



Mission Statement

Forming Leaders for Innovative Ministry in the Church and Society

Vision Statement

Our mission at Jakes Divinity School (JDS) is to prepare men and women for excellence in both local and global ministries, as guided by the power of the Holy Spirit and with faithfulness to Jesus Christ. We aim to fulfill this commitment to ministry through the following:

- Undergraduate and graduate education
- Professional and continuing education
- Spiritual formation
- Experiential learning
- Strategic partnerships

All of our divinity programs strive to glorify God through excellence.



Lifelong Learning

Women in Leadership Certificate

Jakes Divinity School is proud to announce our Women in Leadership Certificate program in partnership with Serita Jakes' widely celebrated enrichment program, God's Leading Ladies. This program is a six-week interactive experience designed to equip women of all ages and backgrounds with the skills, knowledge, and strategies necessary to stand out as innovative and impactful leaders in the church, workplace, and society. This accelerated course offers flexibility with its online format and weekly virtual meetings. The courses featured cover the essentials of strategic leadership, effective communication strategies, networking, work-life balance, and more. To register, visit [JakesDivinity.org](https://jakesdivinity.org).

“The growth within JDS is exciting at every turn. I can see from the ground up that we are a part of a great legacy. The people are truly what makes the school great.”

Sheila Shaw, Bachelor of Arts in Theology, JDS/Vanguard University

Bachelor of Science Programs

Bachelor of Science in Church Leadership

The Bachelor of Science in Church Leadership degree is an accredited program that is designed to prepare the next generation of effective leaders in various forms of serving: from church to society to marketplace ministry. The Church Leadership program, powered by North Central University, offers training and expertise in areas ranging from spiritual formation and maintaining a healthy personal life to project and goal management to financial planning and management skills for ministry. This well-rounded program was designed with the working person in mind. You can complete the program entirely online while continuing to work and attend to your other commitments. Upon graduation, students of this degree program will be fully prepared to minister to people from all backgrounds and to serve as a consistent model of character and leadership in the church.

Bachelor of Science in Humanitarian Leadership

The Bachelor of Science in Humanitarian Leadership degree is an accredited program that equips those with a heart for serving others with the necessary tools and skills to get the job done. This online degree program, powered by North Central University, teaches a biblical and theological understanding of compassion. Graduates from this program will be empowered with the knowledge and skills to resolve conflicts, respond to disasters, create and serve in NGOs, and assist refugees in crises.

Bachelor of Arts Programs

Bachelor of Arts in Business Management

The Bachelor of Arts in Business Management degree, powered by Vanguard University, is an accredited program that will help you grow into the next generation of Christian business leadership by developing your critical thinking, personnel management, ethical decision-making, and communication skills. You will be prepared to lead an organization effectively at all stages of development — and you will do it while building the intrinsic abilities necessary to take your ministry into the marketplace.

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

The Bachelor of Arts in Psychology degree, powered by Vanguard University, is an accredited program that seeks to enhance students' understanding of human nature with an emphasis on human development across the life span from both a secular worldview and a Christian perspective. All students learn the skills necessary to conduct research and to evaluate others' research carefully. The psychology program prepares students for employment, especially in human service agencies or for graduate study.

Bachelor of Arts in Theology

The Bachelor of Arts in Theology degree, powered by Vanguard University, is an accredited program that will position you to thrive in your ministry, lead in your community, or prepare you for graduate studies. Designed to work around your life, JDS theological studies are delivered 100% online with face-to-face residency opportunities twice a year as well as live videoconferencing. You will learn from Spirit-filled scholars who are committed to personalizing your theology education.

“Enrolling in Jakes Divinity School was one of the best decisions of my life. I am very pleased with the program of study and the quality of instruction. The course work is challenging, but we are constantly being motivated to stretch beyond our own limits academically and spiritually.”

Aundrea L. Roberts, Esq., Master of Arts in Theology, JDS/Vanguard University

Master’s Programs

Executive Master of Business Administration

Develop the skills needed to be an agent of change in the global marketplace by growing in your spiritual formation, creative innovation, and business acumen through the new online Executive MBA program. This Executive MBA program, powered by Paul Quinn College, delivers courses on topics ranging from economics to strategic business development to ethical decision-making. Focused on fostering the next generation of entrepreneurial Christian business leaders, this Executive MBA degree expands on business principles and provides applied learning experiences. Fuse your faith, spirituality, and scholarship while you learn to use your professional life as a platform for your biblical ministry. Pending Board approval, JDS and PQC will launch the eMBA program fall 2021.

Master of Arts in Biblical Theology

Designed for those in ministry with a desire to gain deeper knowledge and insight of God and his infinite Word while developing their calling, the new Master of Arts in Biblical Theology program, powered by North Central University, will strengthen and deepen your understanding of scripture for your personal fulfillment, vocational ministry, or pursuit of doctoral studies. Fully accredited and delivered 100% online with options for full- or part-time enrollment, this graduate degree program gives you the flexibility to invest in your professional growth while you continue to work or fulfill your other commitments. Upon completing this program, you will be able to analyze, interpret, and explain the meaning of scripture. You also will be able to engage major themes within biblical scholarship from a Pentecostal/Renewalist perspective.

