

Church Leadership Excellence

Wesley Theological Seminary Doctor of Ministry Program

Students in Wesley Seminary's Doctor of Ministry track in Church Leadership Excellence receive the enhanced knowledge, skills, and motivation to lead churches to increased service, vitality, and growth. This track focuses on the personal development and public practices of those called to lead the church toward the vision of God's reign. Students examine the biblical, theological, and ethical foundations of ministry through the lens of leadership to enhance their own fruitful practice of leadership. A serious engagement with contemporary secular leadership studies is held in tension with rigorous theological exploration. The combined resources of the Wesley faculty, the Lewis Center for Church Leadership, and exemplary practitioners bring depth and energy to this track.



Projected course schedule and faculty:

May 7-10, 2024: Leadership and the Role of a Consultant in a Liminal Season – Susan Beaumont, Consultant, Author, Coach, and Spiritual Director, Susan Beaumont and Associates.

Oct. 23-Dec. 6, 2024 (Online): Leading in a Digital Age – Rev. Olu Brown, Author, Coach, Consultant, and Speaker.

Jan. 6-10, 2025: Leading in the Midst of Trauma – Dr. Michael S. Koppel, Howard Chandler Robbins Professor of Pastoral Theology and Congregational Care, Wesley Theological Seminary.

May 13-16, 2025: Sustaining While Disrupting: Leading a Post Pandemic Church – Dr. Lovett H. Weems Jr., Distinguished Professor of Church Leadership and Senior Consultant, Lewis Center for Church Leadership, Wesley Theological Seminary. The course includes a lecture by Tom Berlin on creating a post pandemic vision/mission.

May 19-23, 2025: Leadership in the Bible – Dr. Denise Dombkowski Hopkins, Professor of Hebrew Bible and Woodrow W. and Mildred B. Miller Professor of Biblical Theology, Wesley Theological Seminary.

Oct. 20-Dec. 5, 2025 (Online): Faith Formation through Digital Context – Dr. Tim Snyder, Adjunct Faculty, Wesley Theological Seminary.

Jan. 5-9, 2026: Leading in a Pluralistic Culture – Dr. F. Douglas Powe Jr., Director, Lewis Center for Church Leadership and James C. Logan Chair in Evangelism (an E. Stanley Jones Professorship), Wesley Theological Seminary. The course includes a lecture by Kenda Creasy Dean on innovating for the Post Pandemic Church.

In addition, students must take the project seminar and two elective courses for a total of 30 credit hours. The project seminar is offered several times over the course of the academic year; students must complete 24 credit hours before enrolling in the project seminar. Two electives may be taken in classroom, online, or study trips. Anticipated date of graduation is May 2026.

Apply by February 15. For more information:

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