THE CHAPLAINCY INSTITUTE
An Interfaith Seminary & Community

The Chaplaincy Institute Course Catalog

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Open Courses at The Chaplaincy Institute

Open courses at ChI are part of the Chaplaincy Program coursework, but also open to people who are not enrolled in one of our programs. Most open courses are focused on a special topic within spirituality or spiritual care. As in our certificate programs, we bring an interfaith perspective to the focus topic of every course. Anyone drawn to explore that topic is welcome! No previous experience required.
All course credit will be applied to Chaplaincy Program requirements, in the event of later enrollment.

All courses are offered online only. Most courses are a combination of asynchronous work done on Moodle and live class time on Zoom. Independent work is all required in the two months before the scheduled three days for live classes held on Zoom. Occasionally, courses may utilize only one modality and not the other but most have portions on both Moodle and Zoom.

Registration

Course fees depend upon enrollment status but open course fees are listed on registration form online. Enrolled students do not pay per course but establish a payment plan when they first enroll in the program.
Anyone can register for Open Courses at the link below:
https ://chaplaincyinstitute.wufoo.com/forms/z48px9z1y0cby5/

Global Spiritual Traditions 1

January & July 2022, 2 credit hours
Global Spiritual Traditions 1 is the first of a 2-part series. These courses introduce students to World Religions and/or spiritual paths that have their origins in earth-centered, indigenous practice (Africa, Pagan, First Nation and other indigenous worldviews), or ancient Eastern philosophy and belief systems (Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism). While engaging with the world's knowledge, beliefs, traditions, scriptures, and practices, the curriculum incorporates lecture, dyad shares, various art projects, and site visits to appeal to our many ways of integrating and practicing new learning.
* This course is required for all Interfaith Chaplaincy students but also open to others. There is additional online study required for completion of this course.

ChI Culture & Foundations

February & August 2022, 1.5 credit hours
This course introduces students to The Chaplaincy Institute's core philosophy and foundation for spiritual care and ministry. A range of teachers will present and discuss perspectives such as:

mysticism and why it matters; eco-spirituality; culturally inclusive spiritual spaces; the interfaith path of ministry; spirituality beyond religion; and spiritual care as if oppression matters.
* This course is required for all Interfaith Chaplaincy students but also open to others. There is additional online study required for completion of this course.

Psychedelics, Entheogens, and Spiritual Care

February 25 - 27, 2022, 1.5 credit hours elective

With psychedelics and plant-based theologies rising to meet the needs of the fastest-growing religious demographic, "Spiritual, not religious," it is crucial that Theologians, pastoral counselors, and those of faith understand what these powerful substances can offer. This seminar will examine historical and present-day uses of a host of substances while also looking at the broader history of "Drug use" in the United States. We will place the so-called psychedelic renaissance in the context of the War on Drugs and explore a host of specific religious traditions that use plant and animal-based altered states of consciousness in order to gain a connection with the Divine. Race, gender, and sexual identities will also be utilized as lenses to examine what might be called a War on the Ecstatic. The insights of treatment modalities from harm reduction to 12 step programs will also be considered. This course aims to introduce all participants to the world of Religion, psychedelics, and entheogens.

Global Spiritual Traditions 2

March and October 2022, 2 credit hours

Global Spiritual Traditions 2 is the second of a 2-part series but open for stand-alone enrollment. This course introduces students to World Religions and/or spiritual paths that have their origins in the Abrahamic traditions (Judaism, Islam, Christianity). While engaging with the world's knowledge, beliefs, traditions, scriptures, and practices, the curriculum incorporates lecture, dyad shares, various art projects, and practice sessions to appeal to our many ways of integrating new learning.
* This course is required for all Interfaith Chaplaincy students but also open to others. There is additional online study required for completion of this course.

Spiritual but not Religious

Not offered in 2022. April 2023, 1 credit hour elective

The number of adults in the U.S. who say they are spiritual but not religious (SBNR), has grown rapidly and is over a quarter of our population at this time. Who are the people who make up this group? Why is this number growing? What does this spiritual orientation look like? What are the particular challenges, gifts or strengths? What is the nature of the spiritual care needed for those who identify as SBNR?
In this course, students will explore different perspectives on this growing demographic, and how it interfaces with social justice, economics and the personal growth movement. Collectively, we will

look at what forms of ministry may serve the SBNR and envision ways to best nurture our communal spiritual landscape.

Science & Spirit

May 2022, 1.5 credit hours elective

This 3-day course will focus on science itself as a source for wonder, contemplation and transformative meaning. Challenging the stereotypes that paint spirituality and science as incompatible, participants will travel between first-person experiences, depictions of the Cosmos, and key developing areas of science. On day 1, we will re-kindle the aptitude we all have for scientific inquiry, tapping into the joy of first-hand explorations of phenomena and perceptions. On day 2, we will take a "highlights tour" of the Universe as it has been collectively described by generations of inquirers. On day 3, we will focus on key unsolved areas of science that offer spiritual, existential and ethical pathways towards new meanings.

