



Licentiate in Chaplaincy (LCHAP)

If you feel a professional calling to serve others and provide spiritual comfort, pursuing a Licentiate in Chaplaincy at the Association of Certified Chaplains in South Africa offers a robust pathway to equip you with essential skills and knowledge for ministry leadership across diverse settings. The three-year Licentiate in Chaplaincy Program is meticulously crafted to provide a comprehensive understanding of cognitive topics vital to effective Chaplaincy, encompassing areas such as Chaplain Leadership, Ethics, Pastoral Care & Counselling, and Biblical Theology. This program distinguishes itself by covering a wide array of subjects not typically addressed in conventional Bible Colleges, thereby ensuring graduates are well-prepared to tackle unique challenges in their roles. With a flexible curriculum designed for a variety of environments—including corporations, sports organizations, public safety agencies, and disaster relief teams—the program emphasizes the importance of embodying Christ-centred leadership and spiritual care. By prioritizing a holistic education, the Association of Certified Chaplains in SA is dedicated to preparing future Chaplains to make a meaningful impact in their communities, fostering a professional commitment to compassionate service and spiritual support.

Why Choose ACCSA's Licentiate in Chaplaincy

Choosing ACCSA's Licentiate in Chaplaincy represents a strategic decision for individuals seeking a professional foundation in spiritual care and support. This program is meticulously designed to equip students with the theological knowledge and practical skills essential for excelling in diverse chaplaincy roles. Through a comprehensive curriculum that combines rigorous academic coursework with hands-on experiences, students gain a deep understanding of pastoral care, ethical decision-making, and crisis intervention. The focus on real-world application prepares graduates to address the unique spiritual and emotional needs of individuals in various settings, such as hospitals, military units, and correctional facilities. By fostering proficiency in interfaith dialogue and grief counselling, the Licentiate in Chaplaincy cultivates compassionate and competent leaders who are ready to make a meaningful impact in their communities, thereby enhancing the professional landscape of spiritual care.

What Will You Study?

The Licentiate in Chaplaincy at ACCSA is meticulously designed to provide students with a professional foundation in Scriptural understanding, ensuring they are adept at communicating God's Word to diverse audiences with clarity and conviction. Emphasizing the development of critical thinking skills and robust theological principles, the program equips students to address and counter objections persuasively, enhancing their effectiveness in various ministry contexts. With a curriculum that encompasses a wide array of chaplaincy-related subjects—ranging from corporate and healthcare to education, prison, and disaster relief—students gain comprehensive knowledge essential for professional practice. Moreover, the program fosters proficiency in Pastoral Care & Counselling, integrating awareness of various methodological approaches alongside practical skills. By exploring core competencies, strategies, and character traits vital for impactful chaplaincy in both secular and sacred environments, students are prepared not only to navigate ethical considerations but also to develop leadership skills that are crucial for a meaningful and successful career in chaplaincy.

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Curriculum Design and Duration of the Licentiate in Chaplaincy

The Licentiate in Chaplaincy, offered online by ACCSA Chaplains Academy, is a professional three-year program designed to accommodate the diverse schedules of adult learners by presenting its curriculum in a modular format. This innovative approach allows students to enrol at their convenience, fostering immediate engagement with course materials while permitting a personalized educational trajectory. The program leverages an advanced Learning Management System (LMS) to deliver self-paced courses that enrich the learning experience through a variety of instructional methods, including multimedia resources, discussion boards for collaborative engagement, and practical exercises. By integrating digital technologies, the Chaplains Academy transcends traditional educational boundaries, ensuring that students not only gain a comprehensive understanding of chaplaincy but also develop the professional competencies necessary for effective practice in diverse settings. This multifaceted curriculum is tailored to accommodate varying learning styles, empowering future chaplains to excel in both their personal and professional development.

