

Church Ministries

Program Review

Program Overview

1.1 Description of Mission/Alignment to University Mission

The Church Ministries Program is intended for men and women who sense a vocational call to roles of leadership within churches in the Pentecostal/charismatic tradition. Those who major in Church Ministries will likely serve in a variety of pastoral ministries including lead, executive, church planting, discipleship, evangelism, even youth and children. The major is the most recent version of a degree that was offered since the inception of Central Bible Institute in 1922.

The major focuses on developing the student to be competent in leading the vital ministries of the church which are evangelism, discipleship, worship, and compassion. A solid biblical/theological foundation is laid for these ministries and the development of leadership and people skills are included to assist in the students' success. The matters of spiritual formation and Spirit-empowerment are interwoven into the program as well. The Church Ministries Major helps fulfill Evangel University's mission to educate and equip Spirit-empowered leaders who impact the Church and society globally.

1.2 History/Unique Characteristics

The current Church Ministries Program existed in an earlier form prior to the consolidation of Evangel University, Central Bible College and the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary. It was one of four programs from Central Bible College that were preserved and existed for three years within the Church Ministries Department. Beginning with the 2016/17 academic year, it became part of the combined department consisting of Church Ministries, Biblical Studies and Intercultural majors. The initial changes were agreed upon by the working group made up of Central Bible College, Evangel University and Assemblies of God Theological Seminary faculty in 2013. The current Evangel University Church Ministries Program began in the Fall/2013 semester. The program also includes a concentration and a minor.

The Church Ministries Major exists in three tracks; Leadership, Preaching and Children and Family. The Church Ministries in Leadership Track and the Church Ministries in Preaching Track mirror one another with each possessing four courses that are unique. In addition, the Capstone Project is also unique in that one requires a Ministry/Leadership Calendar and one a calendar that is solely oriented to Preaching. Each degree track is offered in both the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science versions.

1.3 Four Year Enrollment Trend

Since all versions of the Church Ministries Program have only been in existence for four years or less, there exists relatively limited enrollment data. The enrollment trend is as follows:

The Church Ministries in Leadership Track

2013----37
2014----22
2015----23
2016----29

The Church Ministries in Preaching Track

2013----12
2014----10
2015----11
2016----13

The Church Ministries Children and Family Track

2013----10
2014----10
2015----4
2016----10

As is the case with regard to all of our Church Ministries tracks, any attempt to assess a trend is complicated by the large number of graduates of our programs that is consolidation related. The program experienced unusually large graduation numbers in 2014 and 2015 from former Central Bible College students.

1.4 Summarize the relationship of the program to other programs within the department and within the university.

See paragraph 2 under 1.2 History and unique characteristics.

1.5 Summarize any significant changes in the program in the past four years.

There have been no significant changes to either the Church Ministries in Leadership Track (formerly the Church Leadership program) or the Church Leadership in Preaching Track (formerly the Preaching program) over the past 3 years. The Church Ministries Children and Family Track was significantly altered in 2014 after the loss of the Children's Ministry faculty person that year. Changes were made in order to utilize existing Evangel University courses to supplement the track. These course include:

SOCL 336 Abuse and Neglect in U.S. Families
ENGL 330 Children's Literature
PSYC 234 Child Psychology
EDUC 221 Elementary Curriculum and Instruction
EDUC 299 Administration of Early Childhood Elementary Programs

One additional Children's Ministry course was added. The course is entitled CHMN 336 Creative Storytelling Evangelism. The balance of the track remained the same.

1.6 Indicate if the program has received national recognition or holds specialized accreditation from national organizations.

The program is new (4 years old). Currently, I know of no national organizations that grant awards on the undergraduate level.

2. Curriculum

2.1 Describe the program offering options, related certification and/or licensure.

Students can obtain credentialing on the license level from the Southern Missouri District of the Assemblies of God. This credential is transferrable to all other Assemblies of God Districts.

2.2 Describe the number of hours of General Education and program specific course along with the number of years required to complete the program.

General Education hours----53
Program hours---53
B.A. requirements 6-10
B.S requirements 6
Total hours to graduate 124

2.3 Describe program facilities such as labs, library resources, special equipment, etc.

Classrooms serve the purpose of laboratory experience. The Church Ministry Student-led chapels provide laboratory experience for select students. Additionally, The Seymour Chapel serves as a Preaching Laboratory for Homiletics 2 students. The Evangel University library is the primary library resource.

3. Faculty

3.1 Describe the process for collaboration and formal communication among faculty.

Collaboration and formal communication takes place within a number of varied venues. The main opportunity for intradepartmental interaction takes place during regular monthly

departmental meetings. Additionally, on a weekly basis faculty of the department meet for an informal weekly lunch to discuss issues of mutual interest and relevance.

The combined seminary faculty meet once monthly for the graduate and undergraduate faculty to be updated on important news affecting the seminary.

The Undergraduate department chairs of the entire university meet twice monthly to discuss critical issues pertaining to interdepartmental concerns. Chairs also serve on the Academic Council which finalizes and approves program changes along with other relevant academic issues of concern. A separate Seminary Council exists to provide guidance for course offerings.

3.2 Describe the process for faculty advising within the program.

Students in the Church Ministries program tracks are generally advised by the faculty persons who are assigned their oversight, the Program Coordinator. The Department Chair at times may assume advising responsibility for certain students. This is to ensure that the student is advised by individuals who are most familiar with the student's advising needs and most knowledgeable of the sequencing of course offerings.

4. Stakeholder Feedback

4.1 Describe the process for obtaining student feedback on program strengths and weaknesses and changes made in the program as a result of the feedback.

Currently, the only mechanism for obtaining student stakeholder feedback is the Student Major Survey. The survey asks numerous questions that provide both direct and indirect feedback on programic strengths and weaknesses along with that which can aid in potential areas for change. Questions asked in the survey predominately are based on the 5 point Likert Scale, but there are others that are relevant and open-ended.

Other instruments are in the process of development. The Church Leadership Program at present is forming a survey to former students who recently graduated the university.

4.2 Describe the process for obtaining graduate feedback on program strengths and weaknesses and changes made in the program as a result of the feedback.

See the response under section 4.1.

4.3 Describe the process for obtaining employer feedback on program strengths and weaknesses and changes made in the program as a result of the feedback.

Employer feedback is in its infant stages. Alumni surveys are planned, but currently have not been constructed. An advisor council however has been established to enlist input from the field to provide feedback on the academic programs and their value.

5. Peer Institutions and benchmarking.

Information has been gathered from Assemblies of God colleges and universities for the basis of comparison.

6. Assessment

6.1 Assessment Procedure

Each Church Ministries track is assessed through a Senior Capstone Project. Students in each program track are required to take the Senior Capstone course (CHMN 411). A capstone project designed to assess the learning outcomes of each track is given to students through the course prior to graduation.

Plans are underway to utilize the Service Practicum (CHMN 498) as an assessment as well. Specific instruments for each track are in the process of being designed.

6.2 Advisory Council Members

Rev. Doug Clay: Assemblies of God General Treasurer

Rev. Don Miller: Southern Missouri District Superintendent

Rev. Justin Chandler: Youth Minister

Met April/ 2016

7. Faculty

Full time in department:

Michael Jaffe, DMin. Professor of Preaching and Church Leadership

Steven Smallwood, DMin. Associate Professor of Preaching and Church Leadership

Mark Wootton, DMin. Professor of Preaching and Church Leadership

Part time in department:

Sandy Friesen, PhD. Professor of intercultural Studies and Children/Family Ministry

Chris McGough, M.A. Assistant Professor of Youth and Children/Family Ministry.

