

# MDL Christian Spiritual Formation Certificate Program

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Costs

\$2800 *per year* which includes all educational materials, room and board for retreats as well as a nonrefundable \$400 deposit

### Location

St. Mary's on the Lake Seminary and Conference Center, Mundelein, IL

### Retreats

*What are the retreat dates for the 2017 cohort?*

September 8-10, 2017

November 17-19, 2017

February 9-11, 2017

April 27-29, 2018

*What happens during a retreat?*

Teaching, times of reflection, meeting in small groups, meeting one-one with a spiritual director, worship and closing communion service.

### General

*How is the cohort program structured?*

The program is comprised of 4 modules occurring over a 1 year period. During each module participants will attend a 2 ½ day retreat with other members of the cohort program.

*There is a 2<sup>nd</sup> Advanced Spiritual Formation Certificate Program that participants can apply to after completing the first-year program. The second year program includes an option of certification as a spiritual director.*

*Who will be leading the cohort?*

Nancy Kane, Associate Professor in the Educational Ministries Department of Moody Bible Institute will be leading the program. She has been teaching on spiritual formation for 10 years and is a clinically trained therapist as well. Special speakers will be included as part of the learning experience.

*How many participants will be in each cohort?*

Each cohort will be between 20-30 participants.

*How often and for how long does the cohort meet during the year?*

Each cohort will meet 2.5 days 4 times a year.

*Will there be required reading and other assignments?*

Yes, a reading list and assignments will be provided upon acceptance into the program. Each participant will receive a binder for each module that has most of the content to be covered in the program

*Are there online requirements for the program?*

No

*What are the requirements for acceptance to the program?*

Each applicant will be asked to complete an application and a possible phone interview.

*Do I earn college credit for attending the certification program?*

No, traditionally a certificate is a non-degree program designed to provide students with specialized knowledge that is less extensive than, and different from, a master's program. Because these programs either replace or supplement degree programs, many people find them useful throughout their careers.

*Will there be any additional costs?*

Only travel costs that are the responsibility of each participant

*What services are available with people with disabilities?*

The retreat center that the program will be held at has various provisions for people with disabilities.

*Are they required to do coursework in between the retreats?*

Yes, there will be coursework before and after the retreats as part of the personal formation.

*Are their blackboard courses connected to this?*

Not at this time.

*What are the benefits and features of the program?*

There are many believers who are faithfully following Christ but can't see any real tangible change in their life even in the midst of faithful following. This program will help individuals go deeper in their intimacy with Christ, help them identify the unique roadblocks that keep them from becoming more like Christ and changing, provide a model to help others grow deeper and will engage with other believers in a caring community environment. In addition, some participants may want to go on for the additional 6-month module to be trained to become a spiritual director.

## Retreats

*Are participants required to stay overnight during the retreats?*

Yes, as part of cohort experience of learning participants are required to stay overnight.

*How are participants placed in housing?*

Each person will have their own room that includes a private bathroom and shower.

*Will meals be provided?*

Yes

*What airport should I fly into?*

O'Hare International Airport

*What is the typical attire during the program?*

Casual comfortable clothing

*Will Nancy Kane be the only one teaching during the retreats?*

Nancy Kane will be the primary teacher with other experts in the field teaching hour lectures on various topics

*What is involved in the application process?*

Those interested in applying to this program will need to complete the online application and a possible phone interview. Applications are to be submitted to [spiritualformation@moody.edu](mailto:spiritualformation@moody.edu)

*Are book costs included in the program fee and if not, what are the fees?*

A manual/binder will be the key part of this program that will include articles, assignments, scripture study etc. Participants will receive a section of the binder at the beginning of each retreat. There may be 1-2 books that students will be asked to purchase.

*How are payments handled?*

Payment for the full program up front or in a payment plan through MDL.

Upon receiving an acceptance letter into a cohort, each student will be provided with a payment information form containing payment instructions which they will fill in and submit to MDL. Students may choose between two payment plans and may pay by VISA, MasterCard or Check. Payment Plan A allows students to pay for the program in full up front in one payment and Payment Plan B allows students to pay for the program in four separate installments through MDL. Payments may be processed most quickly over the phone with a MDL representative.

### *When is payment due?*

A non-refundable deposit of \$400 is due for all students to confirm their acceptance of their place by November 1, 2017. After paying this deposit each student will have a remaining balance of \$2,400.

Students opting for payment Plan A must pay their balance of \$2,400 in full by November 1, 2017 alongside their \$400 non-refundable deposit.

Students opting for payment Plan B must pay in four separate installments of \$600 by the following dates:

Payment 1: September 1, 2017

Payment 2: November 1, 2017

Payment 3: January 1, 2017

Payment 4: March 1, 2017

### *What is the cancellation policy?*

Students opting to cancel their participation in the cohort will lose their non-refundable deposit of \$400 but may be refunded accordingly for the remainder of modules they have yet to take (each module is worth \$600). To qualify for this refund students must notify MDL of their withdrawal before the next module has commenced. Students who withdraw during a module will not be refunded for that module but may be refunded for the remainder of modules they have yet to take.

### *Are there scholarships available?*

Yes, limited scholarships are available on a case by case basis.

### *How do people apply for the scholarship?*

Students who desire to be considered for a scholarship are chosen based on their financial need on a case by case basis. To apply for the scholarship please e-mail (to be confirmed: [spiritualformation@moody.edu](mailto:spiritualformation@moody.edu)) for a separate scholarship application that you will submit alongside your application to the program. If you are accepted into the program, you will hear back on whether or not you have received a scholarship alongside your acceptance letter into your cohort.

### *Will applicants need to provide references as part of the application process?*

Yes, each applicant is required to provide one pastoral reference. Details on the requirements of this reference are given in the application.

### *Who do I contact for additional questions?*

You can call Moody Distance Learning at (800) 758-6352 or (312) 329-2089 or email [spiritualformation@moody.edu](mailto:spiritualformation@moody.edu)