Year 1

Semester 1: Foundations of Chaplaincy

Modules:

1. **Introduction to Chaplaincy** - Overview of the role and responsibilities of a chaplain. - Historical development of chaplaincy.
2. **Theological Foundations**- Introduction to Christian theology. - Key doctrines and their implications for pastoral care.
3. **Biblical Studies** - Old Testament and New Testament overview. - Hermeneutics and interpreting scripture for pastoral contexts.
4. **Communication Skills for Chaplains** - Verbal and non-verbal communication - Active listening and empathetic engagement - Conflict resolution and mediation

Semester 2: Pastoral Care and Counselling

Modules:

1. **Pastoral Care Theory and Practice** - Principles of pastoral care. - Models of care for individuals and families.
2. **Counselling Techniques for Chaplains**- Counselling theories and methods. - Crisis intervention and grief counselling.
3. **Advanced Pastoral Care Techniques** - Advanced Counselling Techniques - Family Systems Theory in Pastoral Care - Spiritual Direction and Mentorship - Supervision and Self-Care for Chaplains
4. **Psychology and Human Behaviour** - Basic psychological principles relevant to spiritual care - Understanding grief, trauma, and mental health - Cultural competency in psychological contexts

Semester 3: Ethics and Professional Practice

Modules:

1. **Ethics in Chaplaincy** - Ethical dilemmas in pastoral care. - Professional boundaries and confidentiality, Frameworks and decision-making, - Case studies in chaplaincy ethics
2. **Professional Boundaries and Self-Care** - Navigating professional boundaries- Strategies for self-care and preventing burnout

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3. **Legal Issues in Chaplaincy** - Understanding legal responsibilities and protections- Confidentiality and reporting requirements

Year 2

Semester 1: Spiritual Formation and Leadership

Modules:

1. **Spiritual Formation** - The importance of personal spirituality. - Practices that enhance spiritual growth.
2. **Leadership in Chaplaincy** - Leadership theories and styles. - Team building and conflict resolution.
3. **Interpersonal Relationships in Ministry** - Building healthy relationships in ministry settings. - Navigating power dynamics and authority.
4. **Cultural Competence in Chaplaincy** - Understanding diverse cultural and religious backgrounds. - Strategies for effective interfaith engagement.

Semester 2: Specialized Chaplaincy

Modules:

1. **Health Care Chaplaincy** - Roles of chaplains in hospitals and healthcare settings. - Ethical issues in health care and end-of-life care.
2. **Military Chaplaincy** - Understanding military culture and the role of chaplains in the armed forces.- Issues related to trauma and resilience.
3. **Educational Chaplaincy** - The role of chaplains in schools and universities. - Addressing the needs of students and educators.
4. **Community Chaplaincy** - Chaplaincy in community organizations and non-profits.- Engaging with local and marginalized populations.

Semester 3: Advanced Theological Concepts

Modules:

1. **Systematic Theology** - Advanced study of key theological themes. - Application of theology in chaplaincy.
2. **Multicultural and Interfaith Perspectives** - An exploration of multicultural and interfaith approaches in chaplaincy, emphasizing respect, understanding, and engagement with diverse spiritual beliefs.
3. **Ministering to Personal Needs** - Refers to the intentional effort by individuals or organizations to address the emotional, spiritual, physical, and social needs of people in their community, typically within a religious or faith-based context.
4. **Practical Theology** - Integrating theory with practice in ministry. - Reflective practices for chaplains.

Year 3

Semester 1: Crisis and Trauma Ministry

Modules:

1. **Crisis Intervention and Trauma Care** - Understanding trauma and its effects on individuals- Developing crisis intervention strategies - Chaplaincy responses to disasters and crises

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2. **Crisis Ministry** - Theology and practice of ministry in crises. - Emergency response and community support.
3. **Grief and Loss Ministry** - Understanding the process of grief and loss. - Ministry approaches for grieving individuals and families.
4. **Substance Abuse and Recovery Ministry** - Understanding addiction and recovery processes. - Providing spiritual support in recovery settings.

