

spiritual direction training online catholic

****Spiritual Direction Training Online Catholic: Nurturing Faith in a Digital Age****

spiritual direction training online catholic programs have become increasingly popular as more individuals seek to deepen their faith journey while balancing the demands of modern life. The accessibility of online platforms now allows those interested in spiritual direction to receive comprehensive formation rooted in Catholic tradition without geographical constraints. Whether you're a layperson, clergy, or religious, pursuing spiritual direction training online within the Catholic context offers a unique opportunity to grow personally and prepare to guide others in their spiritual lives.

In this article, we'll explore what spiritual direction is, the benefits of training online, key features of Catholic spiritual direction courses, and how to choose the right program to enhance your spiritual leadership.

Understanding Spiritual Direction in the Catholic Tradition

Spiritual direction is a time-honored practice in the Catholic Church, where a trained guide, known as a spiritual director, accompanies another person on their journey of faith. Unlike counseling or therapy, spiritual direction focuses on discerning God's presence and action in everyday life. It helps individuals cultivate a deeper relationship with God, recognize spiritual movements within themselves, and make choices that align with their faith.

The Role of a Catholic Spiritual Director

A Catholic spiritual director listens attentively, asks thoughtful questions, and offers gentle guidance grounded in Scripture, Church teachings, and centuries of mystical and theological wisdom. This ministry requires sensitivity, humility, and a strong foundation in Catholic spirituality. Training programs emphasize these qualities to prepare spiritual directors to support others with compassion and clarity.

Why Choose Spiritual Direction Training Online Catholic Programs?

In today's digital era, spiritual direction training online Catholic programs provide a flexible and accessible way to engage in formation without sacrificing quality. Here are some reasons why many are opting for online learning:

- **Flexibility:** Online courses allow you to study at your own pace and schedule, making it easier to balance with family, work, or parish commitments.
- **Wide Range of Resources:** Virtual classrooms often include video lectures, webinars, reading materials, and forums that enrich the learning experience.
- **Community Connection:** Despite being remote, many programs foster vibrant online communities where participants share insights, pray together, and support each other's growth.
- **Access to Expert Instructors:** You can learn from experienced Catholic spiritual directors, theologians, and pastoral ministers who bring diverse perspectives and practical wisdom.

Balancing Tradition with Innovation

One concern some may have is whether online spiritual direction training can uphold the depth and reverence of Catholic tradition. Fortunately, many established Catholic institutions have developed programs that maintain rigorous academic and spiritual standards while leveraging technology to enhance engagement. Recorded liturgies, guided prayer exercises, and virtual retreats are just some ways they nurture a rich spiritual atmosphere online.

Key Components of Catholic Spiritual Direction Training Online

Effective spiritual direction training programs incorporate a variety of elements designed to build both knowledge and practical skills. Here's what you can expect:

Theological Foundations

Understanding the Catholic faith deeply is essential for any spiritual director. Training covers Scripture, Church teachings, the sacraments, and the lives of the saints. This foundation helps directors interpret spiritual experiences within the broader context of Catholic doctrine.

Spiritual Practices and Discernment

Courses often include instruction on different prayer forms, such as Lectio Divina, contemplative prayer,

and Ignatian spirituality. Learning to guide others in these practices is key, as is fostering the ability to discern God's movements in daily life.

Psychological and Pastoral Sensitivity

While spiritual direction is distinct from therapy, understanding basic psychology helps directors respond compassionately to those they accompany. Training may address listening skills, boundaries, ethical considerations, and how to recognize when to refer someone for professional help.

Supervised Practice

Many programs require participants to engage in supervised spiritual direction sessions. This hands-on experience is invaluable for integrating theory with practice, receiving constructive feedback, and growing in confidence.

