



Doctor of Theology Degree in Spiritual Care

The Spiritual Care Practitioner

The School of Spiritual Care

The **CAPSTONE Doctor of Theology Degree in Spiritual Care** is tailored for professional care providers, enabling them to broaden their educational scope to address not only the biological, psychological, and sociological aspects of care but also the spiritual needs of individuals. This program is specifically designed for a wide range of professionals including multidisciplinary pastors, spiritual directors, ministers, clergy, chaplains, nurses, physicians, counselors, social workers, first responders, military personnel, and interfaith spiritual care providers who seek to enhance their expertise and skills in this area.

3 Required Courses | 5 Electives | 4 Units of CPE | 1 Dissertation

Within the D.TH. In SC you will engage with:

REQUIRED COURSES

There is a set number of Required Courses. The required courses titles, and descriptions follow.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Electives, when included in the requirements for an academic Degree, may include any 400-Level courses from Chaplaincy, Spiritual Care, Spiritual Direction, Clinical Pastoral Psychotherapy, or Thanatology.

UNITS of CPE

Some of the students will already have taken 1, 2, 3, or 4 units of CPE elsewhere, and that is ok. Those units you have taken elsewhere, upon approval, will count towards your academic Degree. If you are still in need of 1, 2, 3, or 4 units of CPE in order for you to obtain the required 4 for the Doctorate, or 2 for the Master, we utilize the Graduate Academy of CPE Supervision (GACS).

GACS CPE

A bold statement indeed, however, we see our **Graduate Academy of CPE Supervision** as the only existing CPE program in the world that utilizes ALL of the areas emphasized in the Education / Teaching / Supervision of Clinical Pastoral Education & Training (CPE) including: Formation of the Chaplain/Pastor/Spiritual Care Provider, SCA's 19 Quality Indicators, Skills & Abilities from the Field, Psychodynamic Psychotherapeutic Chaplaincy, Character First, Family Systems, Existential/Theological/Philosophical Reflection, Bio-Psycho-Socio-Spiritual (Holistic) Chaplaincy, Interfaith Multifaith Chaplaincy, and What it means to be a Spiritually Literate Chaplain. From Anton Theophilus Boisen & Richard Clarke Cabot (1923) to Best Practices (2024) with an emphasis in Spiritually Integrated Chaplain Functioning.





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3 Required Courses | 5 Electives | 4 Units of CPE | 1 Dissertation

The **CAPSTONE Doctor of Theology in Spiritual Care Degree** provides students with the leadership and credibility to integrate spirituality and ethical care into professional practice.

The **D.TH. In Spiritual Care Degree** provides students with the knowledge to understand the scope of spirituality and methods to integrate appropriate and ethical care into professional practice. Programs are intended for students from a variety of professions including medical (nursing, physicians, social work, occupational, physical, and other therapies, and other allied health) and community-based (counselors, community leaders, non-chaplain first responders).

The D.TH. In SC Degree Learning Outcomes:

Students will demonstrate knowledge, skills, and dispositions associated with:

- Assess the current state of knowledge within the provision of spiritual care in a variety of settings.
- Develop expertise in a particular area of spiritual care, such as care for a particular community, spiritual assessment, ethics, or another practice area.
- Learn about and use research methods.
- Advocate for changes that support clients, organizations, and the community through an action research project. This project enables you to focus on an everyday problem or unmet need and develop a plan for remediating the issue.
- Expand the body of knowledge within professional spiritual care through their research findings.
- Conduct effective analyses of spiritual care processes and policies.
- Gain skills for designing and implementing spiritual care programs.

Students will participate in courses, assignments with deadlines, and the opportunity to learn with likeminded professionals. The Degree ends with the student writing a **Dissertation** that identifies a topic within **Spiritual Care**, investigates it through research, and proposes practical solutions. This involves undertaking experiments, collecting results, and documenting the process. In addition, general suggestions are made as to how others in their field can practically use the research findings, and other problem areas may be identified for future investigation.

Doctorate-level courses combine taught components with independent research in a student's area of expertise. Students will be challenged and encouraged to utilize specialist knowledge and advanced research skills in each course to evaluate, synthesize, and apply their learning to the field of professional **Spiritual Care**.

