



ACADEMIC HANDBOOK

2025 – 2026

ezzreeinstitute.org



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MISSION

Today's spiritual leaders and care providers need skills, personal traits, and cultural competencies to engage 21st-century individuals and communities. Ezzree Institute provides educational and clinical training for community leaders and spiritual care professionals. Ezzree Institute is dedicated to the transformation of lives through addressing the human condition. Programs emphasize service to individuals and groups seeking support, connection, purpose, and meaning.

PURPOSE

Ezzree Institute was founded in 2024 as an educational offshoot of Merkavah Inc. (or Ezzree.com), a spiritual care and social service online platform. Our campus is online, yet our structure focuses on a magnitude of one-on-one attention and care for each student and cohort. Ezzree Institute offers a unique, innovative, and interreligious and postreligious approach to training 21st Century Chaplains and Spiritual Counselors. Our graduate level programs and our CPE program extend themselves to interreligious and multicultural communities and seminaries.

Ezzree Institute's faculty comprises renowned scholars and practitioners who have taught at some of our nation's most prestigious universities. Others have positions as outstanding congregational and community clergy who hold degrees from leading institutions in academic studies related to the religious and spiritual leadership training of Ezzree Institute.

Ezzree Institute is unique among graduate schools and seminaries in its curricular emphasis on chaplaincy training for all its students who are preparing for careers in spiritual leadership. We respond to the need for clinically trained spiritual leaders in all segments of society as a way of addressing loneliness, isolation, and need for human connection.



OVERVIEW

Online Programs

Fully online master's degree, certificate, and Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) programs.

Flexible Schedule

Innovative, flexible, module-based master's degree in Integrative Counseling & Cultural Studies with specializations in Interreligious and Postreligious Chaplaincy.

Clinical Pastoral Education

CPE units are incorporated into the master's degree, making certification and employment eligibility possible upon successful completion of the program.

Ordination Options

Students in the master's program have the option to receive ordination as a Chaplain and Spiritual Counselor. If a student already has a master's degree in a related field, there are also tradition-specific Custom-Coordinated Ordination tracks available.

Certificate Programs

A variety of certificate programs that can be combined toward fulfillment of the master's degree.

Continuing Education

Certificates count as continuing education credits for board certified chaplains and other related fields.



PROGRAMS

Ezzree Institute provides comprehensive training in both in-person spiritual care contexts and the use of technology to engage in positive remote contact, camaraderie, and community. In addition to the tools, knowledge, and practical skills gained through clinical pastoral education and chaplaincy training, Ezzree Institute integrates media and cultural studies, interreligious education, and postreligious literacy in order to best serve our rapidly diversifying population.

The diversity, individualism, and eclecticism of 21st-century lives require spiritual care providers to be especially sensitive, nimble, creative, and contextually aware. Understanding diverse traditions and individual paths is essential to cultivating compassion, gaining trust, and honoring the dignity of others.

Students in the master's program have the option to receive ordination as a Chaplain and Spiritual Counselor. If a student already has a master's degree in a related field, there is also an ordination track available. Ezzree Institute works with the student's religious/spiritual endorsement body to obtain a collaborative ordination recognition. Online Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is incorporated into the master's degree, making certification and employment eligibility possible upon successful completion of the program.

Master's Degree

72-credit Master's Degree in Integrative Counseling & Cultural Studies with specializations in Interreligious and Postreligious Chaplaincy. Students in the master's program have the option to receive ordination as a Chaplain and Spiritual Counselor.

Custom-Coordinated Ordination (Tradition-Specific)

For students with a master's degree in a related field who want to be ordained as a minister, priest, rabbi, etc. within your tradition, Ezzree Institute will work with the endorsing body to collaboratively build a curriculum and ordination process. The educational requirements will be specific to the tradition as well as interreligious. Matriculated students may also collaborate in this way. This option generally requires: 36 credits (2–3 years); additional credits as determined by Ezzree Institute and endorsing body; collaborative ordination requirements with endorsing body; 2 years of internship.

Certificates

Semester/Miniterm Programs

Certificates are offered in a number of areas including, but not limited to, bioethics, environmental ethics, palliative care, difficult conversations, listening as an art and science, conflict resolution, music in spiritual care, peace studies, ritual studies, media as medicine, and humor, comedy & care. A variety of certificates



can be combined toward fulfillment of the master's degree. Certificates may also occur on a private tutorial or small group basis.

