

SPIRITUAL CONVERSATION COURSE 2025-26 INFORMATION SHEET

The Ignatian tradition makes the assumption that God is present and active in our lives and that through reflection and prayer we can become more sensitive to this presence. It is often in our deeper conversations with others that we notice, and this awareness comes to the surface.

Course Purpose

The Spiritual Conversation Course is a complete course in itself. It is intended to enhance listening skills and awareness of God's presence in the many contacts and conversations we have in our day to day lives. It is based in the Ignatian tradition, drawing its inspiration from the Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius of Loyola. As a broad-based course it is expected that participants will find different uses for what they learn. A significant part of the course will involve ongoing discernment for each person about whether, and in what ways, they are called to accompany others in faith.

PERSONAL PRIOR EXPERIENCE

Spiritual Accompaniment/Direction

Participants are expected to be receiving ongoing spiritual accompaniment/direction themselves during the course.

Personal Retreat

It is preferable that participants have had experience of making an individually guided retreat.

WAYS OF LEARNING

- Attendance at course weekends
- Personal prayer and reflection
- Input from the team
- Small and plenary group sharing
- Listening and observation in small groups
- Guided reading
- One written assignment for each module.
- Ongoing self-assessment

ADDITIONAL COMMITMENT

As well as Group Sessions and monthly Tutorials, participants are asked to set aside about 8 hours for Preparation and Homework (reflection, reading, verbatim extracts & regular meetings with two people outside the course for spiritual conversation).

This does not include time to write essays (one per module) or for general reading from the recommended reading list, extra time should be factored in for this work.

Since going online Study Bubbles have become a further feature of the course, small groups meeting each month to discuss homework and practice skills.

MODULE TOPICS

Module 1: Listening Skills

Module 2: Personal Prayer – Ways of Praying

Module 3: Ignatian Discernment

Module 4: Spiritual Conversation in daily life

ONLINE ATTENDANCE TIMES

Weekends Sept-Apr **May Retreat Weekend**

Saturdays 09:30-14:30 Saturday 10:00-16:00

Sundays 14:00-17:30 Sunday 12:00-18:00

ONLINE ATTENDANCE DATES

2025

Sep 20 & 21

Oct 18 & 19

Nov 15 & 16

Dec 13 & 14

Retreat weekend

2026

Jan 24/25

Feb 21 & 22

Mar 21 & 22

Apr 18 & 19

→ May 16 & 17

May 31 (14:00-16:00)

Given the nature of the course, which includes group work and experiential training, a high degree of participant attendance is expected. If for any good reason participants are prevented from attending a session, materials will be provided. Where possible participants are helped by meeting with other members of the group to discuss that material.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The suggested donation for this course is £805 (£100 non-refundable deposit on acceptance). It can be paid in stages.

Bursary funding or a grant may be available - early application is essential if you need financial assistance.

For further information please contact the ISC on 0141 354 0077 or finance@iscglasgow.co.uk



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