

The Chaplaincy Institute
An Interfaith Seminary & Community



2017
Interfaith Studies
Certificate Program

Catalog

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The Chaplaincy Institute and The ChI Interfaith Community

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Welcome

The Interfaith Studies Certificate Program is designed to inspire, nurture and educate a new kind of clergy: those who are called to lead and serve in an interfaith capacity. Many individuals enroll in this course to satisfy the longing and curiosity they have to live meaningful, engaged lives. Others arrive feeling called to a specific area of spiritual leadership or service. Whether in traditional or emerging contexts, this program equips its graduates to meet the individuals and issues happening now, in our increasingly intricate and diverse world.



Our innovative program focuses on a combination of the study of the world's religions, an exploration of mystical paths and teachings, as well as on developing skills for ministry and providing spiritual care. Program participants immerse themselves in a deeply creative and nurturing environment to inquire, explore and grow who they are. Integral to spiritual formation and vocational

preparation, seminarians are encouraged to retain and deepen their personal theological perspectives, while also expanding their capacity to serve the spiritually and culturally animated world in which we live.

Those completing the Interfaith Studies Certificate Course may choose to follow the path to ordination as an Interfaith Minister with The Chaplaincy Institute's (ChI's) Interfaith Community. Our goal is to offer a complete and well-rounded experience that prepares our graduates to lead and serve in whatever capacities they are called.

Once ordained, the community offers our ordained ministers an ecclesiastical home and provides them with Clergy in Good status, which is a professional requirement in many chaplaincy and ministerial settings.

Interfaith Studies Core Curriculum

The ChI curriculum provides students with a comprehensive, integrated, interfaith, and applied-theology education. Self-care practices are incorporated throughout, as fundamental learning for all individuals called to caring professions.

Our curriculum has its roots in, and speaks to, the universal language of the psyche and soul of all human beings. Designed to address the evolving spiritual needs reflected in our communities and larger society, each course syllabus undergoes annual review, adapting and changing for relevance and usefulness.

Five Threads comprise the curriculum and establish the Core Competencies for Ministerial Formation, which inform the classroom learning objectives, homework assignments and independent study requirements, which prepare and measure each seminarian's readiness for graduation.

The Five Threads of Interfaith Studies

1. Interfaith Wisdom – *Engage with the world's knowledge, beliefs, traditions and practices*

- World Religions & Perspectives: Understanding world traditions, exploring culture and practices, cultivating mystical awareness
- Contextual Education & Immersion: Personally engaging spiritual and cultural traditions, inter-religious dialogue and hospitality
- Theological Literacy: Understanding faith and the Interfaith movement, engaging sacred texts, exploring personal and Interfaith theology

2. Spiritual Psychology – *Deepen understanding of self and psyche*

- Psycho-spiritual development
- Strengthening the container of self for health in ministry
- Dreamwork

3. Spiritual Leadership & Development – *Define, express and embody one's personal connection to Spirit*

- Personal Transformation & Self-care: Deepening spiritual practice, personal inquiry and reflection
- Leadership & Communication Skills: Developing inspired teaching, speaking and facilitation skills

- Arts for Awakening: Engaging transformative artistic practices in visual arts, music, and movement as pathways to the Divine

4. Interfaith Ministry & Service – *Explore spiritual care practices for individuals and communities*

- Spiritual Care: Developing practical, inclusive spiritual care and ministry skills, prayer, spiritual care theology, and personal competence in deep listening, presence and compassion
- Ceremonial Ministry: Understanding ceremonial rites & elements of Interfaith worship
- Community Ministry & Social Transformation: Exploring pathways to applied ministry, cultural advocacy and social activism

5. Vocational Formation – *Design and practice your unique path to service or ministry*

- Supervised Practicum: Integration and application of core competencies
- Calling & Discernment: Exploring how your gifts, growing edges, vocational experiences and inner guidance interweave to form your way of ministering to the world.

Core Competencies for Ministerial Formation

If a student is called to pursue the path to ordination, there are Core Competencies for Ministry that have been identified by The ChI Interfaith Community that guide the process. These guidelines provide direction for each minister's ongoing personal and professional development and fall into the following categories:

- Formative Theology
- Missional Theology
- Critical Theology
- Spiritual Psychology
- Personal Transformation & Self Care
- Communication Skills & Public Presentation
- Leadership & Ministerial Demeanor
- Arts for Awakening
- Spiritual Care
- Ceremonial Ministry
- Community Ministry & Social Transformation
- Vocational Formation

Program Structure

Our modular program features *hybrid distance learning* in order to serve students from near and far. Our goal is to join the best features of classroom teaching with independent learning to serve the needs of people who cannot spend a great deal of time on a campus and regularly attend classes. Courses are not available solely on-line.

In-Person instruction:

Students travel to Berkeley, California, to attend Thematic Learning Modules that focus on world religions as well as practical theological and ministry competencies. Modules are taught throughout the year in the same month of each year, which enables students to attend in any order they wish. Each module starts on a Wednesday and ends on a Sunday and has a distinct theme—either a world religion or a particular aspect of interfaith ministry.