Clinical Pastoral Education

CPE units are available to Ezzree Institute students, outside individuals, and students at collaborating institutions. Ezzree Institute is committed to building and sustaining high quality CPE for its students. Under the direction of an ACPE Certified Educator, the Ezzree Institute CPE Program offers both Level I and Level II CPE part-time training. The institute maintains accreditation in the Certified Education Candidate (CEC) level as well. The program works directly with other ACPE, inc. accredited programs to build connections and maintain standards. Ezzree Institute also has strong relationships with University of the West (a Buddhist school), Claremont School of Theology (Christian), and Bayan Islamic Graduate School, all of which partner with Ezzree Institute in the commitment to spiritual care.

Steps for Professional and Board-Certified Chaplaincy

Requirements for certification include endorsement from the student's religious/spiritual tradition, a master's degree from an accredited theological (or equivalent) school, at least 4 units of CPE, post-training clinical experience in spiritual care, preparation of clinical materials, and a presentation before a certification committee. Ezzree Institute provides what is necessary to reach these requirements.



MASTER'S DEGREE IN INTEGRATIVE COUNSELING & CULTURAL STUDIES

Ezzree Institute offers an innovative and flexible 72-credit Master's Degree in Integrative Counseling & Cultural Studies with specializations in Interreligious and Postreligious Chaplaincy. Students in the master's program also have the option to receive ordination as a Chaplain and Spiritual Counselor.

Curricular Area Requirements

- Mental Health & Spiritual Care* [MHSC] – 24 credits
- Diversity & Cultural Competencies [DCC] – 9 credits
- Interreligious & Postreligious Studies [IPS] – 9 credits
- Identity Formation & Human Dynamics [IFHD] – 9 credits
- Media & Cultural Studies [MCS] – 9 credits
- Professional & Applied Ethics [PAE] – 9 credits
- Culminating Project [CP] – 3 credits

** Topics in MHSC involve intersections of behavioral science, spiritual/hermeneutical approaches, and psychology. These include, but are not limited to, counseling, career development, human growth/development, addiction/trauma, and ethics, law, and professional development.*

Ordination Option

Ezzree Institute works with the student's religious/spiritual endorsement body to obtain a collaborative ordination recognition as Chaplain and Spiritual Counselor.

Learning Objectives

1. Diversity: Knowledge of individual, family, and group dynamics in culturally and religiously diverse contexts and systems.
2. Integrity: Demonstration of ethical grounding, cross-cultural literacy, and interpersonal sensitivity.
3. Competence: Mastery of a variety of practical and theoretical approaches.
4. Introspection: Awareness of the student's own personal narrative and how it impacts their engagement with others.



5. Application: Clinical, interpersonal, and communal skills in tradition-specific, interreligious, and postreligious settings.
6. Professionalism: Function effectively, ethically, and holistically in informal, organizational, and institutional settings.
7. Spiritual Development: Awareness of topics that address contemporary concerns of individual and communal spiritual need.
8. Integration: Integrate theory and practical competencies in clinical and communal settings.

Time Frame

3 years full-time, 6 years half-time (six fall/spring semesters, plus winter and summer options)

Full-time Schedule:

- 24 semester credits per year
- 12 credits per semester broken into modules
- 3 Super-Extended Units of CPE and one Full-time summer unit
- 4 Units of CPE earned within the 3-year program (12 related academic credits throughout the program for CPE/3 per semester). Most likely students will do one super-extended unit per year during the program and one full-time unit during one summer of their studies.

Half-time Schedule:

- 12 credits per year
- 6 credits per semester
- 4 Units of CPE throughout the duration of the program (3 related academic credits per year for CPE)

Internships

The majority of master's degree students will have internships tied to their CPE program. Students are encouraged to experience at least two types of settings during their program. Clinical placements sites can include hospitals and hospice, as well as settings outside of the health care system, such as congregational, communal, or organizational internships where students have spiritual care opportunities that meet ACPE guidelines and standards.

Culminating Project

Master's students complete a culminating written and/or multimedia project during their final year of study, coinciding with an independent study with a specialist in the subject area. Before starting the project, students will develop a formal written proposal with their instructor.



