

Pastoral Ministry

The Pastoral Ministry major prepares students to serve in general pastoral ministry or as a future member of a church planting team. Graduates will understand and experience the basic roles of a pastor/shepherd such as preaching, teaching, leading, pastoral care and church planting. It also lays a foundation for seminary/graduate study.

What Type of Work are Related to this Degree?

- Campus ministry
- Christian education
- Evangelism
- Missions
- Ministry coordination
- Pastoral roles, preaching, teaching, discipleship
- Para-church ministry
- Christian education curriculum development
- Humanitarian aid worker
- Social/human services worker or case manager
- Camp administration and ministry
- Fund raising for faith based organizations
- Disaster/aid relief worker
- Residential counselor
- Chaplaincy (with additional training)

Who employs people with this degree?

- Christian camps
- Christian colleges
- Educational programs (non-licensure)
- Denominational offices
- Government
- Local churches
- Mission agencies
- Para-church organizations
- Prisons
- Health care organizations
- Nursing homes
- Seminaries
- National/international humanitarian aid organizations
- Christian service organizations
- Curriculum and publishing companies

More information at [ONETonline.org](https://www.onetonline.org)

General Strategies for Success:

- Many transferable skills such as analyzing and synthesizing data, research, communication skills and critical thinking are associated with this degree.
- Expertise in ministry can be a plus for secular work environments as well as more traditional ones.
- The undergraduate degree prepares students for professional and graduate study in seminary, business, law, medicine, counseling, higher education and other fields. Be sure to check for prerequisite classes needed to enter various graduate programs.
- Pastoral ministry students can often volunteer in shelters, correctional facilities, nursing homes, or healthcare organizations under the supervision of a chaplain. This kind of experience will assist you in discerning career direction.
- Obtaining relevant experience through internships or volunteer experiences is critical to finding employment opportunities. Dual majors or minors can also help open the door in some fields.
- Early in your career you may need to supplement ministry income with other work.

Professional Associations

National Association of Evangelicals
American Association of Pastoral Counselors (AAPC)
American Protestant Correctional Chaplains Association (APCCA)
Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE)
Association of Professional Chaplains International Conference of Police Chaplains (ICPC)
National Institute of Business and Industrial Chaplaincy (NIBIC)
Evangelical Theological Society
Christian Camp and Conference Association

This information represents possible occupations and strategies for careers with this major. As with any job or career, there may be additional qualifications or experience needed. For more information and options, make an appointment with Career & Leadership Development or check out our online resources on our website or on myUNW, Career & Leadership Development tab.