



Eastern Regional Conference Pastoral Training Institute Program Manual

This manual contains relevant information concerning policies and procedures for the Pastoral Training Institute program offered in the Eastern Regional Conference by Winebrenner Theological Seminary. The manual will be revised as necessary (effective Fall 2010).

PASTORAL TRAINING INSTITUTE EASTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE (CGGC)

Purpose

The PTI program, an off-campus program supervised by Winebrenner Theological Seminary (WTS), is designed for CGGC candidates for pastoral ministry who are at least 25 years of age and are serving in, or interested in, a church vocation ministry. The PTI is also designed for laypersons seeking to enhance their biblical knowledge and/or pastoral skills. No prior college preparation is necessary for students enrolling in the PTI but students with post-secondary academic work may be exempt from certain courses.

Outcomes

WTS has established student learning outcomes for all programs with a focus on knowing (practice generosity), being (seek wholeness), and doing (live missionally). The following PTI program outcomes correspond with these student learning outcomes:

- PTI graduates demonstrate an essential understanding of biblical, spiritual, theological, historical, and Christian ministry disciplines in a spirit of generous evangelicalism.
- PTI graduates demonstrate a commitment to formation that is holistic and manifested in their character as leaders.
- PTI graduates demonstrate compassion, theological self-identity, and wisdom in their ministry praxis.

Admission Requirements

Students taking courses for academic credit in pursuit of a diploma in pastoral training will be admitted to the PTI program on the approval of the Admissions Committee. Receipt of a completed application form, application fee, and a high school transcript or academic record is required prior to the committee's review and decision. A high school diploma or its equivalent is required for admission.

Curriculum

Half of the courses in the PTI program based in the Eastern Regional Conference (ERC) will be taught in ERC church facilities. Some of the PTI courses will be taught in conjunction with the one-week PTI intensives that are offered in the Allegheny Region Conference. Instructors will be approved by the seminary. The program utilizes seminary faculty as instructors in addition to adjunct instructors who are qualified Churches of God pastors from the ERC. Selected courses will be offered in a modular, weeklong format. In each course, students will receive a syllabus detailing the objectives, learning activities, and requirements for the course. Seminary staff will provide guidance for the development of PTI syllabi.

Delivery System

There are 13 three-credit hour courses that comprise 39 credit hours of classroom instruction. The PTI 020-080 Mentored Ministry courses are seven one-credit hour courses that occur each spring (February-April) and fall (September-November) semester and one course in Foundations in Theological Studies (one-credit). The Supervised Ministry course (3 credit hours) is a year-long experience completed in the last year. Every student is assigned a mentor for support, guidance, accountability, and dialogue on her or his personal and ministry formation. There is a minimum requirement of 6 students enrolled for credit in any course; directed study options may be implemented when there are less than 6 students.

- Courses will follow a four-year rotation cycle
- WTS Modules will meet for a week-long course at Camp YoliJwa, Doubling Gap Center, PA.
- Hybrid Modules combine two weekends of instruction at a central PA location plus directed-study projects.
- Semester courses will meet for at least 12 sessions (2.5 hours of instruction each session) at an ERC location.
- WTS intensives will meet for one week at the Findlay campus.
- There is no need for students to relocate for participation in this program.

Registration Process

Students in the PTI program are required to maintain an e-mail account and to keep the seminary informed of changes in their e-mail addresses in addition to their home addresses. E-mail is a vital means of communication between the seminary, the PTI instructors, and the students. Periodic e-mails are sent from the seminary to the students which include information on upcoming classes and other items of interest. Students are encouraged to contact the seminary registrar, either by telephone or e-mail, with any questions and to register for classes.

Course Grade

A letter grade of **A – F** may be given for courses that are exclusively PTI courses. A minimum grade of **C-** is required to meet the minimum hour requirement for the PTI. A required course in which a **D** is received may or may not need to be repeated at the discretion of the faculty. A required course in which an **F** is received must be repeated. Plusses and minuses are regularly assigned.

PTI and Graduate Course Evaluation

Students in this program will take CGGC History and Polity with Winebrenner Seminary graduate students. PTI students will be given a **Pass** or **Fail** evaluation of their work in this class. Students registered for credit will be required to fulfill all requirements of the course syllabus and earn the equivalent course grade of **C-** in order to pass the course and receive credit.

