

World Spiritual Health Organization

Mission Statement

**Spirituality:
Where it is alive, sustain it
Where it is dormant, revive it
Where it is absent, invite it**



*Chaplain Ron Ringo, Jr.
Eagle's Wings Ministries
CPE Supervisor*

“We hope and pray you have a wonderful experience in Clinical Pastoral Education with WSHO and that it heightens your knowledge, deepens your understanding, and enhances your skills in providing ‘competent compassion’ resulting in transformed lives...beginning with your own.”

WHAT IS CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION (CPE)

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is theological and professional education for the provision of spiritual care. Students learn and practice pastoral/spiritual care in a supervised clinical setting, with the case study training method at its center –the study of the “living human document.” CPE requires the trainee to reflect seriously upon his/her own religious heritage, theological understanding, and life experiences. Since most, if not all, who seek to minister to others are themselves ‘wounded healers,’ a large part of the World Spiritual Health Organization training model for CPE is the healing of sick and injured souls, beginning with our own soul. Therefore, CPE intentionally and compassionately challenges the trainee to explore the ‘dark’ and ‘broken places’ within his/her own being and integrate his/her theological understandings with a working knowledge of the behavioral sciences. This holistic approach leads to more effective spiritual care as well as ‘doing no harm.’ The focus of CPE is ministry to healthy, sick, hurting, dying, searching, alienated, reconciling, needy people and to those professionals and family members who care for them. For each trainee, this ministry is grounded in his/her own theological perspective, all the while respecting those of differing perspectives. Clinical chaplaincy is distinguished from evangelizing ministries by its clinical foci, clinical methods, and interfaith orientation. Although the CPE experience can be personally therapeutic and healing, its focus is educational not therapy. In short, CPE is largely about better understanding “YOU.” It is less like an academic class and more like a journey and an experience. NO academic tests are given.

In CPE, theological students, ordained clergy, members of religious orders and qualified laypersons enhance their skills for ministering to people in crisis while being supervised and mentored. Through intense involvement with the CPE Supervisor, fellow CPE trainees, people in crisis, and other professionals, CPE participants work to improve the quality of their pastoral/spiritual ministering. Pastoral practice, written Case Studies, individual supervision, seminar participation, and relevant readings give CPE trainees the experiences they need to develop genuine and caring relationships. By engaging complicated life situations from different viewpoints, chaplain trainees gain new insights into human suffering and healing. Theological reflection is important in CPE as participants are required to seek ways to integrate theology and psychology with life experience. CPE is professional-grade, experienced-based, graduate level supervised training for professional Chaplaincy. WSHO CPE programs are about learning and practicing the skills of ‘competent compassion.’

WHAT ARE THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF CPE?

Essential elements of CPE include an accredited CPE program ready to receive students, a certified CPE Supervisor who provides clinical mentorship and supervision, a small group of CPE peers (not less than 3 and not more than 10), who share and engaged in a common learning experience, the opportunity for each student to provide spiritual care to people in crisis, detailed reporting of spiritual practice, accountability during a specific time period, and an individual learning contract.

The World Spiritual Health Organization training format is unique among CPE providers because it combines both traditional and contemporary concepts and learning methods. This combination allows for greater flexibility, user friendly options, and greater versatility. For instance, while the WSHO model offers the option of a traditional CPE residency in a hospital, it also allows for the popular contemporary option of clinical placement in other approved venues, such as a hospice, parish, prison, university, assisted living center, military, law enforcement, etc., where in many cases CPE trainees may already work or volunteer. Since ministry occurs in many other venues besides a hospital, WSHO's approach is unique because it allows CPE trainees to obtain requisite clinical hours from multiple sources.

WHO MAY ENROLL IN CPE?

Each CPE Supervisor/training center processes CPE applications received and conducts admissions interviews based on standards established by the World Spiritual Health Organization. In general, CPE centers accept theological and rabbinical students, ordained religious leaders, members of religious orders, and qualified lay people who have at a minimum a Bachelor's Degree. Applicants must submit a written CPE application to the CPE Training Supervisor of their choice, and be available for an admission interview.

