

Pacific School *of* Religion

Criteria for determining Doctoral Level coursework and Expectations for DMin Theses: ¹

All PSR DMin Independent Reading Courses (SRC 9999) upgraded Masters' level courses (SRC 8888) and DMin theses are expected to meet the following criteria for Doctoral level academic work for this professional doctoral degree. The purpose of stating these in writing is to strengthen the program by creating a list of criteria the Faculty can use in designing DMin level courses, guiding reading courses by DMin students, and supervising DMin theses.

Requires/shows integration of professional, spiritual and intellectual aspects

Gives evidence of spiritual discipline or rule of life, and spiritual awareness of life in community

Gives evidence of professional skill in preaching, pastoral care, community organizing etc.

Gives evidence of extensive study of theology and society

Requires/shows ability to critically analyze aspects of the practice of ministry

Contextual awareness and analysis of texts and traditions as well as the contemporary context has depth and breadth, built on experience as well as study

Comfortable familiar use of religious texts and traditions

Articulation of the nature and purpose of ministry grounded in coherent theological position showing conversation with a broad range of theological positions and in-depth understanding of at least one of them.

Requires/shows mastery of advanced levels of knowledge

Familiarity with literature more extensive than basic textbooks or a few classic articles

Ability to articulate the techniques and rationale of a method of study or application of a theory

Ability to present a theologically coherent analysis of a problem of ministry

Requires/shows integration of the many dimensions of ministry

The work shows how any one aspect of ministry has to be considered by reference to its integration with other aspects

The work is interdisciplinary

Requires/shows work in partnership with others

The work shows evidence of collaboration with others; a community, colleagues in ministry, or other organizations

The work presents a critical awareness of the author's point of view in critical awareness of other points of view

The work shows evidence of awareness and sensitivity to relationships of economic class, power, culture, race, gender and/or sexual identity

Requires/shows experience in concrete application of theological insights, theory, and methods of research to achieve some effective change: in the practice of ministry, in the quality of a religious community, in the solution to a problem, or some similar project

The difference can be observed in the work of the religious leader or in the life of the community

The meaning of the change is evident to the community

This may only be apparent sometime after the completion of the degree

¹ These criteria are a combination of ATS standards for the DMin degree and our articulation of the learning outcomes for this degree.