Choosing the Right Spiritual Direction Training Online Catholic Program

With numerous options available, selecting a program that fits your needs and aspirations is crucial. Here are some tips to guide your decision:

- **Accreditation and Affiliation:** Look for programs affiliated with reputable Catholic institutions or recognized spiritual direction organizations.
- **Curriculum Depth:** Review the syllabus to ensure it covers essential theological content, spiritual practices, and pastoral skills.
- **Faculty Expertise:** Investigate the qualifications and backgrounds of instructors to ensure a rich and authentic formation.
- **Community and Support:** Consider whether the program offers opportunities for interaction, mentorship, and spiritual accompaniment.
- **Flexibility and Duration:** Check how the course fits your schedule and whether it offers part-time, full-time, or modular options.

Sample Programs to Explore

- **The Augustine Institute:** Known for integrating robust Catholic teaching with practical ministry skills, their online spiritual direction courses are highly regarded.
- **Spiritual Directors International (SDI):** While not exclusively Catholic, SDI offers resources and training that align well with Catholic spirituality.
- **The Catholic Spiritual Direction Formation Program by Creighton University:** Offers a comprehensive online curriculum blending Ignatian spirituality with practical formation.

Tips for Success in Online Spiritual Direction Training

Embarking on spiritual direction training online requires intentionality and commitment. Here are some helpful suggestions to make the most of your experience:

1. **Create a Dedicated Study Space:** Having a quiet, distraction-free area can improve focus and foster a prayerful mindset.
2. **Establish a Regular Prayer Routine:** Integrate prayer into your daily schedule to deepen your own spiritual life alongside your studies.
3. **Engage Actively in Discussions:** Participate in forums, live sessions, and peer groups to enrich your learning and build supportive relationships.
4. **Practice What You Learn:** Seek opportunities to offer spiritual direction or companion others in prayer to apply your new skills.
5. **Stay Open to Growth:** Spiritual direction is as much about personal transformation as it is about guiding others. Embrace the journey with patience and humility.

Exploring spiritual direction training online Catholic programs can be a transformative step for those called to nurture faith in themselves and others. The blend of tradition and technology opens doors to formation that is both accessible and profoundly rooted in the Church's rich spiritual heritage. Whether you envision serving in your parish, a retreat center, or simply enhancing your own spiritual awareness, this path invites you into a deeper encounter with God's guiding presence.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is spiritual direction training online in the Catholic context?

Spiritual direction training online in the Catholic context is a program designed to equip individuals with the skills and knowledge to guide others in their spiritual journey, following Catholic teachings and traditions, through virtual learning platforms.

Are there accredited online programs for Catholic spiritual direction training?

Yes, several accredited institutions and Catholic organizations offer online spiritual direction training programs that provide certification upon completion, ensuring the training meets ecclesiastical and academic standards.

Who can benefit from Catholic spiritual direction training online?

Anyone interested in deepening their understanding of spiritual guidance, including laypersons, clergy, religious, and those seeking to become trained spiritual directors within the Catholic Church, can benefit from online training programs.

What topics are typically covered in online Catholic spiritual direction training?

Topics often include prayer and discernment, the history of spiritual direction, Catholic theology, pastoral counseling skills, ethical guidelines, and practical techniques for accompanying individuals in their spiritual growth.

How long does online Catholic spiritual direction training usually take?

The duration varies by program but typically ranges from several months to one or two years, depending on the depth of study and whether the program is part-time or full-time.

Can online spiritual direction training prepare someone to become a certified Catholic spiritual director?

Yes, many online programs are designed to prepare participants for certification as Catholic spiritual directors, provided they meet the required coursework, supervised practice, and any additional diocesan or ecclesiastical requirements.

Additional Resources

Spiritual Direction Training Online Catholic: Navigating Faith and Formation in the Digital Age

spiritual direction training online catholic has emerged as a notable trend within the wider context of faith formation and ministry development. As the Catholic Church continues to adapt to the evolving landscape of education and digital communication, online programs offering spiritual direction training provide an accessible avenue for individuals seeking to deepen their understanding of spiritual accompaniment in a structured, faith-based environment. This article explores the nuances, strengths, and challenges inherent in pursuing spiritual direction training through online Catholic platforms, while analyzing how these programs cater to both laypersons and clergy across diverse contexts.