Eco-Ministry

June 2022, 1.5 credit hours elective

Bringing curiosity to our deepest ways of knowing, courageously questioning our lifestyle choices, and prophetically imagining a regenerative future is what we call Eco-Ministry. In this course, participants learn ancient and innovative, life-affirming and healing practices for Earth and the systems on which humans depend. In addition to presentations with subject-area experts, this elective takes us outdoors to learn with Earth, and to where new and indigenous practices are showing us the way forward. Art and Ritual are part of the daily experience, honoring our need for expression and integration at every level.

Bells, Bowls, Dances, Water: Ceremonies, Rituals & Rites of Passage for the Multi-Religious Seeker

September 2022, 1 credit hour elective

The religious/spiritual buzz phrases include words like, multi- religious, multi-generational, multicultural, anti-oppressive, radically inclusive, radically welcoming, justice centered, sustainable communities. How does a spiritual leader prepare to minister to, accompany those who identify on this spectrum. Please join together as we grow spiritual confidence, grace, respect and humility to craft meaningful rituals that sincerely speak to the wholeness of those we serve. We will review templates that could be used for any weddings, memorial (celebration of life), street witness action and child blessing.

Healthcare Chaplaincy

Not offered in 2022. June 2023, 1.5 credit hours elective

In this 3 day course, seminarians called to professional chaplaincy in a healthcare setting (hospital, hospice, rehabilitation/skilled nursing facility) will receive instruction on how to provide interfaith spiritual care relevant and unique to each Faith Tradition. Aware of the specific realities of providing care in Western and alternative medical settings, this course will explore a range of traditional, creative and emerging plans of care to best meet patients, families, and medical professionals.
*There is additional online study required for completion of this course.

Being with Dying and Death

July 2022, 1.5 credit hours elective

In this course, participants explore important aspects of being with dying and death from multi-disciplinary perspectives. Instructors will provide practical clinical and personal tools for being with dying and death, professionally and personally. Focus areas include: the spiritual agenda of dying; End of Life care; Near-Death Experiences; Co-Creating Mourning Rituals; Green Burials and Funerals; "Death with Dignity" and Medical-aid-in-dying; and Cultural, Racial and Economic Considerations. This elective provides excellent training for chaplains, hospice volunteers, nurses, physicians, therapists and anyone who is accompanying someone at the end of life.
*There is preliminary online study required for completion of this course.

The Work of Beloved Community: Removing Unconscious Bias from the Soil of the Soul

August 2022, 1 credit hour elective

In the face of profound social injustice and economic inequality, people of faith are called to be change agents, co-creators of more equitable, sustainable and life-giving communities. In our present time of tumult, this course offers a container and powerful methods for exploring, not just the differences that separate us, but to examine our inability to recognize, understand, and embrace those differences and the unconscious bias that feeds their survival.

Sacred Justice Ministry

February and November 2022, 1.5 credit hours elective

In this course, students will immerse themselves in both self-inquiry and applied theology while exploring questions around diverse aspects of injustice and oppression, how spirituality informs social action, and key elements of social transformation. Specific areas of focus will include: Prison Ministry; Human Sexuality: History, Theology and Politics; Restorative Justice and Peacemaking

Circles; Theatre of the Oppressed; an Introduction to Deep Culture as well as Spiritual Care as if Oppression Matters.
*There is additional online study required for completion of this course.

Spiritual Care as if Oppression Matters

December 2022, 1.5 credit hours elective
This seminar course will include readings, reflection, discussion, presentations from and/or dialog with partners, virtual immersion opportunities, in-class praxis using Zoom breakout rooms, and a writing project. Students will engage with theory and practice of spiritual care within diverse cultural and socio-economic contexts. With a focus on healing, guiding, sustaining and reconciling persons, spiritual care is a response to their emotional, relational, and spiritual needs. This course is designed to to deepen students awareness and understanding of spiritual care through consideration of broader contexts including not only the oppression of individuals, but also oppressive systems and structures. Students will consider and integrate theological, spiritual, psychological and sociological perspectives and resources, attending particularly to matters of justice, healing, and wholeness. Both asynchronous and synchronous engagement will be required.

The Business of Ministry

October 2022, Four Tuesday afternoons, 1 credit hour elective
How do we sustain ourselves, financially, personally and spiritually, in a life of professional spiritual service? What aspects of business and professional viability do we need to contemplate, understand and apply to our work lives?

