

The Studion: InterMission School of Spiritual Direction Application Packet, 2018. Introduction, Costs, Schedule and Application Questions

I. Introduction:

Thank you for your interest in applying to attend, The Studion, a two-year, part-time training in the ministry of spiritual direction in the Christian tradition. We are confident that this training will be a significant time of personal growth and preparation for ministry. We look forward to receiving your application.

The application process will consist of four parts: 1) your response to a series of application questions; 2) two reference letters; 3) an interview; and 4) an institutional administrative registration.

The deadline for the first and second parts of this application process is September 15, 2018. Please email your completed application to rev.klok@gmail.com. Along with the application, a non-refundable deposit of \$150 is required. If you have any questions about this application process, please do not hesitate to ask.

II. Schedule:

The two-year program is divided into eight modules, with four of these modules split into two and a half days (we call them split-modules). All modules begin on a Sunday evening, and end on either a Tuesday or a Friday. The modules are live-in residencies held at Star of the North Retreat Centre in St. Albert, AB. We start at 7:00 PM on Sunday and end at 4:30 PM on Tuesdays or Fridays. The dates are as follows:

2018:

Oct 14-16
Nov 18-20

2019:

Jan 6-11 Full
Feb 3-5
Mar 3-5
May 5-7
June 2-3
Oct 20-25 (Practicum) Full
Nov 24-26

2020:

Jan 12-17 Full

Mar 29-31

Jun 14-19 Full

III. Fees.

Tuition for the course is \$6250 if paid in one lump sum at the beginning or \$6500 in two payments (\$3250) over two years. The first payment is due upon acceptance into the course. No GST is required.

Tuition does not include books, or any extra meals and lodging you may arrange with the retreat centre (for example, no meals are provided by The Studion on Sunday evenings or Friday afternoons). What is more, tuition does not include sessions of receiving spiritual direction that are not part of the live-in experience. The requirement for the course is that you receive a total of 30 sessions of spiritual direction. 14 hours of direction will take place during the live-in residencies. It will be your responsibility to arrange and cover the cost of the remaining 16 hours with a qualified spiritual director of your choosing.

IV. Personal Application Questions:

The intention of the questions that follow are to allow us to get to know you; but they are also a way for you to reflect on your life, your faith-journey and your readiness for training in spiritual direction.

Please submit your responses to the questions that follow in an essay format, 12pt font, with double spaced lines.

Spiritual Life Story.

Tell the story of your faith/spiritual development: beginnings and roots; significant events and turning points; influential people; the development of gifts, special interests and passions. What has happened to you? How have you been shaped? How has your image of God, self, others, and the world, changed? What have been some of your most significant insights? What kind of healing have you found? What are you most grateful for? What world events have influenced your faith and spiritual growth?

Describe your present spiritual practices (prayer, rituals, community life, service, journaling, dream work, social justice, receiving spiritual direction, etc.) and how they benefit you.

Describe your relationship and belonging to a faith community. How do you benefit the community; how does it benefit you?

Describe your educational (formal/informal) background in such things as theology, scripture, spirituality, psychology, the fine arts, discernment.

Spiritual Direction in the Christian tradition.

At present, what is your understanding and experience of the ministry of spiritual direction? What is your attraction to this training and ministry? What has been your experience of receiving and/or providing spiritual direction? What is your present understanding of the benefits of this ministry?

In taking this training in spiritual direction, how do you hope to grow? What do you hope to gain?

Readiness.

All things considered (financial, life-situation, health, family, stage of life), tell us about your readiness to engage in this course of study. Please make reference to the kind of support you can count on from friends, family and your faith community. Looking ahead, is there anything that might keep you from completing this 2-year program?

V. Reference Letters:

Please provide two reference letters. One from a spiritual leader in your faith community (Pastor, Priest, Deacon, etc.), and another from a colleague or co-worker in ministry. Please provide them with a copy of the following letter, and an envelope with stamp and address: The Studion, c/o 10907 135A Ave., Edmonton, AB, T5E 1T2.

Referral Form for Application
The Studion: InterMission School for Spiritual Direction
c/o 10907 135A Avenue, Edmonton, AB, T5E 1T2

Name of Applicant:

Name and contact information of Referee:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Spiritual Direction has been defined as “helping a person directly with his or her relationship with God.” The ministry of Spiritual Direction is primarily about prayerful accompaniment, helping people sort through the questions: “Who is God for me? And who am I for God?” Please answer the following question with these descriptors in mind.

What is your relationship with the applicant?

How would you describe the applicant’s spiritual life and relationship to God?

What ministry skills and spiritual gifts does the applicant have that may be applicable in the context of Spiritual Direction?

How would you describe the applicant’s interpersonal manner?

Do you think there are any reasons this applicant should not be admitted to this program for the training of spiritual directors?