MINISTRY (D.MIN.)

This hybrid program offers both on-campus and online coursework.

The Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) is a professional doctorate that represents advanced academic study in the practice of ministry. Doctor of Ministry studies are intended for experienced ministers to deepen capacities for skillful service, for the benefit of the minister and those in their care. At the same time, D.Min. studies place students in a larger community of discourse where they are able to learn from and contribute to research in the practice of ministry.

The curriculum facilitates a practical theological itinerary in which various fields contribute to ministerial awareness and action, including spirituality, pastoral care and counseling, religious education, and theological studies.

The Catholic and Jesuit heritage of Fordham resides in the Doctor of Ministry through curricular emphases, a prevailing pedagogy, attention to spiritual growth, and commitment to justice. Coursework puts Catholic tradition in dialogue with diverse traditions in the interest of personal integrity, ministerial know-how, and intellectual rigor.

The Doctor of Ministry currently offers two concentrations: Generalist and Spirituality.

In keeping with current standards of theological education, D.Min. students will gain an “advanced understanding of the nature and purposes of ministry, enhanced competencies in pastoral analysis and ministerial skills, the integration of these dimensions into the theologically reflective practice of ministry, new knowledge about the practice of ministry, continued growth in spiritual maturity, and development and appropriation of a personal and professional ethic with focused study on ethical standards and mature conduct in the profession.” (Association of Theological Schools, Commission on Accreditation, Degree Program Standards)

Learning outcomes include:

- facility in relating research to ministerial practice (competence in translation between scholarship and action);
- demonstrating the capacity to reconstruct practice (competence in attention to and revision of ministerial performance);
- skillful theological reflection concerning practice (competence in making sense of ministry as theological material);
- facility in reflecting on maturity across professional and personal domains in relation to academic studies (competence in demonstrating integration).