Chaplaincy Program Required Courses & Retreats

Some required courses, plus retreats, in the Interfaith Chaplaincy Program are only open to students accepted and enrolled in the Spiritual Direction or the Chaplaincy Program. For more information on these program options, please contact us at admissions@chaplaincyinstitute.org or at (510) 843-1422.

Residential Learning Retreats

For students enrolled in the Chaplaincy Program, attendance at two in-person retreats is required, near the start and then the middle of the course of study. Required programming will fill the days

and some evenings throughout the week, so it will be an intensive time of experiential learning, practice and connection with your ChI peers.
The retreats will be held at a retreat center in the wider Bay Area of California. Retreats are planned for each Spring and Fall and begin at lunch on Mondays and end at lunch on Fridays, with four nights in residence. Retreat centers are fully accessible. **All retreat center fees for accommodations and meals are paid by the student but coordinated by ChI staff.**

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* There is substantial independent study required for completion of this course prior to the course dates.

ChI Culture & Foundations

February & August 2022, 1.5 credit hours
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Global Spiritual Traditions 2

March and October 2022, 2 credit hours
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* There is substantial independent study required for completion of this course prior to the course dates.

Spiritual Psychology

September 2022, 1.5 credit hours

This is a **4-day** course where students will integrate wisdom from various spiritual traditions: Kabbalah with Jungian; Developmental and Archetypal Psychology; Family Systems and Psychodynamic perspectives; Astrology and Alchemy. We will consider how ego development and Identity formation weaves together with soul and spiritual development.

Course topics include:

- Tree of Life Model
- Internalizing the Good Mother
- Attachment Styles and Defenses of the Personality
- Emotional Wounding
- Family Systems & Individuation
- Soul Development
- Healthy Boundaries & Self-Love
- Spiritual Awakening & Healing
- Holistic Health & Integration

Prophetic Voice & Social Transformation Ministries

February and August, 1.5 credit hours

In this course, students will immerse themselves in both self-inquiry and applied theology while exploring questions around diverse aspects of injustice and oppression, how spirituality informs social action, and key elements of social transformation. Specific areas of focus will include: Prison Ministry; Human Sexuality: History, Theology and Politics; Liberation Theology; Theatre of the Oppressed; Prophetic Voice in Ministry; and an Introduction to Deep Culture.

* There is substantial independent study required for completion of this course prior to the course dates.

Theological Literacy

May and October 2022, 1.5 credit hours

Theology literally means “words about the Divine.” In Theological Literacy, students will explore the concepts that attempt to describe the Divine, as well as how we understand the universe and ourselves in relation to the Divine. Our approach to ministry is always directed by our theology. In this course, students will receive an interfaith orientation to theological concepts across the World Religions, to better discern, define and describe one’s own understanding of theological questions related to morality and end-of-life speculation.

* There is substantial independent study required for completion of this course prior to the course dates.

MINISTRY BASICS 1 - 3

The Ministry Basics courses provide both theoretical and hands-on learning for developing one's approach to effective, sustainable (self-care), and pastoral care practices whether as a chaplain, minister or other spiritual leader. The ChI curriculum incorporates lecture, personal sharing, creative projects, and experiential exercises to appeal to our many ways of integrating and practicing new learning. **These three courses do not need to be taken in numeric order but do need to follow the first four Foundations.**

Chaplaincy Toolbox

January and August 2022, 2 credit hours

In Ministry Basics 1, areas of focus in classes include: Dreamwork; Ministry of Prayer and Presence; Trauma-informed care; Self-care & Stability in Ministry; Listening through the Arts; and Public Speaking.

Spiritual Care Concerns

June and November 2022, 2 credit hours

In Ministry Basics 2, areas of focus in classes include: Spiritual Care and Addiction, Ministry with the Ill and Dying; The Five Generations; Faith Styles and Stages of Faith; Grief and Loss; Depression, Suicide and Dark Night of the Soul; and Spirituality and Aging.

Leadership and Ministry

July and December 2022, 2 credit hours

In Ministry Basics 3, areas of focus in classes include: Spiritual Leadership and the Tao; Spiritual Care and Prayer; Ministerial Boundaries; Introduction to Ethics for Chaplains; Spiritual Interventions; Ritual-making; and Public Speaking.

More About Us

For more information about The Chaplaincy Institute Seminary and Community, visit https://chaplaincyinstitute.org/CHI-roots/

Program catalogs for Spiritual Direction, Chaplaincy and Transfer of Ministerial Standing/Dual Ministerial Standing can be viewed or downloaded from our website, or you can request one at admissions@chaplaincyinstitute.org or 510-843-1422.

Contact us:

Email: ChIoffice@chaplaincyinstitute.org **Phone:** 510-843-1422
Website: Chaplaincyinstitute.org