Understanding Spiritual Direction in the Catholic Tradition

Spiritual direction, rooted deeply in Catholic tradition, is the practice of guiding individuals toward a more profound relationship with God through attentive listening, discernment, and prayerful dialogue. Unlike counseling or therapy, spiritual direction focuses primarily on the spiritual journey, encouraging the directee's awareness of God's presence in everyday life. Training for spiritual directors involves not only theological education but also practical skills development, emotional intelligence, and ongoing personal spiritual formation.

Historically, spiritual direction was often imparted through face-to-face mentoring relationships, frequently within monastic or parish settings. The shift to online modalities reflects both the Church's response to contemporary needs and the broader societal movement toward digital learning platforms.

Features of Online Catholic Spiritual Direction Training Programs

Online spiritual direction training programs within the Catholic framework share several defining characteristics that cater to modern learners:

Comprehensive Curriculum Rooted in Catholic Theology

A hallmark of reputable training programs is their grounding in Scripture, Church teachings, and the writings of saints and Church Fathers. Courses typically cover:

- Foundations of spiritual theology and the history of spiritual direction

- Discernment practices and the Ignatian tradition
- Ethical guidelines and confidentiality in spiritual accompaniment
- Practical skills such as active listening, questioning techniques, and facilitating prayer
- Personal spiritual development and supervision requirements

Inclusion of these elements ensures that trainees receive a well-rounded formation that aligns with Catholic doctrine and pastoral sensitivity.

Flexible Learning Modalities and Accessibility

One of the most compelling advantages of spiritual direction training online catholic is accessibility. Participants from various geographical locations can enroll without the constraints of travel or relocation. Many programs employ asynchronous coursework combined with synchronous sessions, allowing students to engage with material at their own pace while benefiting from live discussions, mentorship, and peer interaction.

This flexibility supports those balancing ministry, family, or professional responsibilities, making spiritual direction formation more inclusive than traditional in-person formats.

Integration of Technology and Interactive Elements

Leading online training programs utilize a variety of digital tools such as video lectures, discussion forums, virtual retreats, and one-on-one mentorship via video conferencing. These interactive components foster community building, reflective practice, and personalized feedback, which are crucial for the development of effective spiritual directors.

Comparative Analysis: Online vs. Traditional Spiritual Direction Training

While online spiritual direction training offers undeniable benefits, it is important to weigh these against the nuances of traditional, in-person formation.

Pros of Online Training

- **Accessibility:** Removes geographical and logistical barriers, expanding opportunities for diverse populations.
- **Cost-effectiveness:** Often less expensive due to elimination of travel and accommodation expenses.
- **Flexibility:** Allows learners to balance formation with personal and professional commitments.
- **Variety of Resources:** Access to digital libraries, recorded lectures, and global faculty expertise.

Cons of Online Training

- **Limited Personal Interaction:** Some aspects of spiritual formation benefit from face-to-face encounters that deepen relational nuances.
- **Technological Challenges:** Requires reliable internet and digital literacy, which may exclude some candidates.
- **Community Formation:** Building deep community ties can be more challenging online compared to residential programs.
- **Supervision Limitations:** The quality and frequency of spiritual direction supervision may vary depending on program structure.

These considerations underscore the importance of carefully selecting programs that balance digital convenience with robust formation standards.

Leading Providers of Catholic Spiritual Direction Training Online

Several institutions have distinguished themselves as leaders in delivering quality online spiritual direction training within the Catholic context. Among them:

1. The Augustine Institute

Known for its rich theological resources and integration of Ignatian spirituality, the Augustine Institute offers a certificate in spiritual direction that combines online coursework with live virtual retreats. Its curriculum emphasizes practical ministry skills and spiritual discernment.