Supervised Ministry

Students demonstrate the integration of their previous and current seminary course work with the practice of ministry under direct supervision. Students will spend one year doing the work of ministry in an approved parish or non-parish site or setting, and through the preparation of written case studies engage in a theologically reflective practice of ministry. Supervised Ministry draws upon the best principles and practices of adult education such as learning contracts, collegial dialogue and interaction, peer consultation, and self review. Various methods will be used to evaluate students' personal and professional growth. Supervision and evaluation are important elements of field education and are formally arranged between the student, the course instructor, and the on-site supervisor in a ministry context in the ERC.

Program Continuation

Students are required to maintain endorsement by their local church and regional administration (if applicable) in order to continue in their program. In the event that such endorsement is withdrawn at any time during the student's enrollment at WTS, the student may be discharged from the Seminary and an indication of the action will be noted on the student's permanent transcript.

Requirements for Graduation

The student must complete 50 credit hours to graduate. The seminary confers the PTI diploma on those students who have met the requirements for graduation, have been recommended by the Faculty, and are approved by the Board of Trustees.

WTS Contact Information

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Course Offerings

Pastoral Training Institute

PTI 010-OL	Foundations in Theological Studies	1
PTI 020-080	Mentored Ministry	7
PTI 104	Old Testament Foundations	3
PTI 106	New Testament Foundations	3
PTI 151	Church in Mission	3
PTI 152	The Ministerial Person	3
PTI 208	A Survey of the History of Christianity	3
PTI 209	A Survey of Christian Theology	3
PTI 251	Christian Leadership	3
PTI 252	Pastoral Care and Counseling	3
PTI 253	Homiletics	3
PTI 254	Discipleship Ministries	3
PTI 257	Christian Worship	3
PTI 355	Churches of God History and Polity	3
PTI 374	Spiritual Formation	3
PTI 486-OL	Supervised Ministry	3
Total credit hours		50

Suggested Course Sequence

Pastoral Training Institute

Courses cycle through a 4-year rotation sequence which allows students to enter at any time in the program.

FIRST YEAR

January	WTS Module	PTI 152 The Ministerial Person
Spring	Hybrid Module	PTI 151 Church in Mission
Fall	Semester	PTI 254 Discipleship Ministries

SECOND YEAR

January	WTS Module	PTI 104 Old Testament Foundations
Spring	Semester	PTI 257 Christian Worship
Fall	Hybrid Module	PTI 374 Spiritual Formation

THIRD YEAR

January	WTS Module	PTI 208 A Survey of the History of Christianity
Spring	Semester	PTI 251 Christian Leadership
Summer	Semester	Begin PTI 486-OL Supervised Ministry
Fall	Semester	PTI 106 New Testament Foundations Continue PTI 486-OL Supervised Ministry

FOURTH YEAR

January	WTS Module	PTI 209 A Survey of Christian Theology
Spring	Semester	PTI 253 Homiletics Conclude PTI 486-OL Supervised Ministry
Fall	Semester	PTI 252 Pastoral Care & Counseling

Other required course:

Every May	WTS Intensive	PTI 355 Churches of God History & Polity
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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PTI 010-OL Foundations in Theological Studies

Students demonstrate understanding of graduate level theological research, critical thinking, writing, and computer skills through completion of a sequence of assignments based on the Annual Theological Theme. They complete initial institutional requirements, are incorporated into the seminary community, and become proficient in using academic tools and facilities. This course is the prerequisite for PTI 020 and must be scheduled during the initial semester of matriculation for all PTI students. *(1 hour)*

PTI 020-080 Mentored Ministry

Students demonstrate understanding of and willingness to evaluate their ministry preparation and reflect on their call, their academic progress, and their ministerial readiness by engaging in regular prayer and guided conversation with a qualified mentor. Time commitment equals 15 hours per term, for a total of 105 over the program. *(1 hour)* [Students complete seven Mentored Ministry courses.]

PTI 104 Old Testament Foundations

Students demonstrate understanding of the major divisions of the Hebrew Scriptures: the Torah, the Prophets, and the Writings. They learn the basic types of genres through study of classic texts. Students also evidence comprehension of the Messianic promise as it is developed chronologically through the Old Testament. *(3 hours)*

PTI 106 New Testament Foundations

Students demonstrate understanding of the writings of the New Testament in view of their content, origin, literary form, theological value, and practical application. *(3 hours)*

PTI 151 Church in Mission

Students demonstrate understanding of God's mission of reconciliation and the role of the Church in fulfilling its missional calling via the gospel of Jesus Christ. They study missiological issues from biblical, theological, historical, ecclesiological, and cultural perspectives. Students implement faithful, holistic, and appropriate approaches in emergent and pluralistic contexts.