Professional and Board-Certified Chaplaincy

Requirements for certification include endorsement from the student's religious/spiritual tradition, a master's degree from an accredited theological (or equivalent) school, at least 4 units of CPE, post-training clinical experience in spiritual care, preparation of clinical materials, and a presentation before a certification committee.

State Licensure

The master's degree program is designed to satisfy at least half of the educational requirements for Mental Health Counselor Licensure in California, one of the most stringent states. After completion of the degree, students who wish to receive state licensure in California or another state can continue studying additional subjects to satisfy outstanding requirements.



ORDINATION TRACKS

Chaplain and Spiritual Counselor

Students in the Master's in Integrative Counseling & Cultural Studies program have the option to receive ordination as a Chaplain and Spiritual Counselor. If a student already has a master's degree in a related field, there is also an ordination track available (see Interreligious Students option below).

Ezzree Institute works with the student's religious/spiritual endorsement body to obtain a collaborative ordination recognition. Online Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) is incorporated into the Master's Degree, making certification and employment eligibility possible upon successful completion of the program.

Custom-Coordinated Ordination (Tradition-Specific)

For students with a master's degree in a related field (religion, spirituality, and chaplaincy) who want to be ordained as a minister, priest, rabbi, spiritual leader, etc. within a specific tradition or new approach to an existing tradition, Ezzree Institute will work with the endorsing body (described below) to collaboratively build a curriculum and ordination process. The educational requirements will be specific to the tradition, the individual's approach to that tradition, as well as interreligious. Matriculated candidates may also collaborate toward this goal during their initial ordination track as Chaplains and Spiritual Counselors with the intention of moving forward into tradition-specific requirements, thus receiving two ordination statuses.

- 36-credit minimum (2–3 years)
- Additional credits as determined by Ezzree Institute and endorsing body
- Collaborative ordination requirements with endorsing body
- 2 years of internship
- Thesis or culminating projects as endorsing body requires

Ezzree Institute requires a minimum of 36-credits. The endorsing body may require additional studies through Ezzree Institute. The average M.Div. program is 72 credits. The master's degrees for rabbinical ordination often require a minimum of 150 credits. Ezzree Institute will work with you and your endorsing body to meet educational needs based on a candidate's unique personal/professional trajectory and the tradition's expectations for educational foundations. Ezzree Institute is committed to working with



candidates and their particular tradition(s) to set foundational expectations that will meet roles and expectations for 21st-century spiritual leadership.

General Definition of the Role of Advisor (Endorsing Body)

Each candidate is appointed an advisor, in consultation with Ezzree Institute, who will serve as primary co-coordinator. The endorsing body can be this individual or group depending on the candidate's tradition, expectations, and advisor's requirements. The advisor will serve as an adjunct faculty member of Ezzree Institute while co-guiding the student and the Institute.

The advisor's responsibilities will include:

- Working closely with Ezzree Institute's administration and the candidate to determine customized curricular requirements in the area of the candidate's initial 36 credits
- Collaborating with the administration and candidate to determine additional credits and areas of study beyond the initial 36 credits
- Coordinating relevant conversations for endorsement of the student post-ordination
- Meeting with the candidate and the administration twice per year
- Meeting one-on-one with the candidate two to four times per year and reporting findings/needs to the administration
- Evaluating readiness to receive ordination in collaboration with the administration and candidate

General Requirements of the Candidate

- Proactively stating one's desires for clergy role, future goals, and learning outcomes
- Interactively collaborating with the administration and advisor to meet educational needs
- While advocating for oneself, demonstrating a willingness to defer to the administration and advisor in the interest of gaining foundational knowledge and skills
- Thinking creatively both within and outside of the box of a specific tradition (grappling with what it means to do both). Ezzree Institute works with students to cultivate a broad and expansive attitude about their education and ordination. We pay attention to the specific tradition that includes both conventional and creative approaches and construct curricula that uphold both.
- Understanding that outside courses will be registered as Ezzree Institute Independent Studies
- Engaging in and earning 1 or 2 units of ACPE Clinical Pastoral Education before ordination



- Remaining available for regular consultation with Ezzree Institute's administration, faculty, and the designated advisor

General Role and Responsibilities of Ezzree Institute

- Overseeing communications between candidate, advisor, and faculty
- Establishing and overseeing the construction of courses and independent studies the candidate is required to complete
- Evaluating progress alongside advisor and candidate
- Assisting the candidate and advisor in arranging content and administrative details for ordination ceremony
- Providing in-house access to Clinical Pastoral Education
- Remaining available for regular consultation

CERTIFICATES

Semester/miniterm Ezzree Institute courses can be taken as a certificate course. A variety of certificates may be combined toward fulfillment of the Master's Degree in Integrative Counseling & Cultural Studies. Certificates may also occur on a private tutorial or small group basis. Ezzree Institute certificates are eligible for continuing education credits for Board Certified Chaplains and other related fields.

