

GUIDELINES

FOR THE LUTHER RICE UNIVERSITY

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY ENTRANCE PAPER

1. The applicant must submit a 15-20 page scholarly paper written on one of the following topics:
 - Biblical/Theological Studies (*Topic: The extent of the atonement or Topic: The unity of Isaiah*),
 - Biblical Communication Studies (*Topic: Trends in contemporary preaching*),
 - Great Commission Studies (*Topic: Seeker-friendly vs. traditional approaches to communicating the gospel*),
 - Administration/Leadership Studies (*Topic: Compare and contrast leadership theories with the leadership of Jesus*),
 - or Pastoral Care/Counseling Studies (*Topic: The nature of man: Dichotomous or Trichotomous*).
2. The paper must conform to the 6th edition of Kate L. Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. The sample paper available at <http://www.lrs.edu/resources/TurabianPaper.pdf> should be used, as it includes preferred deviations from the Turabian standard.
3. The paper must reflect graduate-level research skills. A minimum of ten sources (not including the Bible) should be used, including journal articles and, if available, credible, primary sources obtained from internet sites.
4. The paper must reflect a strong regard for academic integrity; due credit must be given to every source quoted or used. Footnotes, not endnotes, should be used to document the sources. Every source cited should also appear in a Selected Bibliography at the end.
5. The paper must reflect competence in writing; conciseness and clarity are essential.
6. The paper must reflect good organization of thought. Outline the paper before writing, and include the outline after the title page.
7. The paper must reflect a good command of the English language. Check carefully for such errors as subject-verb disagreement, incomplete sentences, improper punctuation, etc.
8. The paper must reflect conscientious attention to details; proofread it several times before submitting it. Ask another to proofread it as well.
9. The paper must reflect the customary hallmarks of academic writing. Write in the third person, avoid colloquialisms and slang, do not use contractions, and treat those who hold opinions contrary to yours with respect.
10. This is a vital component of the admission criteria and should be given your very best effort.