

Master of Divinity Degree in Pastoral Ministry



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The Pastoral Minister

The School of Pastoral Ministry

The **CAPSTONE Master of Divinity Degree in Pastoral Ministry** is designed for professional chaplains, spiritual directors, care providers, thanatologists, and other ministry professionals seeking to enrich their practice with worship, ritual, liturgy, preaching, and theological reflection. This degree caters especially to those from interfaith backgrounds who aim to conduct weddings and funerals as part of their healing ministry. Offered to support these goals, the program equips participants with the necessary skills and knowledge to enhance their ministerial services and facilitate deeper healing and spiritual growth among those they serve.

9 Required Courses | 0 Electives | 2 Units of CPE | 1 Thesis

Within the M.DIV. In PM 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 300-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.



Master of Divinity in Pastoral Ministry



M.DIV. in PM | 45 Credits

9 Required Courses | 0 Electives | 2 Units of CPE | 1 Thesis

The **CAPSTONE Master of Divinity Degree in Pastoral Ministry** provides students the skill set and knowledge to seek an appropriate level of professional certification to serve as a multifaith chaplain in a variety of settings including health care, the military, first response, business, corrections, and the community.

The **M.DIV. in Pastoral Ministry Degree** coursework is designed to combine theoretical and practical learning, emphasizing critical thinking, analysis of divinity practice, and the reading and application of research.

The M.DIV. in PM Degree Learning Outcomes:

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

- The current state of knowledge within professional divinity, including philosophy, principles, and legal and ethical responsibilities.
- Various settings in which faith leaders and pastoral ministers practice the unique needs found in those settings.
- Introductory use and application of research methods.
- Strategies to advocate for the role of faith leaders and pastoral ministers.
- The design and implementation of programs and practices to facilitate integrated pastoral care to support clients, organizations, and communities.
- Communication and networking for personal and professional growth, collaboration, leadership, and change management.

Students will participate in courses, assignments with deadlines, and the opportunity to learn with likeminded professionals. The Degree ends with the student writing a **Thesis** that identifies a topic within **Pastoral Ministry**, investigates it through research, and proposes practical solutions. 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.

Master-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 **Pastoral Ministry**.

Prerequisite: Bachelor Degree

Course Modality: Asynchronous Online and Hybrid Practicum Clinicals



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M.DIV. in PM | 45 Credits

COST

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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
9 REQUIRED			
DV321	Worship	3C x \$275 =	\$825
DV322	Liturgy and Worship	3C x \$275 =	\$825
DV323	Hermeneutics	3C x \$275 =	\$825
DV324	Exegesis and Biblical Criticism	3C x \$275 =	\$825
DV325	Principles of Preaching	3C x \$275 =	\$825
DV326	Leadership in Ministry	3C x \$275 =	\$825
DV327	The Roles of a Pastor	3C x \$275 =	\$825
DV328	Integral Spirituality	3C x \$275 =	\$825
MT321	Masters Project and Thesis Writing Course	3C x \$275 =	\$825
2 UNITS			
CPE521	Unit of GACS Clinical Pastoral Education - Unit #1	6C x \$275 =	\$1,650
CPE522	Unit of GACS Clinical Pastoral Education - Unit #2	6C x \$275 =	\$1,650
1 THESIS			
CTP333	Capstone Thesis Paper	6C x \$275 =	\$1,650
TOTAL		45 C	\$13,725

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

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL CPE

OPTION A	w/ 0 Units of CPE from GACS	45 C	TOTAL	\$11,175
OPTION B	w/ 1 Unit of CPE from GACS	45 C	TOTAL	\$12,523
OPTION C	w/ 2 Units of CPE from GACS	45 C	TOTAL	\$13,725
OPTION D	w/ 3 Units of CPE from GACS	51 C	TOTAL	\$15,375
OPTION E	w/ 4 Units of CPE from GACS	57 C	TOTAL	\$17,025





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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

DV321 **Worship I** **3 credits**

(No prerequisite required)

Description: Worship I introduces basic elements of Christian worship, including its historical context, stories of worship, the roles of ritual in worship, the use of liturgical words and actions, musical expression, and worship planning and leadership. Students will work with a clergy mentor to apply course content to their own context and faith tradition and begin to develop skills in worship leadership.

DV322 **Liturgy and Worship II** **3 credits**

(Prerequisite IS Required – DV321)

Description: This course assists the pastoral minister in planning a typical worship service, a funeral, a wedding, a baptism, a Eucharist celebration, and the general structure of worship services. It assists the minister in learning historically where these came from, but then expanding to their own denominational and faith group background. It is meant to be a resource rather than a set of rules.

DV323 **Hermeneutics** **3 credits**

(No prerequisite required)

Description: This course is an introduction to the best practice methods for interpreting biblical passages in their historical, cultural, grammatical, and theological context. It includes a sound exegetical method based on English bible textual criticism, syntactic analysis, genre issues, and contextualization.

DV324 **Exegesis and Biblical Criticism** **3 credits**

(No prerequisite required)

Description: This course focuses on various forms of textual criticism including but not limited to: historical criticism, textual criticism, philological criticism, literary criticism, form criticism, tradition criticism, exegetical, redaction, as well as poetry, story, and parable.





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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - CONTINUED

DV325 Principles of Preaching 3 credits

(No prerequisite required)

Description: This course provides an understanding of the theology of preaching. Emphasis placed on the integration of theology, hermeneutics, and cultural perspectives and practice. Attention will be given to the exploration of the relationship between the divine and human dimensions of the preaching event.

DV326 Leadership in Ministry 3 credits

(No prerequisite required)

Description: This course guides students in the development of skills related to various roles and tasks of management within an organization. Emphasis is placed on the development of teams and the way group dynamics impact the character of individual team members.

CH327 The Roles of a Pastor 3 credits

(No prerequisite required)

Description: This course identifies and discusses ministry and pastoral skills and methods. Students will receive an overview of pastoral care and counseling.

DV328 Integral Spirituality 3 credits

(No prerequisite required)

Description: This course focuses on many paradigms in movement together. The holistic ontology of bio-psycho-socio-spiritual as well as developmental theories.





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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - CONTINUED

MT321 **Master's Project and Thesis Writing** **3 credits**

(No prerequisite required)

Description: The Master's Project and Thesis Writing course aims to foster the development of the core knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to construct a thesis. In this course learners will be guided through a step-by-step process of preparing to write a thesis, writing the Introduction, Literature Review, Methods, Results, and Discussion sections of a thesis, and will also partake in giving peer feedback and editing and revising each section they have produced. Various tools will also be introduced and utilized which will aid in the entire thesis construction process. Additionally, upon completion of this course, students seeking a doctorate will have laid the foundation for their thesis.

CTP333 **Capstone Thesis Paper** **6 credits**

Description: As part of their degree requirements, all SCA CAPSTONE master's students must complete a project, thesis or practicum. The master's thesis option offers graduate students the opportunity to engage in research with a faculty member. A master's thesis document presents the theoretical foundation, methodology, results, and implications of a research endeavor. A thesis project may be a clinical or non-clinical empirical study, methodological study, meta-analysis, systematic review, or a novel analysis of existing data.

CPE521	Clinical Pastoral Education	#1		6 credits
CPE522	Clinical Pastoral Education	#2		6 credits
CPE523	Clinical Pastoral Education	#3	<i>(optional)</i>	6 credits
CPE524	Clinical Pastoral Education	#4	<i>(optional)</i>	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

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

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)

