

**NEW YORK SCHOOL OF MINISTRY  
CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

This program is for persons who desire to serve local churches in some capacity of leadership. It is grounded in courses in the Bible, theology, and church history, while allowing participants to focus on an area of interest: Pastoral Leadership, Christian Education, Pastoral Care, or Worship and Church Music. This program, with a focus on Pastoral Leadership, is the standard preparation for individuals discerning a call to licensed ministry. It is designed to be completed in three to four years.

**Pre-Requisites**

1. Letter of Recommendation from home church
2. High School Diploma or equivalent

**Requirements with a focus on Pastoral Leadership (preparation for licensed ministry)**

1. Completion of the following twelve 20-hour courses:
  - Old Testament I & II
  - New Testament I & II
  - History of the Christian Church: from Resurrection to Reformation
  - Introduction to Christian Theology
  - American Church History
  - UCC History & Polity
  - Liturgy & Worship
  - Pastoral Care
  - Congregational Life
  - Ethics
2. Eighteen meetings with a mentor for discernment conversations.
3. Completion of Boundary Awareness Training
4. Attendance at three NYSOM fall learning events and three NYSOM spring learning events.
5. Completion of one year of supervised ministry. At least six months of this ministry must be of a pastoral nature in a local church setting. Supervised Ministry must take place in a setting other than the participant's home church.

**Requirements with a focus on Christian Education (to be completed before the Advanced Christian Leadership Program, as preparation for commissioned ministry)**

1. Completion of the following nine 20-hour courses:
  - Old Testament I & II
  - New Testament I & II
  - History of the Christian Church: from Resurrection to Reformation
  - Introduction to Christian Theology
  - American Church History
  - UCC History & Polity
  - Ethics

2. Completion of two courses in Christian education. These courses may be either independent studies or courses in a classroom setting. If a Christian education course is taken over an entire semester through an accredited seminary, it will count as two 20-hour courses.
3. Eighteen meetings with a mentor for discernment conversations.
4. Completion of Boundary Awareness Training
5. Attendance at three NYSOM fall learning events and three NYSOM spring learning events.
6. Completion of one year of supervised ministry. At least six months of this ministry must involve providing Christian education in a local church setting. Supervised Ministry must take place in a setting other than the participant's home church.

**Requirements with a focus on Pastoral Care (to be completed before the Advanced Christian Leadership Program, as preparation for commissioned ministry)**

1. Completion of the following nine 20-hour courses:
  - Old Testament I & II
  - New Testament I & II
  - History of the Christian Church: from Resurrection to Reformation
  - Introduction to Christian Theology
  - American Church History
  - UCC History & Polity
  - Ethics
2. Completion of two 20-hour courses in pastoral care.
3. Eighteen meetings with a mentor for discernment conversations.
4. Completion of Boundary Awareness Training
5. Attendance at three NYSOM fall learning events and three NYSOM spring learning events.
6. Completion of one year of supervised ministry. At least six months of this ministry must involve providing pastoral care. Supervised Ministry must take place in a setting other than the participant's home church.

**Requirements with a focus on Worship and Church Music (to be completed before the Advanced Christian Leadership Program, as preparation for commissioned ministry)**

1. Completion of the following ten 20-hour courses:
  - Old Testament I & II
  - New Testament I & II
  - History of the Christian Church: from Resurrection to Reformation
  - Introduction to Christian Theology
  - American Church History
  - UCC History & Polity

Liturgy & Worship  
Ethics

2. Completion of another course or independent study in the area of worship/liturgy.
3. Eighteen meetings with a mentor for discernment conversations.
4. Completion of Boundary Awareness Training
5. Attendance at three NYSOM fall learning events and three NYSOM spring learning events.
6. Completion of one year of supervised ministry. At least six months of this ministry must involve planning and leading worship. Supervised Ministry must take place in a setting other than the participant's home church.

*Many of the course requirements for Pastoral Leadership, Christian Education, and Pastoral Care may be met by completing the Certificate Program in Christian Ministry at New York Theological Seminary. Many of the course requirements for Pastoral Leadership or Pastoral Care may be met by completing the Lay Theological Education Program at Capital Region Theological Center, Albany.*

**Tuition**

The tuition for the 2015-16 academic year is \$500 for NY Conference participants (\$525 for the 2016-17 academic year). As the program is designed to take a minimum of three years, annual tuition will be charged for only three years. The tuition is payable in annual or semi-annual installments. Tuition compensates mentors and supervisors. Tuition must be paid in full before a Christian Leadership certificate is granted. The cost of each New York School of Ministry course for NY Conference participants is \$250. For participants outside the NY Conference the cost is \$275 (plus the Distance Learning Support fee: \$69 per 20-hour course or \$133 per semester). Financial aid is available.