



Bachelor's Degree in Pastoral Ministries

Institutional Identity

The Universidad Católica Americana (UNICA) is an ecclesiastical institution of Christian-Catholic inspiration, committed to integral formation in the light of the Gospel and the living tradition of the Church.

UNICA integrates faith and reason, fosters spiritual life, and equips its students for intellectual, social, and pastoral service in contemporary society.

Mission

To train leaders and pastoral agents with theological, spiritual, social, and organizational competencies, prepared to serve in ecclesial communities, parishes, social organizations, and evangelization projects, promoting justice, charity, and Christian witness.

Vision

To be regionally recognized as a Catholic university of reference in comprehensive pastoral ministry formation, with innovative, bilingual, and academically excellent programs, at the service of the Church and society.

Values

Truth, Charity, Excellence, Holiness, Unity, and Service.

Technical Program Sheet

Field	Description
Program Name	Bachelor's Degree in Pastoral Ministries

P.O. Box 16088, Houston Tx 77222
(correspondence), and 627 Rocky Mountain Dr.,
Houston, TX 77037
contacto@uca-virtual.us



Academic Level	Undergraduate / Bachelor
Duration	8 semesters (curricular structure organized by semesters)
Total Credits	160 credits (average of 20 credits per semester)
Modality	Virtual and blended (synchronous/asynchronous classes, intensive in-person meetings, and ministerial practice)
Language Offer	Spanish / English / Bilingual (according to student selection)
Location	State of Texas, USA
Degree Awarded	Bachelor of Arts in Pastoral Ministries — Universidad Católica Americana (UNICA)

Admission Requirements (Profile and Documentation)

- Recognized High School Diploma or equivalent (GED).
- Academic transcript / secondary school record.
- Personal essay (motivation letter and vocational discernment).
- Admission interview (academic and vocational).
- One pastoral or academic recommendation.
- Language proficiency according to the selected modality (see language section).
- For international students: compliance with visa and immigration requirements.
- The university may include additional requirements as per institutional and accreditation regulations.

Educational Purpose

To train professionals committed to pastoral service, prepared to accompany communities, lead evangelization projects, design catechetical, social, and liturgical programs, and respond with creativity and responsibility to the challenges of ministry in contemporary contexts.

Learning Outcomes

Upon graduation, the Bachelor in Pastoral Ministries will be able to:

1. Understand the biblical, theological, and pastoral foundations of Christian ministry.

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2. Design and coordinate evangelization, catechetical, and social programs within ecclesial communities.
3. Develop leadership and community management skills.
4. Integrate Christian spirituality into pastoral practice.
5. Communicate the faith in intercultural and multilingual contexts.
6. Promote teamwork and lay participation in the life of the Church.
7. Implement pastoral accompaniment methodologies for diverse age groups and social realities.
8. Research and evaluate pastoral practices using academic and ecclesial criteria.

Competencies

- **General:** Critical thinking, oral and written communication, pastoral leadership, teamwork, digital competence, intercultural sensitivity.
- **Specific:** Pastoral theology, community leadership, catechetical pedagogy, homiletics and faith communication, ecclesial management, pastoral counseling, liturgical and social planning, applied pastoral research.

Language Offer and Requirements

The program is offered in three modalities: Spanish, English, and Bilingual. Language certification requirements are equivalent to those established in the Bachelor's Degree in Theology.

