

CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY CERTIFICATE

The Graduate Certificate in Christian Spirituality provides students with a foundational and broad understanding of Christian spiritual theologies, traditions, and practices. Students develop an integrated spiritual perspective through self-reflection and engagement with modern culture and the classic and contemporary resources of the Christian tradition. They advance in their spiritual maturity and with a perspective grounded in key biblical, theological, and psychological competencies. The curriculum is flexible to accommodate each student's experience and vocational goals. It includes a wide range of elective course options trading on the expertise of IPS faculty and existing course offerings, allows students to discern in community and with intention their vocational goals, and provides a graduate-level credential that can be rolled directly into a master's degree program for those who decide to continue their education and formation for ministry.

The Graduate Certificate in Christian Spirituality provides a flexible course of study for

- Persons seeking to deepen their understanding and practice of Christian spirituality
- Those exploring a new career path in ministries that involve spiritual accompaniment
- Ministers who want to expand their vocational horizon, expanding their knowledge and skill base to include Christian spiritual theologies, traditions, and practices
- Volunteers or part-time professionals who seek to advance in their ministry

This Certificate can be applied toward to the requirements of an MA degree at IPS, in whole or in part depending on the requirements of the MA in question.

Related Programs

Master's

- Christian Spirituality (MA) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/institute-pastoral-studies/spirituality/christian-spirituality-ma/>)
- Christian Spirituality - Spiritual Direction Concentration (MA) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/institute-pastoral-studies/spirituality/christian-spirituality-spiritual-direction-concentration-ma/>)

Certificate

- Spiritual Direction Certificate (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/institute-pastoral-studies/spirituality/spiritual-direction-certificate/>)

Curriculum

The Graduate Certificate in Christian Spirituality requires completion of five courses (15 credit hours). Three courses are required and two courses are electives. Students will work with their academic advisor to choose elective courses that best suit their background, experience, interests, and goals.

Code	Title	Hours
IPS 545	The Foundations of Christian Spirituality	3
IPS 572	Ignatian Spirituality	3
IPS 428	Introduction to Spirituality Praxis	3
Electives		6
Total Hours		15

The Institute of Pastoral Studies offers a large number of courses online every year, including the three required courses for this certificate. It is possible, therefore, to complete the Graduate Certificate in Christian Spirituality entirely online depending on which courses a student chooses within the elective options that satisfy the curricular requirements.

Suggested Sequence of Courses

The below sequence of courses is meant to be used as a suggested path for completing coursework. An individual student's completion of requirements depends on course offerings in a given term as well as the start term for a major or graduate study. Students should consult their advisor for assistance with course selection.

Course	Title	Hours
Year 1		
Fall		
IPS 428	Introduction to Spirituality Praxis	3
IPS 545	The Foundations of Christian Spirituality	3
Hours		6
Spring		
IPS 572	Ignatian Spirituality	3
Elective #1		3
Hours		6
Summer		
Elective #2		3
Hours		3
Total Hours		15

Graduate & Professional Standards and Regulations

Students in graduate and professional programs can find their Academic Policies in Graduate and Professional Academic Standards and Regulations (<https://catalog.luc.edu/academic-standards-regulations/graduate-professional/>) under their school. Any additional University Policies supersede school policies.

Learning Outcomes

- Students gain a foundational and broad base of knowledge and skills related to Christian spirituality. Students advance their personal spiritual perspective through self-reflection and engagement with modern culture and the classic and contemporary resources of the Christian tradition. Graduates integrate and embody key biblical, theological, and psychological competencies resulting from personal engagement with the spiritual dimensions of faith, discipleship, and ministry.