During each module, a team of core and guest faculty guides students in an integral learning experience, incorporating theological, academic, creative and experiential elements. Class content includes didactic and experiential, theological and psychological, artistic and reflective modalities. Although each module is different, each offers opportunities to explore prayer, meditation and ritual through the lens of a particular faith tradition and all contain elements of ministry, chaplaincy and spiritual care skill-building, including:

- Study of a World Faith Tradition
- Classes incorporating the Five Threads of Interfaith Studies Curriculum
- Student Sermon Presentations
- Group Visit to a Place of Worship
- Interfaith Worship Service

Travel

Students are responsible for their own travel arrangements and costs, including airfare and ground transportation. Suggested travel times and details will be sent to students in advance to assist in travel preparation. Overnight accommodations and meals are not provided. Arrangements can be made to stay overnight at nearby seminaries that rent rooms at reasonable costs. There are also several hotels and home-stay options in the area near public transportation. People coming by air do not need a car; public transportation is plentiful in Berkeley. [See Addendum C](#) for more information.

Module Timing & Frequency

In order to graduate, all students must complete each of the twelve (12) required modules. With the exception of Spiritual Psychology (parts I and II), students do *not* need to take the modules sequentially; they can be taken in any order. Still, each of the twelve modules must be completed to fulfill program requirements, or to be considered for ordination. *Required reading, a reflection paper, and an expressive arts project are due prior to each module.*

Students have up to three years to complete the coursework. While it may seem

technically possible to complete the program in one year, a more realistic timeframe is 18 months to 2 years. A two-year process allows for greater continuity and a deeper engagement with both the material and with The ChI Community.

See [Addendum A](#) for Map to Interfaith Ministry & Chaplaincy
See [Addendum B](#) for Calendar of Modules.

Independent study:

In addition to Thematic Learning Modules, students work independently on requirements that include:

Work with a Spiritual Director or Counselor/Therapist with a spiritual focus

Each student is required to complete once-monthly Spiritual Direction/Spiritual Counseling sessions with an approved director, to commence after the student's first module, and completing a minimum of 1 session per month for every month prior to graduation (or ordination), unless otherwise agreed upon between the student and ChI. [Note: Minimally this means 15 sessions, typically closer to 22.]

Commit to a personal spiritual practice and participate in a spiritual community (different traditions very acceptable)

The options for a personal spiritual practice are multiple and flexible. Examples include attendance at a weekly worship service, daily meditation, prayer based on a primary faith tradition, yoga, art or journaling, and so on. *Practice should be discussed and tended in spiritual direction as well as in the Core Competencies Self-Assessment review.*

As part of the Community Ministry and Social Transformation (CMST) coursework, students are also expected to attend and participate in the life and activities of an organized spiritual community. The community may be your long-standing religious home, but may as readily be a church temple, zendo, mosque, ashram or other community you feel called to meet more intimately for the period of time you are enrolled at ChI.

Visit spiritual centers

Each Interfaith Studies Program student is expected to visit and experience worship at a variety of houses of worship or spiritual centers in several faiths in his or her local community. The intent of this contextual learning requirement is to have the student engage with different faith traditions/expressions of spirituality beyond just observation (and, especially, to avoid "spiritual tourism.") Site visit reports should contain evidence of both personal and contextual/cultural examination.

Find a mentor in a secondary faith tradition

The student should pick a second tradition beyond their personal spiritual practice to delve into more deeply, and find a mentor to give guidance in that tradition. This second tradition should be explored formally for at least 6 months through regular study.

Complete the Core Competencies Assessment *

Each student is required to complete a written self-reflection assessment and assessment interview, which are to be completed about two-thirds of the way through the program.

Complete a practicum *

Contextual learning gives each student the opportunity to integrate theological concepts and intellectual constructs into the flow of lived experience. Students are required to complete a 200-hour-supervised practicum (400 hours for those wishing to be ordained) in an area of interest relating to their desired focus of ministry or spiritual care. This is where each student can test their wings and begin to grow their ministry within the supportive structure of our learning community.

*Students pursuing ordination will have additional requirements for these elements, further detailed in the [Ordination Requirements](#) section of this catalog.

Program Requirements Summary

Interfaith Studies (IS) Certificate Program requirements for Certificate and Ordination students include:

	IS Certificate	IS Certificate + Ordination
In-person instruction:		
12 Thematic Learning Modules & Assignments	✓	✓
Independent study:		
Spiritual Direction Counseling Sessions	✓	✓
Personal Spiritual Practice & Community	✓	✓
Site Visits	✓	✓
Secondary Faith Tradition	✓	✓
Core Competencies Assessment	✓	✓
Practicum	200 hours	400 hours
Graduation	✓	
Ordination Preparation:		
Vocational Assessment		✓
Ordination Cohort		✓
Ordination Retreat		✓
Ordination Ceremony		✓

Ordination

“Through the stairway of existence we have come to God's Door.” —*Hafiz*

What is Ordination?

Ordination is a process in which a religious community designates specific individuals as clergy with the intent that they will minister to the spiritual needs of others in the name of and on behalf of the community. Individuals usually first have an internal sense of a calling to ministry, which is then validated externally by a religious community through the ordination process. The ChI Interfaith Community views ordination as a once in a lifetime event.

The pathway to ordination is both sacred and deliberative. Religious bodies, including The ChI Interfaith Community, ensure that candidates for ordination are carefully prepared and examined before ordaining them as clergy. The ChI Interfaith Community includes clergy, representing many faith traditions, who believe the model of interfaith spiritual life is essential for our world today. Ordination is bestowed on behalf of The ChI Interfaith Community through the lineage of these previously ordained clergy.

