

The Chaplaincy Institute

An Interfaith Seminary & Community



2017-2018

Interfaith Spiritual Direction Certificate Program

Catalog

510-843-1422

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www.chaplaincyinstitute.org

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The Chaplaincy Institute and The ChI Interfaith Community

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Welcome

The Interfaith Spiritual Direction Certificate Course is designed to inspire, nurture and educate those who are called to serve as Spiritual Directors in an interfaith capacity in our increasingly diverse world. Our innovative course focuses on a combination of the study of world religions, an exploration of personal spirituality, and spiritual direction skills—all in a creatively infused context. This course is designed for those who feel called to a private practice in personal, one-on-one spiritual direction, and who anticipate working with clients from a variety of faith traditions. It is also well-suited for those who intend to do group spiritual direction, and for those of other helping professionals who want to add a spiritual guidance perspective to their current work (such as psychotherapists, health practitioners, ministers and chaplains).



Our Student Body

Our students come from a diverse range of backgrounds—from nurses to yoga instructors to business people to psychologists. They also come from a diverse range of theological backgrounds— for example, Buddhists, Catholics, and many people who do not define their spirituality through a specific faith tradition.

We are an adult learning community, growing through each person's distinctive talents and perspectives. We honor our students' unique spiritual paths and encourage them to continue to nurture their own theological perspectives. We ask each student to bring his or her gifts, talents, and point of view to their individual ministry, and our community as well. Assistance/access for students with special needs can be arranged.



ChI offers you an opportunity to become more fully connected with your spiritual sense and whatever you may call your higher power, and you leave the program with tools that you can use to help you on your way. And because it is interfaith, it gives you a sense of confidence and a sense of know-how and knowledge about the direction to go, and it just connects you with a platform from where to start. It gives you a sense of home, a place to belong, because you develop new relationships with people that you can call upon that you didn't have before, and it doesn't matter what they may call their higher power because the language is universal. I just love everybody at ChI. It is an amazing experience.

--Willie Ruth Harris, ChI Interfaith Spiritual Direction student, 2014-2015, Tallahassee, Florida

Interfaith Spiritual Direction Core Curriculum

Our Interfaith Spiritual Direction Program teaches a non-directive interfaith approach. We do not believe in telling people how to think, what to believe, how they are supposed to feel, or what to do in any specific circumstances. We believe that the person who comes to us for direction is the expert on his or her own spiritual life, and given time and prayerful or meditative reflection, can discern what is best. Thus we teach skills to help people discern their own deep inner wisdom and to live with a deeper sense of connection and alignment with Spirit.

Areas of Studies

Spiritual Direction Skills

- Definitions, varieties and history of spiritual direction
- Modes of Interfaith Spiritual Direction
- Cultivating Holy Listening
- Directive and non-direction spiritual direction
- Cultivating the compassionate observer within
- Methods of Spiritual Discernment
- Spiritual Direction with the Ill, Dying & Bereaved
- Dreamwork for Guiding Non-Religious People
- Guiding Non-Religious People
- Group Spiritual Direction and Group Supervision
- Relationship, Generational, and Sexual Issues

World Religions

- Native Traditions
- Taoism
- Buddhism
- Hinduism
- Islam
- Zoroastrianism
- Judaism
- Christianity

The Spiritual Experience

- God's presence in daily life
- Spiritual Life Stories
- Images of the Divine their impact upon the spiritual life
- Imagery for people of various faith styles
- Faith Styles & their impact on the spiritual guidance process
- The power of vulnerability: Dark Night of the Soul
- Varieties of prayer and devotional disciplines
- Addiction and the Longing for Transcendence
- The archetypal spiritual journal

Personal Development & Integration

- Discerning one's call
- Rules & Ethics: Boundaries, confidentiality, and self-care
- Generational Issues in Spiritual Direction
- Sexual Issues in Spiritual Direction
- Establishing a business practice in Spiritual Direction

Program Structure

Program Requirements Summary

4 Intensive Learning Modules (5 days each)	30 Individual Spiritual Direction Sessions
18 Practicum Hours	Reading as assigned
12 Supervision Sessions	Personal Spiritual Practice

Curriculum

Four intensive learning modules, 5 days each week, Monday through Friday. Although each module is different, each offers opportunities to practice deep listening, spiritual discernment and essential spiritual direction skills.

See [Addendum A](#) for Calendar of Modules

For travel information, please visit our website at:

http://chaplaincyinstitute.org/files/4914/6343/5546/Traveling_to_ChI.pdf

In-Person instruction

Students travel to Berkeley, California, to attend intensive learning modules that focus on practical skills, spiritual direction competencies and guiding people of particular faith traditions. Although each module is different, all of them contain elements of spiritual direction, spirituality, and personal development. During each module a team of core and quest faculty guides students in an integral learning experience, incorporating theoretical, practical, and creative elements. Class content at the modules flows between didactic and experiential artistic and reflective modalities.

Independent study

In addition to intensive learning modules, students work independently on reading, practicum, and spiritual practices. They communicate with faculty and classmates via email and/or social media.

Reading of Assigned Texts: Each module has between 150 and 300 pages of reading material assigned. Ideally, students should read the material before arriving for the module, but materials may be read after the assigned module as well.

