth:** Experience personal and spiritual growth through rigorous academic study, reflection and engagement with diverse perspectives within the Christian tradition.
- **Credentialing and Certification:** Many denominations and organizations require advanced theological education for credentialing and ordination, making a master's degree essential for career progression.
- **Career Advancement:** Whether you're already in ministry or planning to enter, a master's degree can open doors to higher positions and responsibilities within churches, nonprofits or educational institutions.
- **Global Perspectives:** Gain a broader understanding of global Christianity and learn how to engage in cross-cultural ministry effectively, preparing you for a diverse and interconnected world.



Program Highlights

Unit Count of Program: 48

- Crafted to **enrich your knowledge** and enhance your ability to adapt and innovate within varied cultural and community settings.
- Explore diverse **methodologies of ministry** that empower you to transform lives through a commitment to spiritual growth and holistic leadership.
- Join a **professional network** of seasoned ministers, church leaders and global experts.
- **Integrated and practical experiences** as you serve in a local church or ministry.
- **Fully accredited** by the Association of Theological Schools (www.ats.org) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (www.acswasc.org).
- **Bridge to Ministry Pathway** option available for undergraduate students considering a M.A. in Christian Ministry.
- **Offered on-site** at our Fresno main campus.

Shaping the Heart and Soul

From in-depth biblical exegesis to practical applications in contemporary ministry, each course is designed to enhance your leadership skills and equip you for impactful service. Explore a wide range of subjects that prepare you to engage thoughtfully and creatively in your spiritual and ministry roles. Through this program, you'll transform your passion for ministry into effective, life-changing leadership.

Master of Arts in Christian Ministry **Required Courses (48 units)**

Course Prefix	Required Courses	Units
Biblical and Theological Reflection (21 units)		
BIB 520	Church & God's Mission in the World	1.5-3
BIB 725	Understanding, Interpreting and Teaching Scripture	2-3
THEO 730	Discipleship and Ethics	1.5-3
BIB 750	Old Testament Theology	3
BIB 752	New Testament Theology	3
THEO 512	The Story of the Church and Its Theology	3
	Journeying Deep Into Scripture — Biblical Literature Elective	3
Personal and Holistic Formation (6 units)		
COUN 724	Interpersonal Communication and Family Systems	2-3
MIN 704	Discerning Vocation and Calling	1
MIN 712	The Charismatic Experience	1.5
MIN 714	Spirit, Character, and Transformation	1.5
Missional and Practical Application (16.5 units)		
MIN 553	Leading Organizations and Volunteers for Mission	3
MIN 718	Effective Contemporary Public Communication	3
THEO 719	Exploring Secular Culture & Connecting with Secular People	3
MIN 750D	Cross-Cultural Encounter: San Francisco	1.5
MIN 762	Exegeting and Serving Your Neighborhood	1.5
MIN 768	Serving Resiliently Through Crises and Trauma	1.5-3
MIN 793	The Practice of Ministry I	1.5
Integration and Specialization (4.5 units)		
	Specialization elective units	1.5
BIB 790CM	Senior Seminar - Christian Ministries	3
MIN 770CM	Ministry Discernment - Christian Ministry	0

The courses listed above provide a sample overview of our program. Please meet with your academic advisor or visit **fpu.edu/catalog** to finalize your course registration and sequence.

Application and Admission Information

To be considered for admission to the M.A. in Christian Ministry, please submit the following items:

- **Completed Application for Admission: fpu.edu/applysem**.
- **Official college/university transcript(s)** verifying receipt of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution and any postbaccalaureate work.
  - If you are currently finishing up your degree, please submit the current transcript.
    - A final transcript must be submitted before you enroll in classes.
  - If you have not completed a bachelor's degree and are applying for special admittance, send all official collegiate transcripts if applicable.
  - Transcripts can be sent electronically by your institution to **trans.evaluator@fresno.edu** or via mail in an envelope sealed by your institution to:

    Fresno Pacific University
    Office of Registrar
    1717 S. Chestnut Ave
    Fresno, CA 93702
- **If your cumulative GPA** for your bachelor's degree is below a 2.5 GPA (4.0 scale), a letter of explanation is required.
- **Reference Forms** - Two references are required for the M.A. in Christian Ministry Program. One spiritual reference from a pastor or other ministry leader (not a family member) and one academic reference.
  - After you submit your application, your listed references will be contacted via email with a link to provide their recommendation.
- **Writing Sample:** Submit a writing sample from your undergraduate education; this can be any paper submitted for a letter grade regardless of subject.
- International applicants must submit additional documentation including English Proficiency Score (TOEFL=minimum of 550 PBT or 79 iBT, IELTS=6.5), certified transcripts through an FPU approved service, copy of passport, visa information and a statement of financial support.

View our State Professional Licensing and Certificate Disclosure at **fpu.edu/about/disclosure-documents**

FRESNO PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

fpu.edu/Seminary

Office of Graduate Studies | Graduate.Studies@fresno.edu | 559-453-3690



6/2026