The ChI Interfaith Community ordains individuals who demonstrate a:

- Sense of vocation or calling to ordained interfaith ministry
- Commitment to their own ongoing spiritual and psychological development
- Firm grasp of the beliefs and practices of the world's major religions
- Readiness for ministry, which includes the embodiment of Core Competencies of Ministry identified by The ChI Interfaith Community

Benefits & Responsibilities of Ordination

Ordained Interfaith ministers have the same legal standing as ministers of any faith tradition. They may perform rituals and ceremonies as professional clergy, including marriages, blessings and celebrations, and memorials, as well as providing pastoral care. By remaining Clergy in Good Standing with their ordaining religious body, they also fulfill a key requirement to be board certified chaplains.

ChI's Ordained Interfaith ministers also have responsibilities. ChI's clergy are bound to the covenant of the vows that they take at the time of ordination and are also expected to adhere to *The Common Code of Ethics for Chaplains, Pastoral Counselors, Pastoral Educators and Students*. Ordained ministers represent ChI's Interfaith Community and are responsible to ChI as an institution, to fellow ordained clergy, and to those served as one continues to adhere to these standards, principles, and ideals.

Ordained Interfaith ministers have the support and backing of ChI's Interfaith Community, which is committed to clergy's ongoing growth and development. Fellow clergy, individually and collectively, are a source of spiritual encouragement, camaraderie, ministerial resources and countless years of wisdom gained through personal and professional experience.

Ordination Requirements

In addition to completion of all academic requirements, the Interfaith Studies Certificate Program provides instruction to assist seminary students in their vocational formation for ministry, through a separate but parallel process that takes place for those called to interfaith ordination. This process is designed to help ordination candidates discern their call to spiritual leadership and ministry and is conducted by The ChI Interfaith Community.

Additional requirements for ordination candidates include:

Additional Practicum hours

Ordination candidates are required to complete 400 hours of practicum, or the equivalent of 1 unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). *This requirement is instead of the 200 hours required for Certificate students.*

Vocational Assessment

A requirement of most seminaries, this collaborative process provides valuable insight into one's vocational calling, psychological health, and readiness for interfaith ministry or chaplaincy. It provides an opportunity for seminary students to engage in a self-reflective process that can help them identify their learning edges and evolve as human beings and as ministers-in-training while still in the supportive setting of the ChI Seminary and ChI Interfaith Community.

Core Competencies' Assessment

Through this process the student will assess their own mastery of the Core Competencies for Ministry through a written process of deep reflection. A committee composed of ChI's Director of Community, a Core Faculty member and a member of ChI's Ordained Clergy will meet with the student to discuss the Core Competencies Self-Assessment paper submitted. Afterward, this same committee will assess the student's readiness for ordination and either approve for ordination or provide additional steps to complete to prepare for ordination.

Ordination Cohort

The purpose of the ordination cohort is to give and receive support on the path to ordination. Students join a cohort that will meet together in the months before an ordination ceremony in order to clarify each candidate's sense of calling to ordained ministry, discuss aspects of the ordination process, and plan together aspects of the ceremony.

Ordination Retreat

The retreat takes place during the week of ordination, at the same time the usual monthly module is being held. All ordinands are expected to participate in the full retreat. The spiritual purpose is to enter into a sacred space where ordinands prepare themselves internally for ordination as they reflect on what it means for them to be an Interfaith Minister. The practical aspect of the retreat is that it includes time to practice

and receive feedback on ordination vows and sermons, and to rehearse the ceremony and logistical aspects.

Certificates & Titles Bestowed

All graduates of the Interfaith Studies Certificate Program receive a **Certificate of Completion** from The Chaplaincy Institute. All students who successfully complete the Interfaith Studies Program also receive an **official transcript** from The Chaplaincy Institute, which lists the student's program start date and graduation date, and assigns a passing grade for all academic requirements. **The ChI Seminary** bestows Certificates of Completion and issues transcripts.

The ChI Interfaith Community bestows Interfaith Ordination and Clergy In Good Standing status. All clergy ordained by The ChI Interfaith Community are entitled to adopt and use the following titles:

- Reverend
- Chaplain
- Interfaith Minister

Clergy in Good Standing Status

Clergy in Good Standing status means that you are demonstrating to the satisfaction of your religious community (ChI) an ongoing commitment to your personal wellbeing/self-care, your spiritual and psychological development, your professional growth, ethical conduct and the sustainability of your religious community (ChI).

ChI seminarians who successfully complete The ChI Interfaith Community's process for ordination are considered Clergy in Good Standing, which is required for board certification as a professional chaplain and may be required by employers. Clergy in Good Standing must renew annually.



