

# Executive Diploma Program in Thanatology – *the Study of Death*



www.CAPSTONEUniversity.org

## The Thanatologist

### The School of Executive Diploma Programs

The **CAPSTONE Executive Diploma Program in Thanatology** represents a deep commitment to the skilled support of those facing the end of life. Originating from "Thanatos," the Greek word for death, Thanatology is the study of dying, death, grief, and bereavement, blending rituals, the study of human suffering, and scientific research on loss. This field transcends traditional religious boundaries, welcoming anyone seeking to understand death more profoundly. Certified professionals in Thanatology are prepared to offer compassionate guidance and support through death's process, providing comfort and understanding to clients from varied spiritual backgrounds during a crucial life transition.

## THANATOLOGIST | 12 Credits

4 Required Courses | 0 Electives | 0 Units of CPE | 1 Final Paper

### COST

Course #	Requirements	Credits	Price
<b>FEES</b>			
	CAPSTONE Application Fee		\$75
	CAPSTONE Enrollment Fee		\$75
	CAPSTONE Administrative Fee		\$75
	CAPSTONE Technology		\$275
<b>4 REQUIRED</b>			
TH421	Fundamentals of Thanatology	3 x \$150 =	\$450
TH422	Death and Dying	3 x \$150 =	\$450
TH424	Assessing & Addressing Spiritual Needs of Dying	3 x \$150 =	\$450
TH425	Grief, Loss and Bereavement	3 x \$150 =	\$450
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12 C</b>	<b>\$2,300</b>





## The Thanatologist

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**TH421**      **Fundamentals of Thanatology**      **3 credits**

*(No prerequisite required)*

**Description:** This course provides an introductory overview of the multifaceted study of thanatology and invites students to reflect on their own perspectives pertaining to the end of life. Conceptual frameworks and theories surrounding death, dying, and bereavement will be introduced to further cultivate critical thinking through the thanatological lens. Emphasis will be on understanding cross-cultural and social attitudes surrounding death-related experiences, spiritual/religious needs, suicide and traumatic death, bereavement, end of life planning and common ethical concerns pertaining to assisted death. The importance of death education and a brief exploration of the evolution of bereavement in the digital age will also be discussed.

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**TH422**      **Death and Dying**      **3 credits**

*(No prerequisite required)*

**Description:** This course will look at myriad aspects of death and dying. Topics covered include developmental tasks at end of life across the lifespan, hospice and palliative care, the healthcare system, communication and having difficult conversations, family dynamics/history, legacy and meaning making, ethical issues, social perspectives on dying and attitudes toward death and causes and patterns of death in Western societies, influential theories and complementary/alternative therapies.

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**TH424**      **Assessing and Addressing Spiritual Needs of the Dying**      **3 credits**

*(No prerequisite required)*

**Description:** Assessing and providing spiritual comfort for the dying and their families will be covered in this course. Topics include assessment of needs and interventions, religious vs spiritual, ethics for chaplains and other caregivers, final goodbyes and rituals, family systems, developmental considerations, interventions theories past and present, anticipatory grief and risk assessment/mediation for spiritual crisis. Review of practices across various faith traditions.

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### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - CONTINUED

**TH425 Grief, Loss, and Bereavement 3 credits**

*(No prerequisite required)*

**Description:** This course will cover the many aspects and theories surrounding grief and mourning. Topics will include theories on grief across life span, anticipatory grief, complicated grief and other ways that grieving impacts lives. We will also look at grieving practices across religions and touch on cultural practices as well.

## Executive Diploma Programs

### Executive Diplomas for Spiritual Care Professionals

Executive Diploma in	Adult Education and Learning	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)
Executive Diploma in	Spiritual Coaching	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)
Executive Diploma in	Spiritually Integrated Psychotherapy	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)
Executive Diploma in	Hospice & Palliative Care Chaplaincy	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)
Executive Diploma in	Military Chaplaincy	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)
Executive Diploma in	Pediatric Chaplaincy	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)
Executive Diploma in	Spiritual Care Nursing	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)
Executive Diploma in	Psychospiritual Transformational Change: The Satir Model	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)
Executive Diploma in	Spiritual Care	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)
Executive Diploma in	Clinical Pastoral Education: Supervisor Education Fellow	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)
Executive Diploma in	Spiritually Informed: Social Work Practice	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)
Executive Diploma in	Thanatology: The Study of Death	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)
Executive Diploma in	Health Care Ethicist Chaplaincy	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)
Executive Diploma in	Worship Leadership	(12 credits)	(\$2,300)





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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](mailto: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 Degrees:** Five doctoral degrees designed for the working professional wanting to capitalize on their helping skill-set.

**Master Degrees:** 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

## Professional Specialty Certificate Programs

### Professional Specialty Certificates for Spiritual Care Professionals

Professional Specialty Certificate in	Alcohol & Recovery Chaplaincy	(4 credits)	(\$750)
Professional Specialty Certificate in	First Responder Chaplaincy	(4 credits)	(\$750)
Professional Specialty Certificate in	Geriatric and Elder Care	(4 credits)	(\$750)
Professional Specialty Certificate in	Hospice Chaplaincy	(4 credits)	(\$750)
Professional Specialty Certificate in	Managing the		
	Spiritual Care Department	(4 credits)	(\$750)
Professional Specialty Certificate in	Palliative Care Chaplaincy	(4 credits)	(\$750)
Professional Specialty Certificate in	Pediatric Chaplaincy	(4 credits)	(\$750)
Professional Specialty Certificate in	Spiritual Care Nursing	(4 credits)	(\$750)
Professional Specialty Certificate in	Spiritual Care Chaplaincy	(4 credits)	(\$750)
Professional Specialty Certificate in	Spiritually Informed Social Work	(4 credits)	(\$750)
Professional Specialty Certificate in	Trauma Informed Chaplaincy	(4 credits)	(\$750)

