

Certificate in Pastoral Care and Counseling at JTS

Pastoral care is the discipline of religious leaders caring for people in need, whether they are in acute physical or emotional crisis, or are facing the complexities of life. Pastoral care draws on psychological principles and religious insights.

The Certificate in Pastoral Care and Counseling represents an integrated curriculum that includes academic learning, professional skills and religious and personal identity-formation. Students who are interested in preparing themselves for the world of professional chaplaincy will be in an excellent position to become leaders in the field. Students who wish to become clergy or religious professionals in agencies or schools will have the in-depth pastoral training to serve the needs of their congregants, clients and students on a very high level and with expertise in the rich pastoral resources of Judaism.

Admission requirements:

Completed BA

Application form

Letter of Recommendation

Transcripts

- 21 credits in pastoral care and counseling
 - At least 12 of the credits for the certificate must be for units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). Each 400 hour unit of CPE counts for 6 academic credits.
 - Students may complete one unit of CPE at JTS; the second unit has to be completed at a different ACPE accredited center in the United States or Canada
 - A unit of CPE may be completed either full time over the summer or part-time during the academic year. Please see www.acpe.edu for a directory of accredited sites and more information.
- A senior project in pastoral care and counseling in consultation with the advisor.
- In addition to taking courses at JTS, students are able to take pastoral classes at Union Theological Seminary and HUC-JIR, through our consortium agreements with those schools.

Students currently enrolled in the rabbinical school at JTS:

The rabbinical school requires all students to complete a MA as well as the coursework required by the rabbinical school curriculum. Students who are interested in concentrating in Pastoral Care and Counseling (PCC) as well and pursue the Certificate in Pastoral Care and Counseling (C-PCC) are required to complete the above mentioned requirements **in addition to the requirements for their specific MA.**

Please note: Certification as a chaplain either by the National Association of Jewish Chaplains or the Association of Professional Chaplains requires an MA and completion

of four units of CPE. Some students may choose to complete a full-time CPE residency after graduation. Please see www.najc.org or www.professionalchaplains.org for more information.

This certificate does not lead to any area of professional licensure.

In December, 2010 JTS was accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE) as an independent ACPE site. Please see www.jtsa.edu/centerforpastoraleducation.xml for a full description of the Center.

If you have any questions about the Certificate in Pastoral Care and Counseling, please be in touch with Rabbi Ute Steyer utsteyer@jtsa.edu. For admissions, please contact Abby Eisenberg at abeisenberg@jtsa.edu.