Admissions

Fees: see our website at <http://chaplaincyinstitute.org/index.php?cID=138>

Financial Aid

Scholarships

We are committed to making our interfaith education programs accessible to all qualified applicants. In this spirit, ChI is offering scholarships to eligible applicants. Scholarships:

- apply to Interfaith Studies Certificate or Interfaith Spiritual Direction Certificate Program students.
- are available to Interfaith Studies students completing the full program (12 modules). Those taking less than 12 modules are not eligible. Applicant must plan to complete the course in 2 years or less.
- offer recipients a discount off Program Fee. There are 2 levels of scholarships. The first reduces the cost by \$1,500 or the second reduces Program Fees by \$3,000. Prepay discounts do not apply to scholarship students.
- are given to new applicants (not to current students) who are eligible as funds are available.
- are applied to Program Fees only and should not be requested to offset expenses associated with travel, books or other program costs.
- are considered based on financial need.

[Download Scholarship Application: PDF or DOC](#)

Work Study Positions

The Chaplaincy Institute (ChI) is committed to making our courses accessible to all qualified applicants. In this spirit, ChI offers a limited number of work study positions to provide partial assistance with tuition fees to students who are enrolled in the full 12 module Interfaith Studies Certificate Program or in the Interfaith Spiritual Direction Certificate Program. Work study opportunities are not available to students in other ChI programs.

The most important factors that are considered when determining work study awards are a student's financial need, matching of specific skill sets to organizational needs, and student's ability and commitment to keeping a regular work schedule that we can count on and manage to. Work Study awards are applied to Program Fees only and should not be requested to offset expenses associated with other program costs.

[Download Work Study Application:PDF or Doc](#)

Admissions Policy

ChI has a rolling admissions policy; students may enter the program at any time. The same cycle of modules is repeated each calendar year, so students can attend in a schedule pattern that is best suited to their own situation.

Prerequisite

A Bachelor's degree is required.

We recognize that many people have engaged in life and learning experiences in a variety of contexts that can develop knowledge and abilities that equal a Bachelor degree. Applicants

without a Bachelor's degree can apply for an education equivalency/life experience waiver of this requirement, by completing a *Bachelor Degree Prerequisite Waiver Request*, available from our office.

Enrollment Process

Application

A written application, transcript, professional resume or CV and letters of recommendation are required. The application is available from our office 510-843-1422 or on our website: [http://chaplaincyinstitute.org/files/2914/7717/8907/Interfaith Studies Certificate Program Application 2016.pdf](http://chaplaincyinstitute.org/files/2914/7717/8907/Interfaith_Studies_Certificate_Program_Application_2016.pdf) Application materials can be sent in as they are completed; they do not all have to arrive together.

Application Deadline

Applications are welcome any time. Plan to have application materials in no later than 2 (and ideally 3) months prior to the date of the first module you plan to attend.

Admissions Interviews

We review applications in the order we receive them, within 2 weeks of receiving them. Once reviewed, we will be in contact with you to schedule an interview either in person or by Skype.

Acceptance

If accepted into the program, the student will receive an acceptance letter and all that is necessary to get started. Plan on one to two months' time to prepare for the first module (administrative forms, student handbook, "primer" reading/videos, module reading and homework assignments).

Sample admissions timeline:

February 1 – Complete Application package received

February 14 – Application Materials Reviewed. Contact made to Schedule Interview

March 1 – Interview held. Acceptance (or denial) letter received (immediately thereafter)

March 7 – Student Enrollment Materials shared (if accepted)

March 10 – New Student Orientation scheduled (online orientation will occur within two months of acceptance)

March 15 – ChI Primer (IS Program prerequisite) and First Module homework assignments provided

Two months (approximate) – Complete ChI Primer and First Module assignments

May 1 – First Module fees due

May 14 – First Module homework assignment due

May 15 – First day of class

Travel

Students are responsible for their own travel arrangements and costs, including airfare and ground transportation. Overnight accommodations and meals are not provided. See [Addendum C](#) for more information.

Schedule a Visit to a Thematic Learning Module

Prospective students are welcome to sit in on a module class to gain a first-hand experience of the program. All class visits are from 9:00am to approximately 1:00pm and are followed by a meeting with our staff. Arrangements are made ahead of time through our office by contacting Our Admissions Manager, Mary Mallahan Hicken, at mary@chaplaincyinstitute.org or 510-631-3066.

We're Here to Support You

We appreciate that some people need support in making such an important decision. Indeed, choosing to enroll in a program such as this is a considerable investment of time and resources. Mary is available to guide you in your discernment about enrolling in the Interfaith Studies Program, at no charge to you, and can be reached at mary@chaplaincyinstitute.org or 510-631-3066.

Accreditation

Seminaries are accredited through The Association of Theological Seminaries (ATS) and/or the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). The Chaplaincy Institute is not an accredited academic institution and does not offer a Masters of Divinity (M.Div.) degree, so ChI would not show up in the Association of Professional Chaplains (APC)'s list of accredited schools.

Affiliations



The Chaplaincy Institute
An Interfaith Seminary & Community



STARR KING
SCHOOL FOR THE MINISTRY

The Chaplaincy Institute and Starr King School for the Ministry Joint Program

Background

Beginning in May 2014, The Chaplaincy Institute (ChI) and Starr King School for the Ministry (SKSM) have been formally affiliated through our Joint Program for Interfaith Chaplaincy. The purpose of this affiliation is to integrate the ChI Certificate of Interfaith Studies into Starr King's accredited master's degree programs (Master of Divinity or Master of Arts in Social Change), thereby providing a pathway for students to meet both the educational and ecclesiastical requirements for certification as a professional chaplain.

