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Dear Prospective Student,

Thank for your interest in The Chaplaincy Institute.

The Interfaith Chaplaincy Certificate Program is designed to inspire, nurture and educate a new kind of leader: those who are called to guide and serve in an interfaith capacity. Many individuals enroll in this course after finding themselves at a crossroads – they come to CHI to satisfy a long-felt hunger to live more meaningful, engaged lives. Others arrive feeling called to a specific area of ministerial leadership or spiritual service. Whether in traditional or emerging contexts, this program equips its graduates to engage with the individuals and communities of our complex and changing 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 developing skills for ministry and providing spiritual care. Weaving together multiple learning styles, art and field visits in the local community, students immerse themselves in a deeply creative and nurturing environment to inquire, explore and grow who they are.

Integral to spiritual formation and vocational preparation, CHI students are encouraged to retain and deepen their personal theological perspectives, while also expanding their capacity to serve the spiritually and culturally dynamic world in which we live.

Seminary – tending one’s own spiritual and ministerial formation - is an amazing process. Personal transformation is inevitable; and with growth and expansion can come periods of discomfort and unrest, as well newfound elation and healing. CHI intends to be a safe and brave container for interfaith seminarians to question, wrestle with, and arrive at new points of understanding and integration. 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.

Those completing the Interfaith Chaplaincy Certificate program are academically eligible to be ordination candidates with The CHI Interfaith Community. While many CHI Seminary graduates pursue the path to interfaith ordination, it must be noted that ordination and/or full board certification as a professional chaplain, are separate processes with additional requirements and/or credentialing. As a CHI seminarian, interfaith ordination and/or professional board certification should not be presumed or considered foregone conclusions.

I am excited to share our next spiritual direction journey with you!

Many blessings,

Rev. Lauren Van Ham, M.A., Seminary Dean

Student Testimonials

CHI’s curriculum is unique, in that students who are interested in Interfaith ordination not only read, reflect, and engage with literature and liturgy from a wide scope of faith traditions, it also insists upon first-hand experience. This Nice Jewish Girl found herself genuflecting in embodied Muslim prayer, meditating with a Buddhist nun, kneeling in a Catholic mass, and sweating in a lodge with a Lakota guide. The insistence upon empathy and the invitation to compassionate sharing offered a clerical formation unlike anything I could have imagined.

— Rev. Jen Bernstein
CHI Interfaith Minister
Ordained 2014
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 Chaplaincy Studies

Interfaith Wisdom

Engage with the world’s knowledge, beliefs, traditions and practice.
  • 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

Spiritual Psychology

Deepen understanding of self and psyche
  • Psycho-spiritual development
  • Strengthening the container of self for health in ministry
  • Dreamwork

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
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

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 program features hybrid distance learning with intensive residential courses 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. The Chaplaincy Program requires a minimum of eight visits to Berkeley for course intensives that span 5 to 7 days, plus substantial at-home learning through online courses as well as independent study.
In-Person Instruction

Students travel to Berkeley, California, to attend intensive courses that focus on one particular aspect of interfaith ministry within our curriculum threads and Core Competencies. Most courses are each taught adjacent to another course so they can be bundled, reducing in-person attendance to eight intensive learning periods in Berkeley, if desired.

During each course, a team of core and guest faculty guides students in an integral learning experience, incorporating theological, academic, creative and experiential elements. Class content may include didactic and experiential, theological and psychological, artistic and reflective modalities. Depending on the focus topic of a course, 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

Course Timing & Frequency

In order to graduate, all students must complete the eight (8) required courses plus a minimum of 12 elective days. With the exception of Global Spiritual Traditions (GST 1 and 2), students do not need to take the courses sequentially; they can be taken in any order. Either GST 1 and 2 must be taken first, for an introduction to CHI Culture and Interfaith Studies. Both GST 1 and 2 should be completed within the first few months of attendance. Exceptions to this occur if a student has attended an Open Course before enrolling in the Chaplaincy Program in which case they should take GST as soon as possible after program enrollment. All requirements must be completed to be considered for ordination. Required reading, reflection papers, prepared presentations and expressive arts projects are often assigned and due prior to each course.

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.

Independent study

In addition to in-person and online courses, 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 class, 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 Chaplaincy 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 *
Students are 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.

Requirements Summary

Interfaith Chaplaincy (IC) Certificate Program requirements for Certificate and Ordination includes:

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<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Certificate</th>
<th>Certificate + Ordination</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>In-person instruction:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Required Courses &amp; Assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 to 13 days of Electives</td>
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<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Independent study:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spiritual Direction Counseling Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Spiritual Practice &amp; Community</td>
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<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Visits</td>
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<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Faith Tradition</td>
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<td>Practicum</td>
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<td>400 hours</td>
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<td><strong>Graduation</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Ordination Preparation:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ordination Consultation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vocational Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ordination Cohort</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ordination Retreat</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ordination Ceremony</strong></td>
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Ordination

“What 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 Chaplaincy 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 Community Minister, 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 Chaplaincy Certificate Program receive a Certificate of Completion from The Chaplaincy Institute. All students who successfully complete the Certificate 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.
Application Process

APPLY ANYTIME!