Certificates are offered in a number of areas including, but not limited to, bioethics, environmental ethics, palliative care, difficult conversations, listening as an art and science, conflict resolution, music in spiritual care, peace studies, ritual studies, media as medicine, and humor, comedy & care.



POLICIES & PROCEDURES

GENERAL POLICIES

Academic Handbook

This Academic Handbook provides an official statement of the major policies and requirements for Ezzree Institute students. The catalog issued for the year of the student's entrance into an Ezzree Institute program serves as a "contract." Students must fulfill all program requirements listed in that catalog; curricular changes or updates made in subsequent years are not retroactive.

Calendar

Ezzree Institute operates on an annual calendar of two semesters (fall & spring) of 15–16 weeks, plus winter and summer miniterm, typically 2–3 weeks. Full-time CPE summer units are also available.

Credit Hours

Credit hours are awarded based on a framework of in-class (seat) time plus one of several options designed by faculty for outside structured learning. Seat time for regular courses (non-CPE) is 2 hours per week.

Cancellation of Courses

Ezzree Institute reserves the right to cancel any course that does not meet minimum registration requirements, generally 4 students. When under-enrollment occurs, independent study options may be available.

Technology

Ezzree Institute's online courses are offered synchronously via Zoom. Students must meet the following technology requirements: 1) computer running the latest operating system, 2) stable, private connection to the internet, 3) webcam and microphone or headphones, 4) an active email account.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Ezzree Institute does not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, country of national origin, sexual preference, physical disability, or neurodivergence.

Learning Accommodations

Students with documented learning disabilities may request appropriate accommodations. Accommodations may include extended time on exams, extended access to recorded lectures, or tutoring in specific areas.



Privacy Act

The federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) accords each enrolled student access to their file of educational records, which include the following:

- application form and essays;
- transcripts of grades;
- other academic records and petitions;
- written evaluations of performance in particular courses;
- results of examinations and evaluations

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Admissions

Steps for admission include the following:

- Initial discussion with an Ezzree Institute admissions contact
- Written application and essays
- Official transcripts
- Two professional references; one personal reference
- Suitability Assessment for Spiritual Leadership
- Admissions committee interview
- Letter of determination

Transfer Credits

Transfer credit may be awarded based on prior study in related graduate-level programs certified by an official transcript from the institution where the course(s) took place. Transferable credit is granted for courses that fit within Ezzree Institute's curriculum. Students may demonstrate equivalency by providing a full description of that course (preferably from the syllabus), and papers or examinations when available. No more than 48 semester credits (approximately two years of study) can be counted toward the master's degree program. An evaluation of transfer credit is not official until a student is admitted and registered for Ezzree Institute courses.

Advanced Placement

Advanced placement may be awarded to students based on demonstrated mastery in curricular areas, thereby exempting them from certain courses where transfer credit cannot be given (see transfer credits policy above). The student is responsible for preparing a petition for advanced placement and for assembling required supporting documentation as needed.



Independent Study

Before registering for an independent study, the student and instructor must create a full syllabus that includes an overview, learning outcomes, reading/resource list, and means of assessment.

Study at Outside Institutions

A student may request permission to take courses at other approved institutions of higher learning, provided that the outside course does not interfere with Ezzree Institute attendance or requirements. In order to receive credit, the request must be approved before the course commences. Credit is dependent on an official transcript showing the completed course with a grade of B or higher.

Attendance

Attendance in synchronous online courses is essential to fulfilling Ezzree Institute's academic and professional training requirements, and crucial for the relationship-building and collegial support at the core of the institute's educational model. More than two absences in any course may result in grade reduction or withholding of credit for that course. If a student cannot attend a class session, they must notify their instructor and arrange make-up work.

Books and Materials

Most Ezzree Institute courses require the purchase of textbooks and/or standard reference works, as well as supplementary materials that may be required by the instructor. The cost of these purchases is entirely the responsibility of the student.