2. Creighton University Online Ministries

Creighton's program blends academic rigor with pastoral application, focusing on the Ignatian tradition. The program includes mentorship and peer collaboration, supporting students' personal and ministerial growth.

3. Franciscan University of Steubenville

This program offers a comprehensive formation pathway with an emphasis on Franciscan spirituality, accessible entirely online. It integrates experiential learning and spiritual direction practice.

Key Considerations for Prospective Students

Choosing the right spiritual direction training online catholic requires careful evaluation of several factors:

1. **Accreditation and Catholic Identity:** Ensuring the program is recognized by reputable Catholic institutions and faithfully adheres to Church teachings.
2. **Program Length and Intensity:** Matching the program's duration and workload with personal availability and learning goals.
3. **Faculty Expertise:** Looking for experienced spiritual directors, theologians, and pastoral ministers as instructors.
4. **Community and Support:** Assessing opportunities for peer interaction, supervision, and spiritual accompaniment during the training.
5. **Cost and Financial Aid:** Considering tuition fees and availability of scholarships or payment plans.

Recognizing these elements helps prospective learners identify programs that not only meet academic

standards but also nurture their vocational calling.

The Growing Relevance of Online Spiritual Direction Training

The rise of spiritual direction training online catholic reflects broader shifts within the Church and society. The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated digital adoption in religious education, revealing the potential for sustained hybrid and online models. Moreover, the increasing demand for trained spiritual directors—both lay and ordained—signals a growing awareness of the importance of spiritual accompaniment in contemporary pastoral ministry.

This mode of training supports dioceses, parishes, and ministry organizations in addressing spiritual needs across cultural and generational divides. It also fosters a new generation of spiritual directors equipped to serve in diverse contexts, from rural communities to urban centers, and from traditional parish settings to virtual faith communities.

The availability of spiritual direction training online catholic also aligns with the Church's mission to evangelize and form disciples in an increasingly interconnected digital world. By harnessing technology without compromising theological integrity, these programs embody a dynamic response to the evolving landscape of spiritual formation.

In the continuum of faith development, spiritual direction training online catholic represents both an opportunity and a challenge: an opportunity to democratize access to formation and a challenge to maintain the depth and relational richness that spiritual accompaniment demands. As the Church navigates this balance, the future of spiritual direction formation appears both promising and transformative.

[Spiritual Direction Training Online Catholic](#)

spiritual direction training online catholic: *Catholic Cultures* Patricia Wittberg, 2016 From its earliest days, Christianity has been lived and proclaimed in the language and symbols of each receiving culture. Today, these cultures include the new ethnic groups moving into our parishes. They also include new generations of Catholic young adults, whose childhood experiences of their faith are very different from those of their elders. In *Catholic Cultures*, Sister Patricia Wittberg offers a view of Catholicism through the eyes of Catholics from these different cultures, so that we may all be challenged to grow in our reception of the Good News. This book is an ideal resource for parish ministers, educators, and parents struggling with how to evangelize and minister to unfamiliar cultures. It is also a tool for leaders trying to build a strong community made up of members who represent a variety of ethnic backgrounds and ages.

spiritual direction training online catholic: *Encyclopedia of Christian Education* George Thomas Kurian, Mark A. Lamport, 2015-05-07 Christianity regards teaching as one of the most foundational and critically sustaining ministries of the Church. As a result, Christian education remains one of the largest and oldest continuously functioning educational systems in the world,

