The Loyola Institute for Ministry (LIM) has a 45-year history of educating adults in practical theology on six continents. Our method involves a rhythm of action and theological reflection. It prepares leaders who announce the Gospel and who are informed by a vision of the Catholic tradition that emphasizes its transformative potential.

LIM’s approach includes Ignatian spiritual formation and a strong theological core complemented by focus courses in ministry and religious education. The program also includes the development of theologically sound and practical ministerial skills leading to professional competency. LIM emphasizes leadership and communication skills. It promotes a broad vision of ministry, which holds that it is practiced in explicitly ecclesial contexts—in churches, schools, dioceses, and beyond—wherever people of faith live and work.

The Institute inaugurated degrees and certificates in its Extension format (also known as LIMEX) in 1983. At the invitation of dioceses around the world, it began to offer its programs face-to-face in learning groups which are guided by a Loyola-certified facilitator. Full-time Loyola faculty also interact directly with students.

The Institute launched online courses in 2000 and its full online program in 2010. For increased flexibility, it has combined face-to-face distance learning with online learning by establishing LIMFlex, in which students begin their studies in learning groups and complete them online.

Study with the Loyola Institute for Ministry and promote passionate commitment to the promise of God’s Reign and the mission of sharing the Good News!
DEEPEN your faith and spirituality
DEVELOP professional competence and practical ministry skills
CHOOSE a curriculum that meets national ministry standards
GROW in the context of a learning community
ENJOY the flexibility of face-to-face and online study in your location
EARN fully accredited Master of Pastoral Studies and Master of Religious Education degrees from a Jesuit, Catholic university

Who participates?
- Laypeople involved in or preparing for diocesan or parish ministries
- Catholic school teachers and administrators
- Catechists and RCIA team members
- Clergy and religious leaders interested in continuing their education
- Adults seeking deeper connections between faith and work
- Individuals answering the call to holiness in everyday life
- Lay ministers fulfilling diocesan requirements
- Those with interests in digital culture and ministry

LIMFlex allows:
- Groups to take between 1 and 6 courses in face-to-face format and the rest online
- Students to benefit from a wide and diverse community during online study
- Students to take elective courses online concurrently with courses in learning group, shortening the time to degree completion

You can earn a:
- Master of Religious Education
- Master of Pastoral Studies
- Graduate Certificate in Theology and Ministry
- Continuing Education Certificate in Religious Education or Pastoral Studies

Curriculum (12 Courses)
THEOLOGICAL CORE COURSES (6 Courses)
- Introduction to Practical Theology
- Jewish Roots of Christian Faith (Old Testament)
- Christian Origins (New Testament)
- Grace, Christ, and Spirit
- Church, Sacraments, and Liturgy
- Spirituality, Morality, and Ethics

FOCUS AREAS
- Digital Culture and Ministry
- Christian Spirituality for Ministers
- Marketplace Ministry
- Pastoral Life and Administration
- Religion and Ecology
- Youth Ministry
- Religious Education
- Individualized Track

Costs:
Because of the Jesuit commitment to ministry education, Loyola offers significantly discounted graduate tuition to online students. Face-to-face classes are discounted further. Contact your local sponsoring agency for more information.

Combine in-person and online learning in one program

APPLY ONLINE: gps.loyno.edu/lim/admissions