

Chaplain Mentor Program

General Description

The Chaplain Mentor Program is coordinated through HSC Ministry, SSOM Department of Medical Education, and the LUMC Spiritual Care Department. The program begins with an opening orientation session, followed by an experience of shadowing a hospital Chaplain attending to the spiritual needs of patients. Following the completion of a reflection assignment, the program closes with a small group debrief and reflection session. This shadowing opportunity has sometimes been an intense experience for students, as some have witnessed their first death or other challenging patient encounters. The Spiritual Care and HSC Ministry staff are here to support you throughout your experience, and are available to meet, process, and reflect with you – before, during, and after your shadowing.

Objectives and Outcomes (associated SSOM Curriculum competencies noted in parenthesis)

- A. To learn an appreciation for the spiritual aspects of caring for patients. (1.5)
- B. To examine concepts of “spirituality at the bedside,” and caring for the whole person (*cura personalis*). (1.5)
- C. To foster a relationship between Chaplains and First Year Medical Students, and to interact with future colleagues on a professional basis. (3.3, 7.1, 7.3)
- D. To begin to understand the expertise and training of Chaplains and understand the role of Chaplains on a health care team as well as to identify the resources offered by Spiritual Care. (6.2, 7.2)
- E. To recognize how the beliefs, values, and faith commitments of a patient – as well as the student – are resources when encountering illness, suffering and death, and how cultural or religious identities of patients impact care. (5.1, 5.3, 5.4, 8.2)
- F. To nurture inspiration, motivation, and enthusiasm for a career in medicine while developing and applying skills under the framework of *cura personalis* “care for the whole person.” (8.2, 8.3)
- G. To improve observation skills: the ability to assess the environment, select critical cues, attend to what is seen, and transfer to subsequent interactions. (4.4)
- H. To observe the importance of strong communication skills in establishing a positive doctor-patient relationship. (3.2, 3.5)

Requirements

You are required to meet with your Chaplain Mentor Program group on the two dates assigned to you, as noted on the Chaplain Mentor schedule posted on the PCM-1 course calendar and Sakai page. The full program requirements include:

- 1. Attend the **one-hour orientation** session as assigned.
- 2. Participate in **one, two-hour rotation with a Chaplain.**
LUHS Main Hospital, lower level, rm 0760. Access off the East Elevators by the Gift Shop. 708.216.9056 | Page: 708.643.0679 | VOCERA dial 708-216-0333 and simply request “The Chaplain.”
- 3. Attend a one-hour **reflection and debriefing** session as assigned.
- 4. Submit your chaplain mentor reflection to Sakai under PCM-1 Assignments. Due date/time: _____.

Chaplain Mentor Reflection:

The goal of the Chaplain Mentor reflection is to offer an opportunity to reflect upon and articulate the impact of your Chaplain Mentor experience. Please choose ONE of the options below in which to structure your reflection. No matter which option you choose, **your reflection MUST INCLUDE:**

1. **Title:** The title should be a word or phrase that encapsulates your Chaplain Mentor experience or what it brought out in you. This should be an overall theme of the experience, not simply "Chaplain Mentor Experience." Questions that might help you come to the theme are: *what is at the heart of the work of a Chaplain? What is essential in providing holistic care in the hospital setting? What am I taking from this experience?*
2. **Overview:** Provide a brief overview of what happened in your Chaplain Mentor experience. In this area, list who your chaplain is; patients, or staff you encountered (no real names – remember HIPAA). Briefly share what happened during your experience and what feelings, reactions, or memories that surfaced during your shadowing experience.
3. **Learning Objectives:** Share 2-3 objectives and outcomes from the program description that emerged from your experience. List them, including their associated letter from page 1, and explain how you saw these play out in your experience. *Focus on their personal impact on you, how you were feeling, and/or the type of doctor you want to become.*

Reflection Options

Written Essay: Write a minimum 1-page single-spaced written reflection on your experience. Your written essay must include a Title, Overview, and Learning Objectives as described above. You may choose to use the Examen as a resource to help you reflect on the experience.

Artistic Reflection: Provide an artistic expression that conveys the meaning of the Chaplain Mentor shadowing experience and how you see the work of a Chaplain. Artistic expressions can include painting, drawing, graphic art, poetry, dance, etc. You will submit your artistic reflection, and a written Title, Overview, and Learning Objectives as described above. The written portion must also include an explanation of the artistic expression and its connection to your shadowing experience. You may choose to use the Examen as a resource to help you reflect on the experience.

Reflection Resource: The Ignatian Examen

Step 1: I quiet my mind and heart. I become aware of the sacred with and within me.

Step 2: I call to mind a gift in my life that presents itself to me from the Chaplain Mentor shadowing experience. I offer a moment of gratitude for this experience.

Step 3: I review the events of the Chaplain Mentor experience. What did I experience as I spoke with the Chaplain? I bring to mind the faces of the patients, families, and staff that I engaged. What feelings come up as I contemplate these interactions? What did I notice about the

Chaplain? What words did they say, and how did they interact with others? How did it feel to witness the Chaplain? Notice the feelings that surface, such as hope, fear, joy, and sorrow.

Step 4: I allow one moment, person, place, or emotion to capture my attention. I focus on it and consider what God might be showing me through this particular aspect of my experience.

Step 5: I look ahead. As I imagine the studying, activities, and patients that I will meet in the future, how does this Chaplain Mentor experience fit into who I hope to be as a physician? What do I need as I move into the future?