Semester 2: Research and Reflection

Modules:

1. **Research and Methodology in Chaplaincy** - Research methods in spiritual care - Evidence-based practice in chaplaincy - Writing research proposals and conducting studies
2. **Reflective Practice in Chaplaincy** - Techniques for reflective practice and supervision. - Journaling and group reflection exercises.
3. **Practicum in Chaplaincy** - On-site chaplaincy experience in chosen specialization. - Supervision by experienced chaplains.

Semester 3: Capstone Project

Modules:

1. **Capstone Project Preparation** - Development of a capstone project proposal. - Identifying areas of interest and research questions.
2. **Capstone Project Implementation** - Research and implementation of a chaplaincy-related project. - Application of academic learning to real-world settings.
3. **Integration of Learning** - Presentation of the capstone project. - Discussion of lessons learned and future directions.
4. **Professional Development for Chaplains** - Career paths and opportunities in chaplaincy. - Strategies for ongoing professional growth.

Program Requirements:

- **Field Experience:** Each student is required to complete a series of field placements to gain practical experience in various chaplaincy settings.
- **Capstone Project:** A significant research project that demonstrates the integration of learning across the curriculum.

Conclusion:

This syllabus outlines a comprehensive framework for training future chaplains equipped to serve in diverse settings and communities. The curriculum is designed to foster academic rigor, spiritual growth, and practical application in the field of chaplaincy.

Fee Structure:

Upon acceptance into the program, students are required to make payment for each module they intend to register for, thereby confirming their place in the program.

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Good news for students! Our pay-per-module structure makes it easy to manage your finances. With clear and transparent transactions, you'll always know exactly how much you're paying and what you're getting. No more confusing fees or unexpected costs. Stay on top of your expenses and focus on what matters most - your studies!

Registration Fee - R 500.00 (*once-off*)

Payment in full - R 9 575.00 ACCSA MEMBERS **(25% discount)** / Non-Members - R 12 150.00 **(25% discount)**

Fee per module - R 375.00 for all ACCSA MEMBERS / Non-Members - R 475.00

Reactivation fee R500 (Non-refundable) Note: The student will need to pay a reactivation fee; if the student is inactive for more than 6 months or does not register for any modules for more than 6 months period.

Accreditation and Professional Membership:

Our in-house short courses offer an extensive blend of theoretical and practical training specifically designed for our students. These courses are non-credit bearing and are not aligned with any registered unit standards, which means they are provided independently of the Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF) and do not result in a formal qualification listed on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).

Association of Christian Religious Practitioners (ACRP)

We are excited to announce our partnership with the Association of Christian Religious Practitioners (ACRP), a professional body for church leaders and Christian ministry leaders. This collaboration reinforces our commitment to delivering high-quality courses that meet industry standards. As a valued student, you can now register for professional designation with ACRP upon completing our Licentiate in Chaplaincy (LChap) program, enhancing your career and professional standing in the field. Our team will support you throughout the registration process, making it easier for you to take advantage of this opportunity.

The levels of registration and designation range from:

Level 1: Religious practitioner

Level 2: Advanced Religious practitioner

Level 3: Religious professional

Level 4: Religious specialist

ACRP is recognized by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) in terms of Section 13 of the National Qualification Framework Act (Act No. 67 of 2008) as a professional body, with a registration number of PB0000110.

Council for Counsellors in South Africa (CCSA)

We are pleased to announce our partnership with the Council for Counsellors in South Africa (CCSA), a professional body that regulates non-psychological counsellors. Upon completing our Licentiate in Chaplaincy (LChap) program, graduates can register for a professional designation with CCSA, enhancing their career prospects and professional standing in the field of counselling.

The levels of registration and designation range from:

Level 1: Student Counsellor

Level 2: Institutional Counsellor

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Level 3: Counsellor

Level 4: Specialist Counsellor

The ACCSA are actively working with other training organizations to explore potential pathways for formal recognition in the future. This approach allows our students to gain valuable knowledge and skills in a flexible learning environment without being bound by the constraints of formal accreditation.

The recognition and credit transfer of our courses are determined by individual churches, institutions. This gives our students the liberty to tailor their learning experiences in accordance with their personal and professional aspirations, while also respecting the diverse educational landscapes they may navigate.

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