

**Course Descriptions for the Doctor of Ministry Degree
from the University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, IL
2023-2025**

Term	Dates	Topic/Course title & description
	April 10, 2023	Reading list & syllabus distribution for June courses
Summer 2023	Penultimate week of June-Residential Intensive	DM840 (3)-Self-Leadership: transformative ministerial integration This course is focused on helping the minister to acquire a deeper level of self-understanding. By focusing on how Christian leaders are first disciples of Christ, this course will help students learn additional skill for using their own spiritual and human realities to strengthen and energize their pastoral leadership.
Summer 2023	Last week of June-Residential Intensive	DM841 (3)-Ethics in Leadership This course focuses on the ethical challenges faced by today's pastoral leaders in a variety of environments. Students will learn to apply ethical principles drawn from the Tradition to their own pastoral contexts.
Fall 2023	Sept-Dec (Fall) Online	DM842 (3)- Christian Leadership in the Tradition This course will help students better understand how their ministry fits into the longer tradition of Christian leadership. Different models of Christian leadership will be discussed, so that students can harness the richness and diversity of the full Christian Tradition to improve their own ministry. This course will help students learn how to draw practical lessons and inspiration from the History of the Church.
	October	Reading list distribution for January Course
Spring 2024	2 nd Week of January-Residential Intensive	DM843 (3)-Christian Leadership and the Human Sciences Part of a dynamic ministry environment is a competent leader who builds teamwork, encourages others in leadership, can process challenging situations and offer support. This course will engage helpful skills from the social and human sciences that assist pastoral leaders in building effective and productive teams.
Spring 2024	Jan-April (Spring) Online	DM844 (3) -Thesis Research, Writing, and Methodologies This course will explain the Thesis Project process for the Doctor of Ministry. The course will also equip the students with the research and writing tools necessary to identify and harness important literature relevant to their project. The course will also introduce students to various methodologies common in D.Min research. Required topics: the basics of gathering quantitative data, how to gain a working knowledge of important literature in a particular field.
	March 1st	Reading list distributed
Summer 2024	Penultimate week of June-	DM845 (3) Christian Leadership and Scripture The foundation of all Christian action must be in Divine Revelation. This course will help students to gain access to models of leadership present in Scripture, especially in the prophets and the apostles. After

	Residential Intensive	learning to be better leaders in a Scriptural perspective, this course also emphasizes how to lead through the preaching of the Word, in both liturgical and non-liturgical settings.
Summer 2024	Last week of June-Residential Intensive	DM847 (3)-Ecclesial Leadership This course provides students with insights, current developments, and executive skills on becoming leaders in today's Church organizations and communities. Students will review the historical evolution of leadership models, recognize the value and challenges of applying secular models into the ministry setting, and develop pastoral leadership competencies by means of readings, experiential exercises, self-reflection, and feedback. This interdisciplinary designed course combines theory and application in order form "practitioner-scholars" who can provide enlightened leadership in parish ministry, service organizations, or educational institutions.
Fall 2024	Sept-Dec (Fall) online	DM846 (3)-Leadership in the Vision of Aparecida The Catholic Church today is a dynamic and growing religious community. Much of this growth is occurring in the global south. The creative insights from that region are not well known in the English-speaking world. The Aparecida document captures this vision for growth, focused on Mission and Evangelization. This course will address the vocation of the baptized to become missionary disciples of Jesus and how pastoral leaders can engage them in a process of formation for missionary discipleship. This course will also place the vision of Aparecida into dialogue with important emphases already present in North America such as New Evangelization and Intentional Disciples.
	Oct 1	Reading list distributed for Spring course
Spring 2025	2 nd Week of January-Residential Intensive	DM848 (3)-Leadership in an American Religious Context Effective leadership in the contemporary American religious and social context requires an ongoing effort to understand that context and deliberation about how to minister most effectively in it. Doing so successfully entails consideration of its history, the broader economic, cultural and religious trends (key inter-faith relationships), the ethos, and the developing pastoral challenges and dynamics. This course will provide the opportunity to both become more familiar with some of the most important aspects of our social and religious context and to discuss strategies to minister most effectively in it.
	January Intensive TBD	Interview with Director or Associate Director about Thesis project during final on-site visit.
Spring 2025	April 15, 2025	Thesis proposal DUE
Spring 2025	April 1 deadline	DM849 (3)- Doctoral Thesis Project