Master of Arts in Leadership Studies

The Master of Arts in Leadership Studies (MALS) degree, powered by Vanguard University, helps equip students for transformational leadership in their organizations, churches, and nonprofits within the global community. The MALS program is fully accredited and will teach students how to integrate best practices of real-world leadership with theology, culture, ethics, and spirituality.

Master of Arts in Strategic Leadership

The Master of Arts in Strategic Leadership (MASL) degree, powered by North Central University, equips students with the skills necessary to become effective Christian leaders for vital roles in business, the church, and other organizations. The curriculum is theoretically grounded yet practically applied. It equips leaders who seek to be culturally competent and guided by an enduring moral compass. Students who graduate from the MASL program will be equipped and prepared to work effectively in the church or marketplace.

Master of Arts in Theology

The Master of Arts in Theology program offers rigorous study in the various disciplines of biblical, systematic, and historical theology. This accredited program, powered by North Central University, is ideal for students who plan to go deeper into theological education. Students in this program will partake in a learning community that helps prepare them for advanced study in ministry or in the church. This program prepares scholars for advancement into the Doctor of Ministry program.

Doctor of Ministry Program

Doctor of Ministry in Spirit-filled Global Leadership in the African Diaspora

Stimulate renewal in yourself and your ministry through a Doctor of Ministry program that integrates your experience with advanced training, research, and reflection. Fully accredited, and powered by Portland Seminary at George Fox University, our online Doctor of Ministry program will position you to lead in your community and church successfully. With 100% online courses, the JDS Doctor of Ministry program gives you the flexibility you need to work and attend to your other commitments while you increase your effectiveness as a Christian leader. Through your exploration of the Word and African diaspora, you will cultivate global leadership skills and deepen your spiritual knowledge. This theologically informed program makes it easy for you to apply what you learn after you graduate.

From Bishop T.D. Jakes



Welcome to Jakes Divinity School (JDS)! We are an emerging institution with a vision to educate leaders for the church and society in a Spirit-filled and academically rigorous environment. Leadership is key to transforming our world for a positive and productive future. After more than 40 years of ministry and leadership, I want to see future generations step into their God-ordained purpose and soar into their spiritual calling. At JDS, we are partnering with some of the world's most prestigious institutions of higher learning to offer fully accredited degrees and prepare women and men with the very best training. Now is the time; the world is waiting for leaders like you. How will you prepare for the opportunities and challenges ahead? I would like to invite you to prayerfully consider the role of Jakes Divinity School in your path to success.

In His Service,

Founder and Chancellor

From Dr. Antipas L. Harris



I am thrilled to be part of a vision that transforms lives. Jakes Divinity School is an ideal opportunity for those in pursuit of strong scholarship and experiential learning from a Spirit-filled perspective. The walls that once separated the mind, the heart, and the hands now crumble in a generation that is motivated by spirituality that integrates all of life. Through our education partners, global reach, and spiritual emphasis, JDS is uniquely positioned to train leaders to respond to a deep yearning for integrated learning. Our founder, Bishop T.D. Jakes, has exemplified multidimensional leadership and ministry. His living legacy inspires students to think deeply, imagine what could be, and reach globally. As a young boy, I dreamed of the opportunity to serve the Lord in powerful ways. Theological education became a doorway to opportunities imagined but were beyond my reach. I believe God will take you farther than you may be prepared to go. Invest today for the ministry leadership opportunities of your future.

In Christ,

President and Dean



The JDS Experience

As an online-based institution since its inception, Jakes Divinity School (JDS) has always strived to create a culture of connection. JDS has designed an academic learning environment that involves high engagement and connection in an innovative digital format. We believe in transformative education that is experiential. The JDS experience enriches the lives of any student immersed in the holistic transformation process. The JDS scholar is the heart of a rich and expansive community of academia rooted in spirituality.

Each student at Jakes Divinity School is placed not only in a rigorous academic environment, but upon admission, students are immediately adopted into a learning community where they are given the option each semester to participate in several student

engagement opportunities for spiritual and mental stimulation and transformation. These opportunities include but are not limited to: the JDS Mentorship program; academic lectures by esteemed professors, ministers, and theologians; exclusive master classes with Bishop T.D. Jakes and special guests; the JDS Ambassador program; and informative presentations concerning relevant topics such as mental health and domestic violence. Students also are provided a fall and spring residency and an opportunity to attend the International Leadership Summit conference in the spring.

Accreditation Statement

Jakes Divinity School students will enjoy a unique experience characteristic of the T.D. Jakes brand in partnership with fully accredited institutions of higher learning. The degree programs are fully accredited by virtue of JDS affiliation with the following universities: North Central University, Paul Quinn College, Portland Seminary at George Fox University, and Vanguard University.

Contact Us

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