Advising

Prior to registering for each term, students must meet with their advisor to discuss courses selection and receive approval to register. The student's advisor will also determine the appropriate load, usually not exceeding 15 credits per regular term (fall & spring) or 9 credits per miniterm (winter & summer).

Add/Drop Period

Students are permitted to add or drop courses during the first two weeks of any regular term (fall & spring). During miniterms (winter & summer), drop/add must be done before the third day of classes. If the change results in fewer courses, a full refund of the difference in tuition is permitted.

Leave of Absence

Under approved circumstances, a student in good standing may request a leave of absence. The student must register for each term of a leave of absence by paying the regular registration fee, repeatable up to 2 years, after which the student must reapply for their program.



Evaluation of Course Work

In most courses, students are evaluated with letter grades (A through F). A and B grades earn full credit; a C grade necessitates a meeting with the instructor and Academic Dean; D and F grades result in no credit. A student is considered in good academic standing if their overall grade point average is 3.0 (B average) or higher.

Incompletes

All course work is due on the dates required by the instructor. If student work is late and/or has not been submitted by an agreed-upon extension date, the student will receive an incomplete. Uncompleted work must be submitted during the following academic term.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity requires that all academic work be wholly the product of the student or student group. Violations of academic integrity include the following or similar actions:

- copying from or giving assistance to others on an examination
- plagiarizing any portion of an assignment, including copying verbatim or nearly verbatim from print or digital sources, or lack of adequate reference to sources
- using forbidden material on an examination
- using a purchased term paper
- presenting the work of another as one's own
- altering a graded examination for the purposes of re-grading

Ezzree Institute's commitment to academic integrity includes prohibiting the use of Chat GPT and other AI language models in written assignments, presentations, and other academic communications. Students must demonstrate their own research, learning, and critical thinking. Violations of this prohibition will be treated as plagiarism.

Academic Grievance

If a student has a grievance regarding grades or evaluations for individual assignments or projects, for a course as a whole, or culminating project, the student must first discuss their grievance with the instructor/evaluator, present concerns, and seek an explanation for the grade or evaluation. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the student may bring the grievance to the appropriate administrator (usually president or vice president). The administrator will convene an ad hoc committee, which requests a formal written statement from the student detailing the basis of the grievance, along with the original submitted work under dispute, and a reply to the student's statement from the instructor/evaluator. Other documentation may also be requested. The committee will arrive at a decision by consensus, including the appropriate grade or evaluation.



CPE Fees & Withdrawal

All CPE students, both matriculated Ezzree Institute students and community members, must make a non-refundable deposit of \$200 within 2 weeks of receiving their acceptance letter to that year's CPE program. This deposit will be applied to that year's CPE tuition total. Community members who are already ordained, endorsed, or commissioned, and/or have earned their graduate degree appropriate for spiritual care and spiritual leadership prior to admittance into Ezzree Institute's CPE program, or who meet extended qualifications determined the institute, may be eligible for a reduced CPE fee. All students who wish to earn the academic credit for the integrated course into the CPE program (the credit is not in CPE itself but in a subject matter related to spiritual care and education) are subject to the standard payment structure. Community members who receive a reduction must make a non-refundable deposit of \$200 in addition to the \$50 application fee (\$250 altogether) within 2 weeks of receiving their acceptance letter to that year's CPE program. This deposit will be applied to that year's CPE tuition total.

For the super-extended nine-month unit, if the student leaves the program before the end of CPE orientation, no additional fees will be assessed, and the school will retain the non-refundable deposit. If the student leaves the program before Thanksgiving, they remain responsible for the balance of that semester's CPE tuition (1/2 total tuition for the year). If the student leaves the program after Thanksgiving, they remain responsible for the full year's CPE tuition. For a full-time summer intensive unit, if the student leaves the program within the first seven days of the program, no additional fees will be assessed and the school will retain the non-refundable deposit. If there are withdrawals from the program after the first seven days, students remain responsible for the balance of the summer semester's CPE tuition.

The schedule of payments is centered in nine-month super-extended unit schedules. Payment schedules for full-time and other timeframes will be published and announced prior to commencing those schedules.