Prerequisite: Master Degree

Course Modality: Asynchronous Online and Hybrid Practicum Clinicals



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COST

| Course # | Requirements | Credits | Price |
|-----------------------|--|---------------|-----------------|
| FEES | | | |
| | CAPSTONE Application | | \$75 |
| | CAPSTONE Enrollment | | \$75 |
| | GACS Application | | \$75 |
| | GACS Enrollment | | \$75 |
| | CAPSTONE Technology | | \$275 |
| | CAPSTONE Administrative | | \$500 |
| | CAPSTONE Graduation | | \$275 |
| 3 REQUIRED | | | |
| SC441 | Theological Reflection | 3C x \$275 = | \$825 |
| SC442 | Pastoral Formation | 3C x \$275 = | \$825 |
| DD422 | Doctoral Project and Dissertation Writing Course | 3C x \$275 = | \$825 |
| 5 ELECTIVES | | | |
| ELECT1 | Elective ONE | 3C x \$275 = | \$825 |
| ELECT2 | Elective TWO | 3C x \$275 = | \$825 |
| ELECT3 | Elective THREE | 3C x \$275 = | \$825 |
| ELECT4 | Elective FOUR | 3C x \$275 = | \$825 |
| ELECT5 | Elective FIVE | 3C x \$275 = | \$825 |
| 4 CPE UNITS | | | |
| CPE521 | Unit 1 of GACS Clinical Pastoral Education | 6C x \$275 = | \$1,650 |
| CPE522 | Unit 2 of GACS Clinical Pastoral Education | 6C x \$275 = | \$1,650 |
| CPE523 | Unit 3 of GACS Clinical Pastoral Education | 6C x \$275 = | \$1,650 |
| CPE524 | Unit 4 of GACS Clinical Pastoral Education | 6C x \$275 = | \$1,650 |
| 1 DISSERTATION | | | |
| CDP444 | Capstone Dissertation Paper | 15C x \$275 = | \$4,125 |
| TOTAL | | 63C | \$18,675 |

(Books: Each course may require approximately \$150 for books.)

(Electives: Any 400 Level Course will work here including Chaplaincy, Spiritual Care, Spiritual Direction, Clinical Pastoral Psychotherapy or Thanatology)

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|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| OPTION A | w/ 0 Units of CPE from GACS | 63 C | TOTAL | \$13,725 |
| OPTION B | w/ 1 Unit of CPE from GACS | 63 C | TOTAL | \$15,075 |
| OPTION C | w/ 2 Units of CPE from GACS | 63 C | TOTAL | \$16,275 |
| OPTION D | w/ 3 Units of CPE from GACS | 63 C | TOTAL | \$17,475 |
| OPTION E | w/ 4 Units of CPE from GACS | 63 C | TOTAL | \$18,675 |





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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SC441 **Theological Reflection** **3 credits**

(No prerequisite required)

Description: This course introduces theology as a practice of creative and critical reflection on humanity, the world, God, and/or source from a multi faith perspective. Theological themes in dialogue with insights from the natural sciences and current social justice issues that challenge today's communities will be addressed. By connecting the theological tradition with science and social justice, students will consider how to reflect on and express faith in an informed dialogue with other fields of study that are essential to a holistic understanding of our world today.

SC442 **Pastoral Formation** **3 credits**

(No prerequisite required)

Description: Course content includes a survey of the history and development of spiritual practices in religious tradition and highlights engaged practice as a primary means of shaping and living out one's spirituality. Emphasis is placed on the application of learnings to one's life and ministry/counseling practice.

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|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| ELECT1 | Elective ONE | 3 credits |
| ELECT2 | Elective TWO | 3 credits |
| ELECT3 | Elective THREE | 3 credits |
| ELECT4 | Elective FOUR | 3 credits |
| ELECT5 | Elective FIVE | 3 credits |

Description: Electives

Any 400 Level Course will work here including Chaplaincy, Spiritual Care, Spiritual Direction, Clinical Pastoral Psychotherapy or Thanatology. Those who are taking electives are subject to what is available each particular Term / Semester. If there is a particular one that you are excited to take, please discuss this with your Academic Advisor.





