



Ambassador College of Christian Ministry

Equipping for Ministry



# Diploma of Christian Ministry

A denominational initiative of Grace Communion International

<http://www.ambacol.org>



# ACCM: Diploma of Christian Ministry

... an exciting opportunity for spiritual growth  
and equipping for Christian service

Do you want to better understand God's Word? Want to know the Triune God more deeply? Want to share more joyously in the life of the Father, Son and Spirit? Want to be better equipped to serve others?

Among the many resources that Grace Communion International offers are the learning and development opportunities provided by ACCM. This quality, well structured Christian Ministry curriculum has the advantage of being very practical and flexible. Students may study at their own pace, without having to leave home to undertake full-time study.



"I have been filled completely and highly blessed by the classes. I recommend them to all! Thank you for the opportunity to study God's word in such a way."

This denominationally recognized program is available for both credit and audit study. At minimum cost, the online Diploma Program will help students gain important insights and training in effective ministry service. Students will also enjoy a rich resource for personal study that will deepen their understanding and enhance their relationship with the Triune God.

Diploma of Christian Ministry courses provide an excellent introductory program for new and bi-vocational pastors. Pastor General Dr. Joseph Tkach said, "We believe we have achieved the goal of designing Christian ministry training that is practical, accessible, interesting, and doctrinally and theologically mature and sound. This program provides an ideal foundation for effective Christian ministry."

## Benefits of studying with ACCM:

- \* **Trinitarian** – develop a foundation in Christ-centered theology
- \* **Equip & Enrich** – deepen your formation in Christ and develop your God-given strengths to serve others
- \* **Flexible** – start and finish classes according to your circumstances. We are here to help!
- \* **Convenient** – study from home via the internet or join a local group learning weekend
- \* **Practical** – classes are interesting and practical, with both knowledge and skill development opportunities
- \* **Options** – study for credit (assessment) or audit (no assessment)
- \* **Quality** – integrating years of pastoral experience, quality research and clear, insightful writing from a Trinitarian perspective

"Thank you for your service in providing this education in the most vital matters in life - to know Jesus and to serve him ... An answer to my prayer for spiritual growth and equipping for service."



# ACCM: Diploma of Christian Ministry

Practical Christian Ministry ... Spiritual Formation  
... Understanding the Bible ... Leadership