Download the Program Application here:  
https://chaplaincyinstitute.org/interfaith-chaplaincy-ministry/

A written application, transcript, professional resume or CV and three letters of recommendation are required.

There is no deadline to apply for this program. The same cycle of courses is repeated each calendar year, so students can apply and attend in a schedule pattern that is best suited to their own situation.

PREREQUISITE
A Bachelor’s degree is required, in most cases. 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’s 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.

WHEN TO APPLY
Plan to have application materials in no later than 2 (and ideally 3) months prior to the date of the first session you plan to attend.

Application materials can be sent in as they are completed; they do not all have to arrive together.

Email the application and materials to admissions@chaplaincyinstitute.org, or mail application materials to:  
The Chaplaincy Institute  
941 The Alameda  
Berkeley, CA 94707

APPLICATION INTERVIEW
We review applications in the order we receive them, within 2 weeks. Once reviewed, we will contact you to schedule a 60 minute phone or in-person interview with Seminary Dean Rev. Lauren Van Ham.

ACCEPTANCE
If accepted into the program, students 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).
Program Fees

For a description of Fees, visit the website at:
https://chaplaincyinstitute.org/interfaith-chaplaincy-program-fees/

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.

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 program fees to students who are enrolled in the Interfaith Spiritual Direction Certificate Program.

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.

Please ask for the Scholarship/Work Study application from Admissions.

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 but does appear as a recognized ordaining body.
Affiliations

The Joint Program with Starr King School for the Ministry

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 Chaplaincy 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 Chaplaincy 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 6 to 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 Chaplaincy 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 24 to 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 Schelin, 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.

**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** – Admissions Manager at admissions@chaplaincyinstitute.org /510-631-3066 or
**SKSM** - Matthew Waterman at mwaterman@sksm.edu /510-549-4704

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**Program Leadership**

**Seminary Dean**

**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.

**The Interfaith Chaplaincy Program Faculty** members help 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, Lesley University and Holy Names University.
Public Speaking & Ceremonial Ministry

**Pastor Jacqueline K. Duhart** is a 2008 graduate of Starr King School for the Ministry. She currently serves as the Interim Developmental Minister at the First Unitarian Church of Oakland in Oakland, California. Her retirement date from full time ministry is June 21, 2019. She identifies as African descent, lesbian and her preferred pronoun is she and they. She is a mother, civil rights activist, avid hiker and gardener and she shares being human with her life partner Cynthia. Her favorite spiritual practices are dance/sacred movement, prayer and sitting/walking meditation.

Prophetic Voice & Social Transformation

**Mr. Barb Greve, MDiv, MCRE**, serves as a hospice chaplain and is Co-Moderator of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations (UUA). Prior to seminary Barb worked as a Program Associate in the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations’ Office of Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender Concerns, preaching and leading workshops on issues of sexual orientation, gender identification, race, and ability. Barb is the co-founder of TRUUsT (Transgender Religious professional Unitarian Universalists Together) and a tri-founder of the Guild of Interim Religious Educators. Barb has led trainings on justice issues with the Girl Scouts, PFLAG chapters, GLESN conferences, faith communities, and law enforcement. With over 20 years of institutional change work, Barb brings his passion for justice and institutions together through his teaching and living. Barb is published in *GenderQueer: Voices from Beyond the Sexual Binary* (Alyson Press), *Homosexuality & Religion: An Encyclopedia* (Greenwood Press) and *Women: Images & Realities, A Multicultural Anthology* (McGraw Hill). Barb earned his M.Div. from Starr King School for the Ministry in 2007 and his M.CRE from the UUA in 2011.

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 Core Shamanism, dance, 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).

Embodied Ministry: Embodied Care & Leadership

**Taya Mâ Shere** plays passionately in realms of transformative ritual, embodied vocalization, and ancestral healing. She is Visiting Assistant Professor of the Practice of Organic Multireligious Ritual at Starr King School for the Ministry, and is a practitioner of Ancestral Lineage Healing and Somatic Experiencing. Taya Mâ is co-founder of the Kohenet Hebrew Priestess Institute — an ordination program for spiritual leadership in earth-honoring, feminist Jewish practices — and teaches online courses on Embodied Presence, Pleasure as Prayer and Jewish Ancestral Healing. She is co-author of *The Hebrew Priestess and Siddur HaKohanot: A Hebrew Priestess Prayerbook.* Her devotional chant albums are heralded as “cutting-edge mystic medicine music.” She co-leads a multi-religious Jewish & Sufi spiritual community and is Spiritual Leader
Emeritus of a Washington D.C. area Jewish congregation. She completed her graduate studies in Folklore of Religion at the University of Pennsylvania.

**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.

**CHI Guest Faculty** members include 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.

**More About Us**

For more information about The Chaplaincy Institute Seminary and Community, visit [https://chaplaincyinstitute.org/CHI-roots/](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 from our from Admissions at [admissions@chaplaincyinstitute.org](mailto:admissions@chaplaincyinstitute.org) or 510-631-3066.

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