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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - CONTINUED

DD422 **Doctoral Project and Dissertation Writing** **3 credits**

Description: This course serves as an introductory course in the dissertation writing process. This course deals with both the theoretical and practical aspects of designing dissertation research and with writing the proposal and dissertation. The core objective of this course is to provide guidance and motivation to the doctoral student so that the methodology and the entire prospectus will be approved by the student's dissertation committee. This course also provides students with the opportunity to interact with colleagues who are engaged in the same process.

CDP444 **Capstone Dissertation Paper** **15 credits**

Description: SCA UTS doctoral programs consist of three primary components: the coursework, the experiential education, and the dissertation. The student completes coursework to develop and hone critical thinking skills, writing skills, and knowledge. The units of CPE act as the internship putting skills and theories learned into praxis and practical application. The purpose of the coursework is to prepare the student to become a doctoral candidate. The doctoral dissertation is the final academic requirement for the doctoral program and is designed to evaluate the candidate's capabilities as a scholar.

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|---------------|------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| CPE521 | Clinical Pastoral Education | Unit #1 | 6 credits |
| CPE522 | Clinical Pastoral Education | Unit #2 | 6 credits |
| CPE523 | Clinical Pastoral Education | Unit #3 | 6 credits |
| CPE524 | Clinical Pastoral Education | Unit #4 | 6 credits |

Description: SCA CAPSTONE utilizes the Graduate Academy of CPE Supervision (GACS) for teaching Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). CPE is the experiential component of the Doctoral programs. GACS offers updated, current, contemporary Clinical Pastoral Education and Training. CPE centers in the past have traditionally created dividing lines similar to the silos offered in the medical care industry. CPE cognate groups have fallen victim to the same type of one-upmanship as has befallen many of our religious groups and denominational subtleties today. GACS utilizes all of the major areas such as pastoral psychotherapy, spirituality, skills, formation, interfaith, and multifaith perspectives in it's search for the best way that a chaplain or spiritual care provider can offer healing to those in need and in pain. Utilizing a bio-psycho-socio-spiritual perspective the helping professional can draw from many resources in order to assist someone in their spiritual journey. GACS takes CPE back to the days of Boisen and Cabot, yet stays relevant with today's highly competitive market of quality indicators, best practices, and interfaith chaplaincy and spiritual care.





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FIND MORE INFORMATION

For additional questions please contact our office at (253)442-6850 or email us at info@CAPSTONEuniversity.org

Developing the Next Generation of CPE Supervisors & Spiritual Care Professionals

CAPSTONE FAST FACT – Degrees. Units. Programs

CAPSTONE University provides education for professional learners at every level:

Doctoral Programs: Five doctoral degrees designed for the working professional wanting to capitalize on their helping skill-set.

Master's Programs: Five masters degrees designed for the student wanting to focus their learning in a specific helping field.

Executive Diploma Programs: Fourteen executive diplomas furthering the education of experienced professionals that aim to polish and refine their skill-set in the helping industries.

Professional Specialty Certificate Programs: Eleven online certificate programs to help you become a specialist in an essential specific area within the professional helping industry.

Clinical Pastoral Education Units: Provided by the **Graduate Academy of CPE Supervision**.

CPE Supervisor Education Fellow Units: Developing future CPE Supervisors / Educators

Doctor of Theology Degrees

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|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| D.TH. in CPP | Doctor of Theology in | Clinical Pastoral Psychotherapy | (72 credits) | (\$21,150) |
| D.TH. in THAN | Doctor of Theology in | Thanatology | (69 credits) | (\$20,325) |
| D.TH. in SD | Doctor of Theology in | Spiritual Direction | (66 credits) | (\$19,500) |
| D.TH. in SC | Doctor of Theology in | Spiritual Care | (63 credits) | (\$18,675) |
| D.TH. in CH | Doctor of Theology in | Chaplaincy | (60 credits) | (\$17,850) |

Master of Theology Degrees

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|--------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------|------------|
| M.DIV. in PM | Master of Divinity in | Pastoral Ministry | (45 credits) | (\$13,725) |
| M.TH. in SD | Master of Theology in | Spiritual Direction | (45 credits) | (\$13,725) |
| M.TH. in SC | Master of Theology in | Spiritual Care | (45 credits) | (\$13,725) |
| M.TH. in CH | Master of Theology in | Chaplaincy | (45 credits) | (\$13,725) |
| M.TH. in SCN | Master of Theology in | Spiritual Care Nursing | (45 credits) | (\$13,725) |