Withdrawal from Ezzree Institute

Students who wish to withdraw from Ezzree Institute completely must give notice to the office before the end of the current registration period. The date of receipt by the office is the official date of withdrawal. A student is considered *unofficially* withdrawn if, after registering for courses and paying the required tuition and fees, they do not attend any classes during the first two weeks of a regular term or first two days of a miniterm, and have not informed the instructor and/or office that they will be absent.



BEHAVIORAL POLICIES

Harassment

Ezzree Institute recognizes the right of all employees, students, and stakeholders to learn and work in an environment free of unlawful harassment, whether sexual harassment or because of race, religious practice or belief, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, sexual orientation, age, or any other basis protected by federal, state or local laws. The Institute's policy applies to all involved in its operation. Harassment may include but is not limited to the following:

1. Verbal conduct, such as epithets, derogatory jokes or comments, slurs or unwanted sexual advances, invitations or comments;
2. Visual conduct, such as derogatory and/or sexually-oriented posters, photography, cartoons, drawings, or gestures;
3. Physical conduct, such as assault, unwanted touching, blocking normal movement or interfering with work on any protected basis;
4. Threats or demands to submit to sexual requests as a condition of continued employment or study, or to achieve some favor or avoid some other loss;
5. Retaliation for having reported or threatened to report harassment.

If someone believes they have been unlawfully harassed, they should bring their concerns to their advisor or another administrator, with specific information about the incident and individual(s) involved. The injured party may also bring complaint against the perpetrator via the appropriate state or local agency. In California the state agency is the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing. Ezzree Institute will undertake an investigation and will attempt to resolve the situation as fairly as possible. Ezzree Institute will not retaliate against an individual for raising any such concerns. Knowingly untrue claims of harassment will not be tolerated, however, and may be grounds for disciplinary action.

Discipline for Violations

Reported violations of academic or administrative policies are investigated as quickly as possible within the limits imposed by the academic calendar. These can include issues of academic integrity or violations of administrative policies, such as those regarding harassment or repeated behavioral improprieties. After review of the events and discussion with the student reported to be in violation, and finding the report of violation to be substantiated, Ezzree Institute has the authority to suspend the student pending further investigation. No refunds of tuition will be made and all amounts on the student's bill will still be due.

Behavioral Grievance

If a student has a complaint of improper treatment by a member of the staff, faculty, or administration and conversations with appropriate individuals have not resolved the problem, the student should present the grievance, in writing, to the president and/or vice president. The president or vice president will make a preliminary investigation and attempt to correct the action or clarify any misunderstanding. If unsuccessful,



the president or vice president will convene an ad hoc committee including members of the faculty and administration to make a full investigation and recommend action.

Retaliation

Ezzree Institute will not permit any action of retaliation or reprisal based upon the disclosure by an employee (in a reasonable manner) that the employee has been treated in a manner inconsistent with this policy. Persons who have made complaints of harassment or who have participated in an investigation should immediately contact their advisor or the institute's vice president, president, and/or CEO if the harassment resumes or if they believe that they have been retaliated against.



APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Ezzree Institute accepts applications from interested and qualified prospective students of all cultural and religious backgrounds. The process generally begins with an initial discussion with an Ezzree Institute admissions contact. If Ezzree Institute is determined to be a good fit, the applicant will complete and submit: (1) a written application form and essays; (2) official transcripts; (3) two professional references; and (4) one personal reference.

Prospective students are also required to have a suitability assessment for spiritual leadership with a professional contracted through Ezzree Institute. This is followed by an admissions committee interview, typically via Zoom. A letter of determination will be issued within one week following the interview.

Application Essays – Master’s Degree in Integrative Counseling and Cultural Studies

1. A reasonably full account of your life. Include, for example, significant and important persons and events, especially as they have impacted, or continue to impact, your personal growth and development. Describe your family of origin, current family relationships, and important and supportive social relationships. *[no longer than 3 single-spaced pages]*
2. A description of your spiritual growth and development. Include, for example, the spiritual/values-based orienting system into which you were born and describe and explain any subsequent, personal conversions or philosophical changes, your call to spiritual care, religious or spiritual experiences, and significant persons and events that have impacted, or continue to impact, your spiritual growth and development. *[no longer than 3 single-spaced pages]*
3. A description of your work (vocational) history. Include a chronological list of jobs/positions/dates of employment and a brief statement about your current employment and work relationships. *[no longer than 1 single-spaced pages]*
4. An account of a “helping incident” in which you were the person who provided the help. Include the nature and extent of the request, your assessment of the issue(s), problem(s), situation(s). Describe how you came to be involved and what you did. Give a brief, evaluative commentary on what you did and how you believe you were able to help. If you have had prior and recent CPE, please attach a copy of a recent verbatim as your “helping incident” and add to the verbatim your own notes on how and what you learned from sharing this verbatim with your educator and/or peers. If you have had CPE, but it was more than two years ago, include a recent account of a helping incident, written up in a verbatim format. If possible,