In an era where chaplaincy is taking many new forms, and in many different and new contexts, it is good and right to be engaged in the work of preparing religious leaders who will be able to mindfully respond, in a broad variety of religious traditions with respect, preparedness and compassion. This is a core value for both schools.

Precedent

To receive "board-certified chaplain" status from the Board of Chaplaincy Certification, Inc. (BCCI), an affiliate of the Association of Professional Chaplains (APC), requires a 72-credit Master's degree (or its equivalent) from a seminary accredited by a member of the Council for Higher Education (such as SKSM), and endorsement/support by a recognized faith group. The ChI Interfaith Community is a religious, ordaining entity that has been recognized as an Ecclesiastical Endorsing body by both the APC and the ACPE (Association for Clinical Pastoral Education). This "ChI-SKSM Joint Program for Interfaith Chaplaincy" is especially intended for students whose vocational aim is to become a board-certified chaplain.

Collaborative Curriculum, Credits Awarded

For Interfaith Chaplaincy

Through this affiliation, ChI and SKSM agree to admit students jointly, allowing students to pursue both a ChI Interfaith Studies Certificate and a SKSM M.Div. or M.A.S.C. degree concurrently, with the ChI certificate as an integral component of earning their SKSM degree. A total of 18 credits towards meeting the requirements of an SKSM M.Div. or M.A.S.C. degree will be awarded to students who commit to and complete the full ChI program as part of their SKSM degree.

For Interfaith Spiritual Direction

In 2015, ChI's Interfaith Spiritual Direction Certificate Program was acknowledged as also being included in this affiliation, with 8 units of credit given toward Starr King's master's degrees.

For Interfaith Chaplaincy AND Spiritual Direction

Starr King M.Div. students may apply to take both of the Interfaith Studies and Spiritual Direction tracks at ChI for credit at Starr King, however there is no guarantee that students can do both. Giving access to ChI classes to a large group of students will be a priority. Students will be accepted into each program separately and cannot participate in them concurrently. If both ChI programs are taken, students will earn 26 units of total credit at Starr King.

Admission and Enrollment

New Joint Program Students

In the preferred and usual circumstances, it is expected and encouraged that a student will apply for joint admission prior to beginning either school's program. Please submit Joint Program application materials. Once accepted by both schools, students can complete the enrollment process and begin studying at SKSM in January or August and the following applies:

- For pedagogical reasons, students need to be well-grounded in the ECO philosophy of SKSM and are required to take the ECO seminar (offered in January and August each year) before studying at ChI.
- All entering students will ground their studies at SKSM-GTU for at least one term before they can take courses at ChI.
- Students registering for ChI modules, should do so in consultation with their Advisor.

Current ChI Students

If a ChI student who has completed part or the entire ChI program(s) wishes to apply for admission to a SKSM Master's program (M.Div. or M.A.S.C.), the student will be welcome to do so. If admitted, SKSM will specify the academic credit for the part of the ChI program that the ChI student has completed; this amount will be applied to the total credits required to receive the degree being pursued. These students need to meet the requirements of students transferring credits to SKSM.

Current SKSM Students

If a SKSM student who has completed part of their SKSM M.Div. or M.A.S.C. degree wishes to apply for admission to either ChI certificate program, this is possible by joint agreement of the two institutions. In general terms, this is possible only in cases where the student still needs 18 or more credit hours to complete their SKSM degree and has a clear vocational plan to become an interfaith chaplain or spiritual director or feels a call to interfaith ordination. SKSM students who wish to apply to ChI later in their program must submit an application to Rev. Chris Schlein, the Director of Contextual Education; admission would follow upon approval by both SKSM and ChI leadership. Students who pursue study at ChI must follow the SKSM requirements listed above for new students into the Joint Program. Additionally:

- To ensure the financial sustainability of the program, SKSM monitors and at times limits the number of students that can take ChI modules each term. Enrolling Joint Program students have priority.
- Students will be put on a waiting list and will be notified by SKSM when they can start studying at ChI. The soonest ChI modules are available for Joint Program students starting their studies at Starr King is currently in July, 2017.

Financial Aid

Students in the Joint Program are eligible for financial aid and/or scholarships through Starr King and the Graduate Theological Union. They are not eligible for work study, scholarships or financial aid at ChI.

More Information

ChI - Mary Hicken at mary@chaplaincyinstitute.org /510-631-3066 or **SKSM** - Jeremiah Kalendae at jkalendae@sksm.edu /510-549-4704

Program Leadership

Interfaith Studies Core Faculty



Dean of the Interfaith Studies Certificate Program

Rev. Lauren Van Ham, M.A., was ordained with the very first cohort of ChI ordinands in 1999, and completed the Interfaith Spiritual Direction Certificate Program in 2006. Before joining the ChI staff in 2010, Lauren served for 8 years as a staff chaplain at St. Mary's Medical Center in San Francisco. From there she moved to a corporate environment, where she custom-designed employee programs for multi-national companies committed to sustainability and culture change. As part of her evolving call and commitment to "eco-chaplaincy", Lauren served as Executive

Director for Green Sangha (a non-profit dedicated to spiritually-engaged environmental activism) from 2004-2006 and has chaired Fair Trade Berkeley, a group whose dedication helped make Berkeley the 19th Fair Trade Town in the U.S. Lauren holds degrees from Carnegie Mellon University and Naropa University.