THE VALUE OF INTERFAITH DIVERSITY

An interfaith CPE student body coupled with placement in diverse clinical settings provides a dynamic and enriching cross-section of perspectives, experiences, and stories. Throughout their training, CPE trainees explore clinical issues presented by people of diverse races, genders, ethnic groups, faith traditions, disabilities, and sexual orientation. The diversity of the CPE peer group enables trainees to learn from each other as well as from those to whom they minister. WSHO CPE trainees are expected to be interfaith friendly and respectful, while maintaining faithful and true to his/her own convictions.

Basic Syllabus:

FALL UNIT

- Week 1: Introduction to Clinical Pastoral Education
2. Religious History Inventory Exercise (Core Subject)
 3. Therapeutic Communication Skills & Being a Healing Presence (Core Subject)
 4. Self-Awareness and Self-Reflection: Keys to Change (Core Subject)
 5. Competence is not Enough...Character Matters Most (Core Subject)
 6. Mid Unit Student Evaluations
 7. Ministry to the Abused, Traumatized & Victimized: PTSD
 8. Pastoral Care & Counseling, Part 1: Spiritual Assessments and Triage (Core Subj)
 9. Spirituality and Medicine: The Past, Present and Future
 10. Professional Chaplain/Spiritual Care-giver Competencies (Core Subject)
 11. Suicide and Therapeutic Clergy Intervention (Core Subject)
 12. Fall Quarter Student Final Evaluations

WINTER UNIT

- Week 1. Family of Origin: Inheriting Generational 'Blessings & Curses' (Core Subject)
2. Codependency and Personal Boundaries (Core Subject)
3. The Psychology of Addictions
4. Cooperation without Compromise: Interfaith Ministry in a Secular Milieu (Core)
5. Normal Grief: Chaplain as Facilitator of Mourning (Core Subject)
6. Mid Unit Student Evaluations
7. Pastoral Care & Counseling: Part 2: "Mining for Therapeutic Gems" (Core Subj)
8. The Theology of Anger: Understanding and Addressing It
9. Professional Ethics, Boundaries and Confidentiality (Core Subject)
10. Group Dynamics and Parallel Process (Core Subject)
11. Sacred Intimacy and Human Sexuality
12. Winter Quarter Student Final Evaluations

SPRING UNIT

- Week 1. Resiliency: Starting Over After Tragedy
2. Pastoral Care and Counseling, Part 3: Transference and Counter-Transference (Core Subject)
3. Grief: Part 2---Complicated & Pathological Grief (Core Subject)
4. Personality Theory: Family Systems (Core Subject)
5. Relationship Intelligence (RQ)
6. Mid Unit Student Evaluations
7. Divorce & Ministry to Blended Families
8. When Tragedy Strikes: The Role of Chaplain in times of Crisis (Core Subject)
9. Humility and the Many Faces of Pride
10. The Art of Effective Public Speaking: Chaplain as Preacher & Story-teller:
11. The Fellowship of Suffering: The Three C's (Core Subject)
12. Spring Quarter Student Final Evaluations

SUMMER UNIT

- Week 1. Competent Compassion: The Art and Skill of Love (Core Competence)
2. Pastoral Care and Counseling, Part 4: Self-care and Life-balance (Core Subject)
3. Myers-Briggs Personality Inventory Exercise
4. Transference and Counter-Transference
5. Counseling Conflicted Marriages
6. Mid Unit Student Evaluations
7. Multi-cultural, Gender and Diversity Issues in Ministry (Core Subject)
8. Contemporary Chaplaincy: The Lay of the Land
9. Post CPE: Making the Transition to a WSHO Chapter of Peers
10. Preparing for Board Certification (Core Subject)
11. Summer Quarter Student Final Evaluations
12. CPE Graduation Ceremony