



## **SCHOOL OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTION (SSD)**

### **PROGRAM DISTINCTIVES**

One-Year Focused Program  
Cohort Model (Hybrid: Online/Residency Combined)  
Facilitated by Experienced Practitioners in the Field  
Ecumenically Broad and Inclusive  
Decidedly Contemplative in Focus  
Communal in Emphasis (Group Spiritual Direction Component/Mentor-Guided)  
Highly Experiential and Praxis-Driven

### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

#### **Basic Application Requirements:**

- Bachelor's Degree (with minimum GPA)
- Two Recommendations: ministerial/academic
- Basic Computer/Online Literacy
- An Articulated Sense of Calling to be a Spiritual Director
- Submitted Application Papers (with non-refundable set application fee: \$ 75)
- Personal Interview (Skype/Video Call/FaceTime/Google Hangout)

#### **Prerequisites:**

1. Basic familiarity with the following courses/subject matter (formal or informal):
  - Introduction to Christian Spirituality or Spiritual Formation and Spiritual Direction
  - History of Christian Spirituality
  - Spiritual Disciplines
2. Has to certify having a spiritual director with whom they meet on a regular basis (preferably at least six months prior to the start of the program)

#### **Program Components:**

- **Four Quarters of Online Study:** Fall/Winter/Spring/Summer (8 Weeks each)
- **Twelve Course Offerings:** Eight Online Courses (Two Courses per Quarter with one-week break in between courses and two-week break in between quarters) and Four Residency Courses (Two Courses per Residency)
- **Two One-Week Residencies** (Sun. evening to Sat. noon) in a Retreat Center  
Setting: Opening (beginning of Fall), Finale (end of Summer)

**Program Structure:** Cohort System: 15 maximum participants per cohort

**Participant Cost:** Total Program Fee: \$ 6,000 for the entire year (including tuition and residency fees); Residency Travel expense – Participant's responsibility

## PROGRAM FLOW AND COURSE TOPICS

### Fall Quarter 2014

**One Week**                    **Opening Residency (Sept. 14-20 – Sun. –Sat.)**  
*SD Themed Special Presentation*  
*Short Devotional (3-part Series)*  
*Soul Care and Spiritual Accompaniment*  
*The Art and Ministry of Spiritual Direction*  
*Presence I – Trilogy of Presence*  
*Presence II – Presence in Solitude & Community*  
*Intro to Online Course (Moodle Platform)*

**Two-Week Break:    Sept. 21-Oct. 5**

**1st Four Weeks**                    **Online Course # 1 (Oct. 6-Nov. 1)**  
*Prayer I – Contemplation*

**One Week**                    **Break (Nov. 2-9)**

**2nd Four Weeks**                    **Online Course # 2 (Nov. 10-22/Dec. 1-13)**  
*Prayer II – Listening*

**One-Week Thanksgiving Break: Nov. 23-30**

**Quarter Break (Dec. 14-Jan. 4)**

### Winter Quarter 2015

**1st Four Weeks**                    **Online Course # 3 (Jan. 5-31)**  
*Discernment I – Principles/Process*

**One Week**                    **Break (Feb. 1-8)**

**2nd Four Weeks**                    **Online Course # 4 (Feb. 9-Mar. 7)**  
*Discernment II – Practice*

**Quarter Break (Mar. 8-22)**

### Spring Quarter 2015

**1st Four Weeks**                    **Online Course # 5 (Mar. 23-Apr. 18)**  
*Discipline of Theological Reflection*

**One Week**                    **Break (April 19-26)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Four Weeks**

**Online Course # 6 (April 27-May 23)**

*Theory of Supervision*

*Method of Supervision*

**Quarter Break (May 24-June 7)**

### **Summer Quarter 2015**

**1<sup>st</sup> Four Weeks**

**Online Course # 7 (June 8-July 4)**

*Dynamics of Group Spiritual Direction*

**One Week**

**Break (July 5-12)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Four Weeks**

**Online Course # 8 (July 13-Aug. 8)**

*Critical Life-Stages on Our Faith Journey*

**Quarter Break (Aug. 9-22)**

**One Week**

***Finale Residency (Aug. 23-29)***

*Special Topic in SD (3-part Series)*

*Practice of Group Spiritual Direction*

*Practice of Peer Supervision*

*Nuts and Bolts of Spiritual Direction Practice*

*Final Integration*

#### **Residency:**

- The opening residency in the fall of 2014 is tentatively scheduled to take place at the Holy Spirit Retreat Center in Encino, CA while the finale residency in the summer of 2015 is at the Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center in Sierra Madre, CA.

#### **Individual and Group Mentoring**

- Each participant will be part of a small group (5 people max.) under a mentor
- Mentors will be present during the opening and finale residencies
- Mentors will check in with each group as well as each participant each quarter (via email, phone, and/or Google Hangout)

#### **Spiritual Direction/Supervision Experience**

- Each participant is expected to have a monthly session with a spiritual director throughout the entire program
- Each participant will be expected to have at least one directee by spring quarter
- Each group will be involved in group spiritual direction practice (2x) during the finale residency (to be facilitated by well-trained group facilitators)
- Each participant will get a chance to experience peer group supervision during the finale residency (to be facilitated by well-trained SD supervisors)