

Spiritual Conversation Course 2026-27 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 noticing God's presence and communication with us. It is often in our deeper conversations with others that 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 encounters and conversations we have in our day to day lives. It is based in the Ignatian tradition, drawing 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 walk alongside others together in faith. It is **not** training in Spiritual Accompaniment.

PERSONAL PRIOR EXPERIENCE

Own Spiritual Accompaniment/ Direction

Participants are expected to **be receiving ongoing Ignatian spiritual accompaniment / direction** themselves during the course (not provided as part of course).

Personal Retreat

Participants should preferably have experience of making an **individually guided retreat**.

WAYS OF LEARNING

- Course attendance & team input
- Personal prayer, reflection & journaling
- Small and plenary group sharing
- Listening and observation in small groups
- Guided reading
- One written assignment for each module.
- Ongoing self-assessment & tutorials
- Reflection on volunteer conversations

COMMITMENT

As well as **Weekend Sessions** and monthly **Tutorials**, participants are asked to set aside about 12-16 hours each month for **Preparation** and **Follow up** (reflection, reading, verbatim extracts & regular meetings with two people outside the course for **spiritual conversation**).

This does not include time to create / write **assignments** (one per thread) or for general reading from the recommended reading list, extra time should be factored in for this work. **Study Bubbles** - small groups (which change throughout the course) meet each month, in between weekends, to plan, study, review, undertake tasks and practise skills.

THREAD TOPICS

Thread A: Ways of Praying

Thread B: Listening with Head & Heart

Thread C: Ignatian Discernment

Thread D: Personal Growth & Practice

ONLINE ATTENDANCE TIMES

Weekends Sept-Apr

May Retreat WE

Saturdays 09:30-14:30

Saturday 09:30-15:30

Sundays 14:00-17:30

Sunday 12:00-18:00

ONLINE ATTENDANCE DATES

2026

Sep 19 & 20

Oct 17 & 18

Nov 14 & 15

Dec 12 & 13

Retreat Weekend → May 22 & 23

Final Session → Jun 06 (14:00-17:30)

2027

Jan 23 & 24

Feb 20 & 21

Mar 20 & 21

Apr 24 & 25

The course, includes group work and experiential learning, so a high degree of participant attendance is expected. If for any good reason participants are prevented from attending a session, some materials will be provided. It helps participants to meet with other members of the group to discuss missed material & experiences.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The suggested donation for this course is **£840 (£150 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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