

### A MODEL FOR THE DOCTOR OF MINISTRY LITERATURE REVIEW

- **Description:** A comprehensive literature review identifies and addresses the texts and other relevant sources that contribute most directly to the focus of your research project. It reviews and analyzes the major issues and ideas in a way that describes their significance for your project's primary learning goals. The essential question is: how do these resources inform, guide and influence my thinking about what I am trying to learn? The literature review should provide an adequate range of resources consistent with the scope of your project, usually at least 12-15 sources.
- **Format:** The organization of your literature review
  - **Introduction:** Describe briefly the primary topic your literature review is intended to address (e.g., "Contemporary Healing Practices in Church"), including a comment on why these particular sources were chosen and your criteria for selection.
  - **Content:** Choose one that best helps you to explain and organize your sources.
    - **Thematic:** The major themes that you identify in your resources that will guide the way you approach your research question or assertion.
    - **Chronological:** The historical or developmental sequence of the ideas in your resources that brings you to the point at which your own investigation begins and carries forward.
    - **Methodological:** The particular approaches that are utilized in your resources that help you best understand how to investigate the question or assertion you are researching.
- **Conclusion:** A synopsis of how the resources reviewed contribute to your research project, summarizing the most important elements, including your own personal assessment of the value of this project for ministry, church and society.
- **Addendum:** An annotated bibliography of additional sources relevant to your study of at least 15-20 texts or other sources. Each source should include a brief description of the most significant concepts or ideas which contribute to the research project.