Core Faculty helps to expand students' working language of interfaith studies and expresses the vision of interfaith dialogue and inquiry of ChI. They hold degrees from a number of seminaries and progressive learning institutions, including Naropa University, seminaries within the Graduate Theological Union, Fuller Theological Seminary, the California Institute of Integral Studies, and Holy Names University as follows:

Sermon & Presentation Skills

Rev. Jim Larkin, M.Div., is Co-Director of Tree of Life Teachings International with his wife, Megan Wagner. Jim's introduction to ChI was as co-teacher of the Spiritual Psychology classes with Megan. Though he currently finds his spiritual home in the Kabbalah, Jim was originally ordained into the Presbyterian Church. While serving as the Associate Pastor at the American Church in London, Jim was introduced to "Men's Work" with such teachers as Robert Bly, Michael Meade and Malidoma Somé. After much soul searching and deep study in the Kabbalah, Jim resigned his Presbyterian ordination and eventually was ordained as an Interfaith Minister by the ChI Interfaith Community in 2005. Jim finds great joy in creating and leading worshipful ceremony and ritual to help individuals connect with their own Divine nature and with The Divine with the goal of personal growth and spiritual development.

Arts for Awakening

Rev. Katrina Leathers, M.A., started in psychology in undergraduate years, and then studied Expressive Therapies at Lesley University in Massachusetts. In practice as a psychotherapist, she focused on integrating expressive arts into recovery from childhood trauma and abuse. Over time, her spiritual focus became primary, and she was ordained at The Chaplaincy Institute in March 2012. She is an Interfaith Spiritual Director, and is creating a community ministry for those who identify as spiritual-but-not-religious, atheist or agnostic. Personal practices include dance, shamanism and other mystical pursuits.

World Religions and Theological Literacy

Rev. Dr. John R. Mabry has been teaching spiritual guidance for ten years. A United Church of Christ (UCC) pastor, John pastors Grace North Church (Congregational) in Berkeley, CA and teaches spiritual guidance, pastoral ministry, world religions, and comparative theology at various Bay Area schools including Santa Clara University and the Chaplaincy Institute. He is the author of several books on spirituality and interfaith ministry, including *Growing Into God: A Beginner's Guide to Christian Mysticism*; *Noticing the Divine: An Introduction to Interfaith Spiritual Guidance*; and *Faith Styles: Ways People Believe*, among many others.

Spiritual Care

Rev. Jürgen Schwing, M.A., BCC, is the Director of Spiritual Care at Kaiser Permanente's Diablo Service Area, which serves two hospitals and a hospice. The Walnut Creek Medical Center offers an ACPE-accredited Clinical Pastoral Education program, as a satellite of Stanford Hospital and Clinic's CPE program. Rev. Schwing is an ordained UCC minister and a board certified chaplain whose work is rooted in the interfaith mystical journey and depth psychology. He has an M.A. in Religion and the Personality Sciences and received his clinical training as a spiritual counselor at Stanford Medical Center and the California Pacific Medical Center. Kaiser Permanente has featured his work in interfaith spiritual care in clinical video conferences throughout its system nationwide. Jürgen has taught at the Graduate Theological Union and has given presentations internationally, including in Germany and at the World Congress on Psychology and Spirituality in India, as well as at conferences of the Association of Professional Chaplains and the Institute for Transpersonal Psychology. (Disclaimer: Rev. Schwing's teachings at ChI, as well as his writings on the ChI website, are his own and not endorsed by Kaiser Permanente).

Community Ministry and Social Transformation

Patricia St. Onge, M.Div., is the Founder and a Partner in Seven Generations Consulting and Coaching. As a consultant and coach, she supports her clients in the process of identifying that which makes them come alive. She believes strongly that much of the wisdom necessary to solve a problem rests within the person or group that is experiencing the problem or crisis. While providing tools to support their work, she seeks to create space for them to surface their own wisdom. At Seven Generations, all of the work is culturally based; recognizing that we are all cultural beings. It is also integrative, acknowledging that we bring all of who we are – mind, body, heart and soul into all of our interactions. We begin from a position of strength and build toward realizing our strongest, healthiest self and living an authentic life. Ms. St. Onge has worked to support the progressive social justice movement for all of her adult life. She's worked as Executive and Interim Director of more than a dozen non-profits. She is a member of Native Americans in Philanthropy, a Trustee of Funders for LGBTQ Issues, and Chair of the Board at Common Counsel Foundation. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services and a Master of Divinity. She is lead author of *Embracing Cultural Competency: A Roadmap for Nonprofit Capacity Builders*, published by Fieldstone Alliance. All of the work is deeply rooted in the concept of Seven Generations; where we honor the generations who have come before us, are mindful of those yet to come, and how the impact of our decisions will last for seven generations. Of Haudenosaunee (Mohawk) and Quebeoise descent, Patricia is an activist and member of an indigenous

grandmothers' circle. Between them, she and her life partner Wilson Riles, have ten grown children and seven grandchildren. She is part of a growing community called Nafsi ya Jamii (The Soul Community), an urban farm and retreat center in East Oakland.