Curriculum by Semester (8 semesters — 160 credits)

Semester	Code	Course	Credits	Description	Prerequisites
1	MIN-101	Introduction to Pastoral Ministries	6	Nature, foundations, and dimensions of pastoral ministry.	None
	MIN-102	Biblical Foundations of Ministry	6	The Bible as the basis of pastoral action.	None

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	MIN-103	Philosophy and Christian Anthropology	4	Christian vision of the human person in pastoral perspective.	None
	MIN-104	Academic Writing and Communication	4	Skills in academic writing and communication.	None
		Total Credits:	20		
2	MIN-201	Fundamental Pastoral Theology	6	Basic theological and pastoral principles.	MIN-101
	MIN-202	Church History and Pastoral Development	6	Historical evolution of pastoral work in the Church.	None
	MIN-203	Pastoral Psychology I	4	Psychological foundations applied to pastoral care.	None
	MIN-204	Digital Competencies for Pastoral Ministry	4	Digital tools applied to ministry.	None
		Total Credits:	20		
3	MIN-301	Catechesis and Pedagogy of Faith	6	Methods and strategies for teaching the faith.	MIN-201
	MIN-302	Pastoral Psychology II	6	Psychological processes and discernment in ministry.	MIN-203
	MIN-303	Liturgy and Sacraments in Community Life	4	Liturgical dimension of pastoral ministry.	MIN-101
	MIN-304	Sociology of Religion and Social Ministry	4	Sociological study applied to pastoral action.	None
		Total Credits:	20		
4	MIN-401	Leadership and Pastoral Management	6	Leadership and administrative skills in ecclesial contexts.	MIN-201
	MIN-402	Faith Communication and Homiletics	6	Preaching and pastoral communication techniques.	MIN-104



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	MIN-403	Youth and Vocational Ministry	4	Accompaniment of youth in discernment and mission.	MIN-302
	MIN-404	General Elective I	4	Elective course in humanities, arts, or social sciences.	As applicable
		Total Credits:	20		
5	MIN-501	Family and Health Ministry	6	Family care and pastoral accompaniment in health settings.	MIN-302
	MIN-502	Ecumenism and Interreligious Dialogue	6	Principles and experiences of interfaith dialogue.	MIN-202
	MIN-503	Pastoral Counseling	4	Tools for spiritual and pastoral guidance.	MIN-302
	MIN-504	Pastoral Practice I (Supervised)	4	Supervised experience in community ministry.	MIN-201
		Total Credits:	20		
6	MIN-601	Pastoral Communication and Digital Media	6	Evangelization in the digital age and social networks.	MIN-204
	MIN-602	Ministry of Justice and Social Doctrine	6	Social justice principles applied to pastoral ministry.	MIN-304
	MIN-603	Ministry with Vulnerable Populations	4	Pastoral accompaniment of migrants, marginalized, and the poor.	MIN-503
	MIN-604	Pastoral Practice II (Intensive)	4	Intensive pastoral experience in communities.	MIN-504
		Total Credits:	20		
7	MIN-701	Research Methods in Pastoral Ministry	6	Research tools and methods in theology and pastoral studies.	MIN-201
	MIN-702	Educational and University Ministry	6	Pastoral action in educational and	MIN-301

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				academic institutions.	
	MIN-703	Christian Ethics and Leadership in Ministry	4	Ethical principles applied to ministerial leadership.	MIN-401
	MIN-704	Advanced Elective in Pastoral Ministry	4	Specialized course in a selected area of ministry.	As applicable
		Total Credits:	20		
8	MIN-801	Integrative Seminar and Final Project	10	Preparation and defense of a final pastoral project.	MIN-701
	MIN-802	Ecclesial Leadership and Community Management	6	Strategies for community organization and animation.	MIN-401
	MIN-803	Specialized Ministry (Youth, Family, or Media)	4	In-depth study of a specific pastoral area.	As applicable
		Total Credits:	20		

Methodology and Evaluation

- Blended methodology: guided readings, synchronous/asynchronous classes, intensive workshops, supervised pastoral practice.
- Continuous evaluation: written assignments, pastoral projects, critical essays, presentations, supervised practice, and final project defense.
- In the bilingual modality, linguistic competencies in both Spanish and English will be evaluated according to institutional standards.

Institutional Observations and Compliance

The university will adapt admission documents and requirements in accordance with Texas State regulations and the current authorization and accreditation standards for religious institutions and programs in virtual/hybrid modalities.

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