



## Chaplain Mentor Program

### General Description

The Chaplain Mentor Program is coordinated through HSD Ministry 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 written reflection, the program closes with a small group de-brief 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 HSD 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

1. To learn an appreciation for the spiritual aspects of caring for patients.
2. To examine concepts of “spirituality at the bed-side,” caring for the whole person (*cura personalis*), and Loyola’s mission to “treat the human spirit.”
3. To foster a relationship between Chaplains and First Year Medical Students, and to interact with future colleagues on a professional basis.
4. To begin to understand the expertise and training of Chaplains.
5. To begin to understand the role of Chaplains on a health care team and to identify the resources offered by Spiritual Care.
6. 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.
7. To nurture inspiration, motivation, and enthusiasm for a career in medicine.
8. To improve observation skills: the ability to assess the environment, select critical cues, attend to what is seen, and transfer to subsequent interactions.
9. To observe the importance of good communication skills in establishing a positive doctor-patient relationship.

### 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 website. The full program requirements include:

1. Attend the **one hour orientation** session as assigned.
2. Participate in **one, two hour rotation with a Chaplain.**
3. Attend a one hour **reflection and debriefing** session as assigned.
4. Submit a 1-2 page **written reflection** on your experience, submitted to HSD Ministry ([HSDministry@luc.edu](mailto:HSDministry@luc.edu)), the LUMC Spiritual Care department ([joadawson@lumc.edu](mailto:joadawson@lumc.edu)), and your reflection group Chaplain (details will be released from HSD Ministry the week before your group meeting).