(3 hours)

PTI 152 The Ministerial Person

Students demonstrate understanding of their knowledge of, and attitudes toward, formative spirituality as it pertains to personal spiritual formation, emotional well being, the call to vocational ministry, care of the physical body, and the use of time. They engage in formative experiences through which they assess their progress toward personal wholeness. *(3 hours)*

PTI 208 A Survey of the History of Christianity

Students demonstrate understanding of the general flow of Christian history (both East and West), from Pentecost to the present, including major figures and events. Some themes to be examined in greater detail include theological controversies, creeds, councils, Christianity and state, monasticism, liturgy, the marginalized, socio-political changes, calls for reform, modernity, globalization, and contemporary ecumenical dialogue. This course will look at the implications the history of Christianity has for life and thought today. *(3 hours)*

PTI 209 A Survey of Christian Theology

Students demonstrate an introductory understanding of the central teachings of the Christian faith (East and West). Through a theological framework of creation, fall, redemption, and eschaton, this brief survey will focus on special topics, including the sources and norms of Christian belief, the Trinity, the incarnation, humanity, sin, salvation, the Church, and the last things. Students also learn and practice theological thinking as regards unity and diversity. *(3 hours)*

PTI 251 Christian Leadership

Students demonstrate understanding of the principles and practices essential to leadership. They formulate a biblical basis for congregational mission, vision, and ministry, analyze personal and congregational strategies for ministry, and utilize administrative models designed for congregational management. Students demonstrate willingness to view all persons as called to ministry by equipping them for ministry. *(3 hours)*

PTI 252 Pastoral Care and Counseling

Students demonstrate understanding of a biblical, theological, and theoretical base for pastoral care and counseling. They demonstrate a pastoral attitude toward caring, an appreciation for the centrality of biblical wisdom in pastoral care and counseling, and the ability to discern between appropriate and inappropriate issues, approaches, and techniques applicable to providing Christian care and counseling. *(3 hours)*

PTI 253 Homiletics

Students demonstrate understanding of a theology of preaching and the application of exegesis and hermeneutics in developing biblical sermons suitable for contemporary settings. They identify the biblical and theological basis for preaching; explore the nature of contemporary settings in which preaching takes place; and, prepare, deliver, and critique sermons. *(3 hours)*

PTI 254 Discipleship Ministries

Students demonstrate understanding of the biblical principles and methodology for developing, motivating and equipping people to become mature disciples. They will explore and apply contextualized models in a current ministry setting. *(3 hours)*

PTI 257 Christian Worship

Students demonstrate understanding of the principles and processes of designing and leading corporate Christian worship. They develop a biblical theology of worship that expresses itself in the practice of Christian worship; examine the background and practice of various styles of worship; design and lead worship services that are theologically and contextually appropriate; and administer the ordinances/sacraments. (3 hours)

PTI 355 Churches of God History and Polity

Students demonstrate understanding of the history of the Churches of God, General Conference. They analyze the origins, doctrinal developments, major trends, and contributions of key leaders of the denomination. Students also study the polity and the distinctive doctrine in the life of the Churches of God, General Conference. They define church polity, describe the nature and importance of the ordinances, and identify available denominational resources. (3 hours)

PTI 374 Spiritual Formation

Students demonstrate understanding of and commitment to personal spiritual formation. They practice the inward and outward disciplines of the spiritual life, participate in a formation group, and in acts of service. Students demonstrate understanding of the Christian leader's role in guiding the spiritual formation of a Christian community by leading a spiritual formation group. (3 hours)

PTI 486-OL Supervised Ministry

Students demonstrate the integration of their previous and current seminary course work with the practice of ministry under direct supervision in an Internship. Students will spend 3 trimesters doing the work of ministry in an approved parish or non-parish site or setting, and through the preparation of written case studies engage in a theologically reflective practice of ministry. Supervised Ministry draws upon the best principles and practices of adult education such as learning contracts, collegial dialogue and interaction, peer consultation, and self review. Various methods will be used to evaluate students' personal and professional growth. (3 hours) [This course is delivered online with weekly assignments and postings.]