Course	Overview
<b>Doctrines</b>	This class is designed to provide an overview of the major doctrines of Grace Communion International. Students will be introduced to the GCI Statement of Beliefs and spend time with the scriptural passages and the theological background behind key statements contained within it.
<b>Jesus and the Gospels</b>	Who is Jesus? This course explores the revelation of the Father in Jesus Christ. We consider Jesus' life, death, resurrection and ascension, and reflect on both the method and message of his teachings contained in the Gospels. With attention to good principles of Bible study and exegesis, we discover Jesus more deeply and personally as "the way, the truth and the life", the One who came in human form to not only show us the Father, but unite us with the Triune God.
<b>Spiritual Formation</b>	This course equips students in the process of spiritual formation as a lifelong transforming and learning experience that emerges from our communion with Christ and forms the basis of Christian ministry. Spiritual formation involves the joyful sharing and participation in the life and love of the Father, Son and Spirit. All of our lives, individually and in communion together, are "in Christ".
<b>Christian Leadership</b>	What is Christian leadership? Who is a leader? This course is designed to help those involved in various areas of Christian leadership and ministry to be better equipped to take on the wide variety of challenges and opportunities leadership provides. Students will explore the theological foundations of leadership, and be encouraged to consider and reflect on the many dimensions Christian leadership encompasses, while being challenged to find ways of applying what they learn in their own areas of service to God and his people.
<b>Survey of the Bible</b>	Take the grand tour of this magnificent Book. Get to know some of the Bible's heroes and villains. Learn about the "land flowing with milk and honey", about why pagan religions were so attractive to the Israelites and why the scribes and Pharisees got so mad at Jesus - and why he got mad at the small businessmen trying to make a shekel at the Temple. Develop a clear and cogent story-flow for this massive and sometimes confusing Book of books while providing interesting and helpful insights into the culture, customs, geography and major themes of the Old and New Testaments.
<b>Effective Communication</b>	This practical course helps students understand the essentials of the communication process, identify potential communication problems, construct productive approaches to communication, and develop strategies to develop effective communication skills. Students can benefit from this course in their personal and family lives, in their learning, and in their career development and their ministry.
<b>Worship</b>	In this course we will focus on our invitation to enter into the Trinitarian life and live as the Body of Christ. As much of our thinking about worship mistakenly revolves around what we do, we will instead explore some of the ways that we can share in what Christ - our true worship leader - desires to accomplish with us, in us and through us as the Spirit works.
<b>Preaching</b>	The classes are crafted logically around the 3-part preaching process of: •God and the Text •Preaching and the Preacher •The Audience/congregation. Replete with thought-provoking material from a wide variety of renowned Christian preachers and useful books and web resources, this course is a valuable tool for anyone drawn to preaching the Word of God to the People of God. Particular emphasis is given to biblically-sound expository preaching.
<b>Pastoral Care</b>	An introduction to the experience of pastoring as the writers of the Bible saw it - and as ministers experience it. Organization, ethics, mandates and boundaries are also discussed, as is facilitating the ministry of all believers. High practicality and immediate usability are the goals. Sharing more deeply in the ministry of Jesus Christ is the outcome.
<b>Applied Christian Ministry</b>	By the time you've reached this level of your diploma program, you've already given significantly of yourself in service to your faith community. The Applied Christian Ministry project provides an excellent opportunity for this to continue. You can now bring to bear, in one focused venture, the learning accumulated in your courses, including the skills you've acquired, the network of colleagues you've created in class discussions and your pastoral supervisor(s) who have been involved in both your learning experiences and assessments.

# ACCM Q & A

## Who can take ACCM courses?

Anyone who wants to! No prior qualification is needed and there is no age barrier. Courses can be taken for assessment (credit towards denominational recognition) or can simply be audited (not assessed) for personal study. The courses are designed both to equip people for service in local church ministries and to enrich each individual's personal journey of faith.

## What recognition will the program offer?

Those completing the course will receive a denominational Diploma. While the Diploma of Christian Ministry is not an externally accredited program (and thus the units of study are not transferable to other programs), it is a quality program designed particularly to meet the needs of men and women without prior seminary training for serving voluntary, part-time, or new ministry roles within the church.

## How can I enroll?

You can enroll online at [www.ambascol.org](http://www.ambascol.org)

## What will it cost?

Online courses undertaken for assessment (credit) are \$150. Courses for personal study (audit) are \$100.

## How long do courses take to complete?

The courses are designed to allow a person in full-time employment to complete the material comfortably within six months. However, we are very aware of the load many people carry in ministry, so the courses are designed to be flexible and allow students to start and finish according to their own schedules.

## How difficult is the assessment?

The assessments are designed to reinforce learning and development. In many cases assessments will directly complement or flow from your regular service to the church.

In some subjects you will be asked to write two or three short papers (500-1,000 words) about the key issues raised in the class. In other courses there may be sets of questions from the lessons and readings, or practical exercises to complete - usually designed to integrate with your current service within your spiritual community.



## What do ACCM's students say?

"Thank you for your service in providing this education in the most vital matters in life - to know Jesus and to serve him ... An answer to my prayer for spiritual growth and equipping for service."

"Your comments showed not only academic skills, but also concern for me as a believer struggling to nurture Christ within me."

"This is a really awesome study. I'm on my third class."

"I would like to express my gratitude for the opportunity to be a student of ACCM. I have found the course spiritually enriching. It has given me a better idea of my place in the church. It has strengthened my resolve to serve God and use the gifts he has given to me. I have an added awareness that the spiritual disciplines build a deeper relationship with our Great God. I would certainly recommend it to all our church members, preferably for credit, as this process added immensely to the value of the course for me."

"I am very appreciative that we are able to take this program. It should make me a better Christian and better prepare me for lay ministry."

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