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ASSEMBLIES *of* GOD

THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY
Evangel University

**Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
Evangel University**

Master of Pastoral Leadership

The Master of Pastoral Leadership (MPL) is a 48-credit professional studies degree designed to provide advanced training for individuals desiring to enhance their ministry leadership skills. The MPL is an in-service degree, which does not require the program participants to leave their ministry contexts in order to complete their degree programs. As a professional degree, all of the learning experiences in the program focus on the practices of ministry in the program participants' ministry settings. The MPL will be delivered in a cohort model to create a strong peer learning community and also to provide the mutual support to encourage program completion.

MPL Degree Components and Requirements

The Master of Pastoral Leadership is designed for students who are currently active in vocational ministry and who have at least five years of ministry experience. Candidates who have completed a strong undergraduate program in religion will be admitted with an Advanced Standing status that reduces up to twelve credits in the program. Those who qualify will need to complete the remaining 36 credits in the two-year program of study. Candidates who do not meet the full complement of Advanced Standing credits may take the remaining courses through distance learning. (See *MPL Advanced Standing*). The general requirements for graduation apply as well.

BIBLE AND THEOLOGY CORE (12 CREDITS)¹

BIB 532	Hermeneutics	3
BNT 530	New Testament Introduction	3
BOT 530	Old Testament Introduction	3
THE 511	Christian Theology	

LEADERSHIP CORE (12 CREDITS)

PTH 511	Leading the Congregation to Health and Growth	3
PTH 512	Caring for the Congregation	3
PTH 521	Being and Building a Spirit-Led Community	3
PTH 522	Identity and Calling of the Spiritual Leader	3

COMMUNICATIONS CORE (9 CREDITS)

PTH 513	Effective Preaching in the Old Testament	3
PTH 514	Effective Preaching in the New Testament	3
RES 531	Theological Research & Writing	3

MISSIONAL CORE (12 CREDITS)

PTH 516	Contextualizing the Global and Local Mission of the Church	3
PTH 517	Engaging Ethical and Social Issues in the 21 st Century	3
PTH 622	Communicating Christian Faith in a Pluralistic Society	3
PTH 650	Building a Disciple-Making Ministry	3

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT COURSE (3 CREDITS)²

PTH 556	Field Education Research Project	3
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¹ See *MPL Advanced Standing guidelines*.

² See *Field Education Research Manual*.

MPL Advanced Standing

Students who have completed an undergraduate degree in religious studies from approved colleges and universities may be given Advanced Standing in the MPL degree program. (*See Coordinator of Seminary Registration and Degree Audit for further details.*)

The following rules apply to MPL Advanced Standing:

1. Advanced Standing cannot exceed twelve credits.
2. Advanced Standing is considered for undergraduate courses with satisfactory parallel content, provided the equivalent collegiate courses are double the credit value of the Seminary's courses. A minimum grade of B is required, and the student must be able to demonstrate competency in subject matter by presentation of an Advanced Standing Portfolio for each course for which Advanced Standing is desired. A fee of \$50 per course will be charged for each portfolio that is evaluated, regardless of whether or not the Advanced Standing is granted.
3. In addition to the Advanced Standing Portfolio required above, the student must submit a Ministry Portfolio documenting the biblical and theological content of their preaching and teaching ministry.
4. Advanced Standing should be requested prior to enrollment in the first course, but no later than the end of the student's first semester of study at AGTS. Requests should be submitted to the Office of Seminary Registration and Degree Audit.
5. Partial course Advanced Standing will not be granted.
6. If the student later takes a course where Advanced Standing has been granted, the Advanced Standing will be nullified.
7. Advanced Standing may be granted for the four courses in the Bible and Theology core: BIB 532, BNT 530, BOT 530, and THE 550.
8. All AGTS master students must complete their degree programs within a 10-year time limit, which includes any undergraduate courses used for Advanced Standing and any graduate courses transferred in from other schools. See the AGTS Office of Seminary Registration and Degree Audit for more information.