include feedback from current spiritual care colleagues and/or administrative supervisor. [*no longer than 2 single-spaced pages*]

5. Your impressions of Clinical Pastoral Education. Indicate, for example, what you believe or imagine CPE to be. Indicate if CPE is being required of you. Indicate any learning goals or issues of which you are aware and would like to address in CPE. Finally, indicate how CPE may be able to help you meet needs generated by your spiritual care practice or call to leadership in a theological, spiritual, or values-based system. If you have had prior CPE, please indicate the most significant learning experience you had during CPE. State how you have continued to use the clinical method since your previous experience. Indicate strengths and weaknesses that you have as they relate to your spiritual care practice and your identity as a professional person. Indicate any personal and/or professional learning goals and issues that you have at this time and how you believe that CPE will help you to attain or address these learning goals and issues. [*no longer than 1 single-spaced pages*]

Application Essays – Custom-Coordinated Ordination

1. A reasonably full account of your life. Include, for example, significant and important persons and events, especially as they have impacted, or continue to impact, your personal growth and development. Describe your family of origin, current family relationships, and important and supportive social relationships. [*no longer than 3 single-spaced pages*]

2. A description of your spiritual growth and development. Include, for example, the spiritual/values-based orienting system into which you were born and describe and explain any subsequent, personal conversions or philosophical changes, your call to spiritual care, religious or spiritual experiences, and significant persons and events that have impacted, or continue to impact, your spiritual growth and development. [*no longer than 3 single-spaced pages*]

3. A description of your work (vocational) history. Include a chronological list of jobs/positions/dates of employment and a brief statement about your current employment and work relationships. [*no longer than 1 single-spaced pages*]

4. Your thoughts on serving groups and individuals in our changing world of diversifying communities, multicultural/interreligious families, declining affiliation rates, and other demographic shifts. What are the challenges and possibilities of these changes, and how do they impact your own religious/philosophical worldview? [*no longer than 2 single-spaced pages*]

5. How might social entrepreneurship (developing and implementing a creative vision of a greater good and working to make it real) factor into your chosen path as an ordained clergy person? [*no longer than 1 single-spaced pages*]



TUITION & FEES

Master's Program

Tuition per credit: \$690

Tuition for 3-credit course: \$2,070

Total: \$57,680 (plus student fees)

Certificate Program

Tuition per 3-credit course for academic credit: \$2,070

Tuition for certificate alone (no academic credit): \$1,800

Custom-Coordinated Ordination

Tuition per credit: \$690

Tuition for 3-credit course: \$2,070

Annual coordination with endorsing body: \$1,500

Total: \$29,340 minimum (plus student fees)

Ordination ceremony costs TBD

Independent Study

\$2,270.00 (3 credits)

Auditing

Audit course for no credit or certificate: \$900 (\$500 for alumni and ordained/certified professionals in related fields)

CPE

CPE + Seminar, 1 year for matriculated Ezzree Institute students (1 CPE unit + 6 academic credits): \$4,540 (academic credits) + \$2,000 (CPE Unit).

CPE Seminar for no academic credit: \$4000

Other Fees for Matriculating Students (assessed each semester/term)

Registration: \$125

Materials Fee: \$95

Student Activities Fee (Fall, Spring): \$75

Special Fees

Non-refundable Application Fee: \$300



Travel Fee for one-time faculty/administrator site visit for ordination track students: \$500 plus expenses
Graduation/Ordination Fee (final year only/billed in Winter): \$3000



APPENDIX: SUPPORTING RESEARCH

Current research shows a strong and still largely under-addressed need for skilled and knowledgeable practitioners to provide guidance and support for increasingly diverse groups and individuals. Competency and dexterity within and among multiple religious and non-religious traditions and personal practices are essential for today's spiritual care providers and community leaders.

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