



PERKINS OFFICE OF EXTERNAL PROGRAMS

Certificate Programs

Christian Education and Children's Ministry

The United Methodist [Christian Education and Children's Ministry](#) certificate courses teach individuals to administer programs that develop faith formation, equip disciples of Jesus Christ, and provide an understanding of United Methodist tradition and doctrine.

The Children's Ministry track focuses on skills in working with volunteers and staff to create programmatic experiences and a climate that encourages children in the Christian faith.

The Christian Education track focuses on relating to church volunteers and staff with emotional maturity and sound judgment and demonstrating leadership in the church's educational ministry.



Spiritual Direction

Do people seek you out for compassionate listening? Do you find yourself helping others tend to their souls?

Do you desire more training in the art of companioned discernment? If you've asked yourself these questions, then take a look at [this program](#). We've designed this program for graduate students, lay people and clergy. It is offered in a user-friendly, non-traditional format developed to accommodate the busy lives of people who wish to train during the weekend.

Youth Ministry

The United Methodist certificate in [Youth Ministry](#) courses teach individuals how to develop programs for youth that result in faith development and Christian formation. The courses cover biblical and theological concepts as well as ways youth can become disciples for the transformation of the world. Skills such as relating to young people, counseling, leading, and empowering others are addressed. In addition, the courses provide knowledge of adolescent development and behavior that include personal, moral, social, and religious development and the implications of these for youth ministry.

United Methodist Studies Course

The [United Methodist Studies](#) course, taught by Perkins faculty, provides an introduction to Methodist history, doctrine, and polity in a hybrid format. This course is perfect for personnel in a United Methodist local church, for teachers of United Methodist confirmation classes, and for new and longtime members in United Methodist churches. It is required for students enrolled in a United Methodist Certification track through the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.



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