



SCHOOL OF SPIRITUAL CARE

Doctor of Theology Degree in Spiritual Care (DTH-SC)

63 Credits

The School of Spiritual Care 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).

While not intended for professional chaplains, the Spiritual Care Program integrates two documents prepared by panels of international experts. The Quality Indicators outline the competencies and metrics to ensure that professional care is provided, the metrics that indicate such care is present, and evidence-based tools to measure that quality. The Scope of Practice includes 18 indicators which create the set of competencies required of professional chaplains. These two documents also provide the framework for the integration of spiritual care.

Spiritual Care Program Objectives:

- The body of knowledge in the field of spiritual care, including the related cultural, technological, ethical, and professional competencies.
- Skills of critical thinking and analysis by Investigating, generating, and synthesizing complex ideas and concepts at an abstract and/or applied level, critically evaluating contemporary debates and literature in their field of study, analyzing problems or issues, articulating appropriate solutions and justifying propositions and/or professional decisions.
- Oral and written communication skills, including academic and technical writing skills, applying inquiry-based learning and ways of thinking to new disciplinary and/or professional contexts, and communicating complex ideas in a variety of formats to diverse audiences.
- Effective collaboration with peers, colleagues, and communities by demonstrating a high level of personal autonomy and accountability in the acquisition or application of knowledge or skills and an understanding of, and the ability to apply, the principles of teamwork and collaboration.
- Equity and diversity as these apply to effective spiritual care integration and practice.
- Knowledge and skills of leadership and advocacy as applied to spiritual care.
- The organization, implementation, interpretation, and analysis of research appropriate to the field of spiritual care.



Doctor of Theology Degree in Spiritual Care (DTH-SC)

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

Program 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 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: 63 credits total

2 required core courses (2 x 3 credits)	6 credits
5 elective courses (5 x 3 credits)	15 credits
4 required CPE units (1600 hours CPE each) (4 x 6 credits)	24 credits
1 required Dissertation Writing Course	3 credits
1 required capstone dissertation paper	15 credits

Required Core Courses: 2 courses / 6 credits

SC441 Theological Reflection
SC442 Pastoral Formation

Required Clinical Pastoral Education units: 4 units/ 24 credits

CPE521 Clinical Pastoral Education / 6 Credits



CPE522 Clinical Pastoral Education / 6 Credits

CPE523 Clinical Pastoral Education / 6 Credits

CPE524 Clinical Pastoral Education / 6 Credits

Required Dissertation Writing Course: 1 course /3 credits

DD422 Doctoral Project and Dissertation Writing/3 credits

Required Capstone Dissertation Paper: 15 credits

Optional: WL421: Doctoral Dissertation Writing Lab (not for credit)

Electives: 5 courses /15 credits

Any 400 level CP, CH, SC or SD Level Course

Recommended electives for this degree:

SC445 Pastoral Formation and the Arts

SC446 Trauma-Informed Care and Suicide Prevention

SC447 Pediatric Palliative Care

Course Modality: Asynchronous Online and Hybrid Clinical Practicum