Individual Sessions: Each student is required to attend a total of 30 spiritual direction sessions with an approved spiritual director. Spiritual Directors are hired independently of the school and are compensated for their services directly by the student.

Spiritual Direction Practicum Hours: Students provide spiritual direction sessions to real-world clients to develop and hone their spiritual direction skills. This contextual learning gives students the opportunity to integrate learned concepts and techniques into the flow of lived experience. This is

where students can test their wings and begin to grow their skills within the supportive structure of our learning community.

Supervision Sessions: Students meet 12 times with a qualified Spiritual Direction Supervisor to review and reflect on their practicum hours.

Personal Spiritual Practice: Each student is required to have a personal spiritual practice to which one is committed. The options for a personal spiritual practice are multiple and flexible. Examples include attendance at a weekly worship service, daily meditation or prayer based on a primary faith tradition, yoga, art, journaling, and so on.

Certificate Bestowed

All graduates of the Interfaith Spiritual Direction Certificate Program receive a **Certificate of Completion** from The Chaplaincy Institute.



Admissions

Fees: see our website at <http://chaplaincyinstitute.org/education/interfaith-spiritual-direction-program/fees/>

Admissions Policy

Prerequisite

Applicants must have engaged in Spiritual Direction for a minimum of 3 sessions before the first day of class.

Enrollment Process

Application

A written application, 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/7014/7146/7703/2017-18_Interfaith_Spiritual_Direction_Certificate_Program_Application.pdf

Application materials can be sent in as they are completed; they do not all have to arrive together. Email them to mary@chaplaincyinstitute.org

Application Deadline

This course begins on August 21, 2017. Applications are **due by July 31, 2017**. Applications are accepted on a first come, first served basis. Up to 25 students will be accepted into the program.

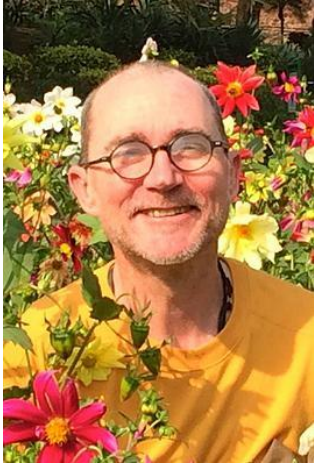
Admissions Interviews

We review applications in the order we receive them, usually 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.

Program Leadership



Rev. Dr. John Mabry is the Director of the Interfaith Spiritual Direction Certificate Program for ChI. He has been teaching spiritual guidance for 10 years. A United Church of Christ pastor, John pastors Grace North Church (Congregational) in Berkeley, California and teaches spiritual guidance, world religions and comparative theology at Sofia University, Santa Clara University as well as ChI. 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. The landscape of interfaith may seem as foreign to you as Morocco, or Nepal. For this reason you need guides on the journey who are knowledgeable, who speak the language because they have been there and

have learned from experience, or who can join you in finding the way to ask the questions that will point to the next step on the path. Our core faculty helps to expand students' working language of Interfaith Spiritual Direction. They interact with the student's unique gifts of calling and aspiration for spiritual direction in order to support the student's attainment of the skills and competencies necessary for being a professional and successful spiritual director.

Faculty

Rev. Lauren Van Ham, M.A., Dean of ChI's Interfaith Studies Certificate Program, was ordained with the very first cohort of ChI ordinands in 1999, and completed the Interfaith Spiritual Direction Certificate Course in 2006. Before joining the ChI staff in 2010, Lauren served for eight 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 currently chairs 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.

Rev. Amy Brucker, MA, is alumni, former co-director and board member of The Chaplaincy Institute. She currently teaches dreamwork and spiritual marketing in their Interfaith Spiritual Direction Certificate Program. She also teaches spiritual marketing at Sofia University (formerly Institute of Transpersonal Psychology). As a lifework guide, Amy integrates shamanic healing, dreamwork, spiritual guidance, creativity and her background in business and marketing to help people turn their life calling into meaningful work.

Rev. Scott Quinn, M.Div, M.A., was ordained as a Lutheran minister after completing a Masters of Divinity, and served as an associate pastor at a congregation in the Dallas, Texas area for five years. In 2005, he completed a Masters of Spiritual Psychology from the University of Santa Monica and became an educator and spiritual director at an interfaith spirituality center. Since moving to the Bay Area in 2011, Scott has completed ChI's Interfaith Spiritual Direction Certificate Program, Spiritual Direction Program, and Supervision of Spiritual Directors Certificate Programs, and he has transferred his ordination to the ChI community. After serving as Director of The ChI Community for three years, Scott now serves as Interim Director of the Marin Interfaith Council.

Interfaith Community Leadership



Rev. Jessica Shine is ChI's Community Minister. An experienced and certified chaplain, pastoral caregiver, communicator, and leader, she has more than 15 years of experience providing dignity, exceptional care, and service to individuals, groups and communities. Jessica comes to ChI with 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, ChI's Executive Director, 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

Intensive Learning Modules

Each module begins on a Monday and continues through Friday.

Each day is typically from 9am to noon and 1pm to 5pm. Attendance is required on all days.

2017 Calendar

August 21-25: Module 1

October 23-27: Module 2

2018 Calendar

January 22-26: Module 3

April 23-27: Module 4 (**dates are tentative**)