



## Doctor of Theology Degree in Spiritual Care (DTH-CH)

The doctoral program in Spiritual Care allows students to:

- Assessing 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 to a particular community, spiritual assessment, ethics, or other practice area.
- Learn about and use research methods.
- Advocate for changes that support clients, organizations, and 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.
- Expanding 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 like-minded professionals. The Program ends with the student writing a dissertation that identifies a topic within spiritual care, investigates it through research, and proposes practical solutions for. 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.

### Prerequisite: Master's degree

### Academic Requirements: 60 credits total

6 elective courses (6 x 3 credits)	18 credits
1 required course: DD422 Doctoral Project and Dissertation	3 credits
8 required graduate practicums (1600 hours CPE each) (8 x 3 credits)	24 credits
1 required capstone dissertation paper	15 credits

### Required CPE Courses

The Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Practicum is designed to be flexible enough to allow practicum students the opportunity to sample from a variety of activities to meet their unique training needs. Students work with their CPE Supervisors and the Student Services at SCA UTS to design a training program that best suits their practicum training needs and still meets the needs of the CPE certifying bodies. Each practicum consists of 2 parts: A and B, each must be taken consecutively to complete the practicum.

- CPE521A Clinical Pastoral Education 1A/3 credits
- CPE521B Clinical Pastoral Education 1B/3 credits
- CPE522A Clinical Pastoral Education 2A/3 credits
- CPE522B Clinical Pastoral Education 2B/3 credits
- CPE523A Clinical Pastoral Education 3A/3 credits
- CPE523B Clinical Pastoral Education 3B/3 credits

- CPE524A Clinical Pastoral Education 4A/3 credits
- CPE524B Clinical Pastoral Education 4B/3 credits

**Electives:**

- **SC421 Spiritual Care within Advance Care Planning/3 credits**  
No prerequisite required. This course examines the spiritual care issues inherent in the process of advance care planning through the examination and application of current research.
- **SC422 Spiritual Care Issues in Alzheimer's/3 credits**  
No prerequisite required. This course reviews the physiological aspects Alzheimer's and other dementias. Students will evaluate research that demonstrates the impact of spirituality and quality of life upon this population and explore topics to formulate effective spiritual care and interventions.
- **SC424 Methods for Spiritual Care Integration/3 credits**  
No prerequisite required. This course reviews the basic concepts included in continuous quality improvement, Lean, and Six Sigma. Students will engage in the application of research and best practices to engage in projects within their organization that enhance the provision of chaplaincy care.
- **SC425 Counseling Within the Context of Spiritual Care/3 credits**  
No prerequisite required. This course examines techniques for brief counseling encounters appropriate within the provision of spiritual care including brief psychotherapeutic methods, psychological first aid, family systems theory, and grief counseling. Students will analyze current research to identify effective skills for their practice.
- **SC427 Spiritual Care During Grief/3 credits**  
No prerequisite required. This course examines grief theories with an emphasis on applied research on the role of spirituality and spiritual care
- **SC428 Intersection of Health Care Ethics and Spirituality/3 credits**  
No prerequisite required. This course examines the ethical and moral challenges in health care through the lens of spiritual issues that often arise. Students will engage in researching and analyzing the impact of diverse beliefs, values, culture, and religious/spiritual traditions to enhance their spiritual care practice.
- **SC439 Issues of Privacy and Confidentiality in Spiritual Care/3 credits**  
No prerequisite required. This course reviews the impact of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) upon health care disciplines, including those who provide spiritual care. Students will utilize research methods to integrate the implications of HIPPA into effective spiritual care practices.
- **SC429 Spiritual Care in Pediatric Settings/3 credits**  
No prerequisite required. This course explores the unique and distinctive issues of caring for infants, children, and adolescents in pediatric settings with an emphasis on age-appropriate experiences of spirituality. Through applied research, students will evaluate and apply specific tools to enhance the provision of spiritual care to pediatric patients and their families.
- **SC430 Spiritual Care for Perinatal Loss/3 credits**  
No prerequisite required. This course highlights the unique issues of perinatal loss. Students will discover, examine, and apply research to understand pregnancy loss implications and develop appropriate spiritual care interventions.
- **SC431 Developing and Implementing Spiritual Screening and Spiritual History/3 credits**  
No prerequisite required. This course identifies the major theories behind current practice of spiritual screening and spiritual history for the inclusion of attention to spiritual care by all members of a team. Students will engage in applied research to identify the most effective tools for their setting as well as to contribute to the development and integration of new models.
- **SC432 Spiritual Issues in Death and Dying/3 credits**

No prerequisite required. This course identify the spiritual, existential, and emotional aspects of the dying process as identified through research. Students will, through their own applied research, identify, develop, and integrate best practices, interventions, and outcomes to provide spiritual care to persons and families.

- **SC433 Spiritual Support of Teams/3 credits**

No prerequisite required. This course examines ways in which spiritual care can be implemented to support multidisciplinary teams experiencing stressors including compassion fatigue, burnout, and vicarious trauma. Emphasis is placed upon discovering and utilize research to create and enhance effective spiritual care interventions and programs.