Spiritual Psychology

Rev. Megan Wagner, Ph.D. is a therapist, spiritual director, artist, Kabbalah teacher, interfaith minister, drummer, ritual leader and author. She is the author of *The Sapphire Staff: Walking the Western Mystical Way*, a guide to the 7 stages of psycho-spiritual awakening from Kabbalah and the Tree of Life. Rev. Wagner is founding director of Tree of Life Teachings International, where she runs Tree of Life Training, a Kabbalah School, and leads sacred journeys to Crete, Europe, Mexico and Africa. Her healing work integrates Psychology, Mysticism, Shamanism, Astrology, Alchemy and the sacred arts of drumming, chanting, storytelling and ritual. She trained in Family Systems and Jungian Psychology and has 25 years of counseling experience, including 12 years of supervision in psychodynamic counseling and personal analysis in analytic depth psychology. An Interfaith minister, Rev. Wagner earned a Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy from Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California, and Masters in Metaphysics and Ph.D. in Transpersonal Counseling from the University of Sedona.

Guest faculty includes experts in specific faith traditions, spiritual practices, or other areas of spiritual leadership. Students learn from experts in specialized areas such as hospice care, addiction and recovery, prison ministry, and more, as well as from religious leaders dedicated to building bridges of peace and understanding. To learn more, visit our [Guest Faculty](#) page on the website.



Interfaith Community Leadership



Rev. Jessica Shine, M.Div., is the Community Minister of ChI. She is an experienced and certified chaplain, pastoral caregiver, communicator, and leader who has more than 15 years of experience providing dignity, exceptional care, and service to individuals, groups and communities. Jessica has a Bachelor of Arts in Theology from Pacific Union College and a Master of Divinity from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. She was ordained to ministry by the Seventh-day Adventist church. Jessica's experience encompasses Clinical Pastoral Education, POST certified police chaplaincy, traditional pastoral ministry at the local church, various international missions, small groups, and classroom education.

Executive Leadership



Vicki Weiland brings over 30 years of remarkable professional achievements in high-level non-profit leadership, fundraising, volunteer development, and strategic planning. Previous to joining ChI, she served as the Executive Director of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation in San Francisco where she led the Greater Bay Area Chapter to raise \$55 million in 6 years to help cure diabetes. Earlier in her career, Vicki held equally successful leadership positions, spending 15 years with The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Northern California Division, raising \$120 million to fight cancer, and 7 years with the Muscular Dystrophy Association. After nearly 30 years in service to health-related causes,

Vicki was called to be a leader in service to fulfilling a vision of co-creating “a world where we, individually and collectively, live each moment, ONE with the Divine.” It is that spirit that led her to ChI and it's with that ultimate goal that her leadership and the way she lives her life, is inspired.

Board of Directors

[Jim Christiansen, Ph.D.](#), President

[Tim Geckle](#), Member at Large

[Mary Nelson](#), Member at Large

[Rev. Sharon Mooney](#), Member at Large

[Rev. Michael Stamper, Ph.D.](#), Treasurer

Addendum A

Map to Interfaith Ministry & Chaplaincy

1: Interfaith Studies Track		
Admissions Application & Interview		
Complete & return new student forms Review Primer to prepare for first module		2. Ordination Track
Module 1: 5 days in Berkeley, CA	Reading, Writing, Field Study, Spiritual Direction, Practicum from home	Schedule Vocational Assessment
Module 2: 5 days in Berkeley, CA		Vocational Assessment
Module 3: 5 days in Berkeley, CA		Debrief Vocational Assessment with Director of Interfaith Community
Module 4: 5 days in Berkeley, CA		
Module 5: 5 days in Berkeley, CA		
Module 6: 5 days in Berkeley, CA		
Module 7: 5 days in Berkeley, CA		
Module 8: 5 days in Berkeley, CA		
Module 9: 5 days in Berkeley, CA		Core Competencies Assessment
Module 10: 5 days in Berkeley, CA		Prepare for Ordination with a Cohort of Fellow Students
Module 11: 5 days in Berkeley, CA		
Module 12: 5 days in Berkeley, CA		Pre-Ordination Retreat and Ordination Ceremony in Berkeley, CA
	Begin ministry as an Ordained Interfaith Minister/Chaplain*	3: Board-Certified Chaplaincy*
		Complete any additional required theological study or CPE
		Work experience
		Maintain Clergy in Good Standing status with ChI
		Board Certification Application & Interview
		Board Certification

***Note:** Many chaplaincy positions do not require board certification. For positions not requiring board certification, completing the Interfaith Studies and Ordination tracks may be sufficient preparation, particularly when the practicum requirement is fulfilled by taking Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). Check with potential employers to confirm requirements for positions that interest you. For more information on board certification, go to: <http://bcciprofessionalchaplains.org>

Addendum B

Thematic Learning Modules

Each module begins on a Wednesday and continues through Sunday.
Each day is typically from 9 am to 5 pm. Attendance is required on all days.

2017 Calendar

January 18-22: Catholicism & Orthodox Christianity

February 15-19: Earth-based Traditions

March 15-19: Mahayana Buddhism

March 18: ChI Ordination

April 19-23: Mystical Judaism

May 10-14: Mystical Islam (Sufism)

June 21-25: Protestant Christianity

July 19-23: Islam

August 16-20: Theravada Buddhism

September 13-17: Judaism

September 16: ChI Ordination

October 18-22: Spiritual Psychology I

November 15-19: Hinduism

December 13-17: Spiritual Psychology II

2018 Calendar to come

Addendum C

Traveling to ChI - Transit & Accommodations

OFFICE:

1400 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 14, Berkeley, CA 94709
510-843-1422

CLASS LOCATION:

- Monday through Saturday – Christ Church, Babcock Room, 2138 Cedar Street (corner of Walnut Street), enter on Cedar Street, Berkeley, California
- Sunday - Starr King School for the Ministry, 2441 Le Conte Avenue, Berkeley, California.
- Please double check the day-to-day schedule to confirm these locations, as there are field studies and other locations that are used for classes during any given module.

PARKING:

- Monday through Friday - Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 1501 Walnut Street (at Vine), Berkeley, CA. A low gate will be closed and appear locked, but it will be unlocked. Exit your car, open it, drive in & park, and when you exit: replace the gate to its original position. Then walk one block south on Walnut Street to Christ Church, Babcock Room, on Cedar Street. There is no time limit, but do not park overnight.
- Saturday and Sunday – Street parking is ok. Please be aware that there is a time limit on Saturday parking in the LDS parking lot, we prefer you park in the street.

TRAVEL:

- Oakland Airport (OAK) is the closest airport to Berkeley; San Francisco (SFO) is the second closest, and also the larger airport with more flights to more cities.
- Public transportation from the airports to Berkeley is via a safe, reliable train system called BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit.) The BART stop closest to ChI is “Downtown Berkeley” (*not North Berkeley*) and is a 10-15 minute walk or 5-minute drive away. For more information, go to:
<http://www.bart.gov/guide/airport/index.aspx>
- Door-to-Door shuttle services are plentiful as well, with reservations/prior arrangements recommended.
- Useful websites for traveling to Berkeley
 - www.sfgate.com/traveler/guide/eastbay/neighborhoods/
 - www.tripplanner.transit.511.org

ACCOMMODATIONS:

There are full service hotels, guest houses, and low cost student accommodations at seminaries and private homes in Berkeley. ChI makes no claims or guarantees about the following information. It is provided as assistance only.

Rooms at Neighboring Seminaries

- 1. Guest Houses at Church Divinity School of the Pacific (CDSF)**
- 2. Guest Rooms at Pacific School of Religion (PSR)**
- 3. Incarnation Monastery**

As close as 5 blocks from ChI
Rates: \$52-\$100 a night

Private Homes

- 1. Home of Helene Vilett**
- 2. Home of Betsy Smith**
- 3. Home of Laura Brown**
- 4. Home of Barbara Lewis**
- 5. Home of Mark Estes**

As close as one block from ChI
Rates: \$50-\$100 per night

Alternative / B&B Accommodations

- 1. Homestay by the Bay**
- 2. North Berkeley Hills Homestay**
- 3. North Berkeley Bed and Breakfast Cottage**
- 4. Air Babb -www.airbnb.com/**
- 5. Couch Surfing -www.couchsurfing.org/**

Distance and rates vary

Hotels & Motels

- 1. The French Hotel**
- 2. Berkeley YMCA Hotel**
- 3. Downtown Berkeley Inn**
- 4. Shattuck Plaza Hotel**
- 5. Downtown Berkeley Inn**
- 6. Bancroft Hotel**

- 7. Hotel Durant**
- 8. La Quinta**
- 9. Holiday Inn Express**
- 10. Rose Garden Inn**
- 11. The Doubletree – Berkeley Marina**
- 12. Travelodge**

Distance and rates vary.

For more detailed information on accommodations:

http://chaplaincyinstitute.org/files/9014/7068/3759/Traveling_to_ChI.pdf

Addendum D

Payment Policy and Planning

To calculate your payment:

Enter the first month/year you intend to attend. Payment of \$2,000 will be due the 1 st of this month.	____/____ (a)
Enter the date of the month immediately following your first module. First monthly payment will start on the first of this month.	____/____ (b)
Enter the month/year of your final module. Last monthly payment will be made on the first of this month.	____/____ (c)
Count the number of months starting with column b and through and including column c.	_____ (d)
Divide \$17,250 by the number of months you will make monthly payments (d). This will be your total monthly payment.	= \$ _____ (e)
<p>On the first of _____ you pay \$2,000. On the first of each (a)</p> <p>month beginning _____ until _____, you will pay (b) (c)</p> <p>\$ _____. (e)</p>	

Payment Policies

- If a student changes a module attendance plan to extend their time at ChI, the monthly payment plan will remain as is and will not reflect the extension in the attendance plan. If a student increases the pace of their studies at ChI and the last module date becomes sooner than the original payment plan estimate, the payment plan will be adjusted so that all fees are paid by no later than the 1st of the month of the 12th or last module.

- Students must be up to date with their payments in order to continue with the program. If for some reason a student falls behind in payments, attendance will be suspended until payments are current.
- Students needing to take a personal leave of absence and take a break from their studies for medical or other emergency or personal reasons, and if the Dean accepts the request for leave, will see their monthly payments cease until the first of the month that studies resume.
- Payment policies as stated above apply. Starr King/Joint Program students are not eligible for scholarship or work study at ChI. Withdrawal and refund policies as above, apply. Students to coordinate any additional consequences of dropping from the program, if any, with Starr King.