comprising both formal day schools and higher education institutions as well as informal church study groups and parachurch ministries in more than 140 countries. In *The Encyclopedia of Christian Education*, contributors explore the many facets of Christian education in terms of its impact on curriculum, literacy, teacher training, outcomes, and professional standards. This encyclopedia is the first reference work devoted exclusively to chronicling the unique history of Christian education across the globe, illustrating how Christian educators pioneered such educational institutions and reforms as universal literacy, home schooling, Sunday schools, women's education, graded schools, compulsory education of the deaf and blind, and kindergarten. With an editorial advisory board of more than 30 distinguished scholars and five consulting editors, *The Encyclopedia of Christian Education* contains more than 1,200 entries by 400 contributors from 75 countries. These volumes covers a vast range of topics from Christian education: History spanning from the church's founding through the Middle Ages to the modern day Denominational and institutional profiles Intellectual traditions in Christian education Biblical and theological frameworks, curricula, missions, adolescent and higher education, theological training, and Christian pedagogy Biographies of distinguished Christian educators This work is ideal for scholars of both the history of Christianity and education, as well as researchers and students of contemporary Christianity and modern religious education.

spiritual direction training online catholic: Catholic Colleges in the 21st Century Jeffrey LaBelle, Daniel Kendall, 2014-05-14 Examines the contemporary social and pastoral context of Catholic colleges and universities in the United States, from the perspective of the campus minister of the twenty-first century

spiritual direction training online catholic: Healing with Spiritual Practices Thomas G. Plante Ph.D., 2018-06-21 This interdisciplinary study details spiritual approaches including meditation and yoga shown to be helpful in improving physical and psychological well-being. Whether a person suffers from a psychological or physical malady, such as depression, addictions, chronic pain, cancer, or complications from pregnancy, the best practice treatments likely include one common thread: spiritual practice. From meditation and yoga to spiritual surrender and religious rituals, spiritual practices are increasingly being recognized as physically and mentally beneficial for recovering from illness and for retaining optimal health. *Healing with Spiritual Practices: Proven Techniques for Disorders from Addictions and Anxiety to Cancer and Chronic Pain*, edited by the director of one of the nation's best-known university institutes of spirituality and health, explains current and emerging practices, their benefits, and the growing body of research that proves them effective. Comprising chapters from expert contributors, this book will appeal to students, scholars, and other readers interested in psychology, medicine, nursing, social work, pastoral care, and related disciplines.

spiritual direction training online catholic: Spiritual Direction: A Guide for Sharing the Father's Love Fr. Boniface Hicks, Fr. Thomas Acklin, 2017 The need for spiritual direction—or the accompaniment of a spiritual guide—is becoming more prominent in a world where so many are suffering from so many wounds. With a harmonious integration of both timeless spiritual wisdom from the Catholic Church's tradition of prayer and direction, and the insight of the psychological sciences, Fathers Thomas Acklin and Boniface Hicks offer a comprehensive guide for all who provide or seek spiritual direction. *Spiritual Direction: A Guide for Sharing the Father's Love* fortifies priests, religious, and lay faithful who embrace the ministry of spiritual direction and accompany the wounded, assist men and women in hearing the voice of God, and model the love and mercy of the Father for the many who are seeking Him but do not know Him or have false images of Him. This book also shows how various aspects of the spiritual life can emerge from and be fostered by a one-on-one relationship with a spiritual director. Together with concrete guidelines and numerous examples from personal experience, this book refers extensively to Sacred Scripture as the foundation for spiritual direction. Furthermore, since the practice of spiritual direction goes back to the first centuries of the Church, the authors turn for guidance to the Doctors of the Church, the writings of the saints, and the papal magisterium in developing and supporting their insights.

Spiritual Direction will call spiritual directors to deeper holiness even as they assist others in growing closer to the Father through His loving gaze of mercy.

spiritual direction training online catholic: *Celibacy, Seminary Formation, and Catholic Clerical Sexual Abuse* Vivencio O. Ballano, 2024-04-30 Does the current celibate, semi-monastic, and all-male seminary formation contribute to the persistence of clerical sexual abuse in the Roman Catholic Church? Applying sociological theories on socialization, total institutions, and social resistance as the primary conceptual framework, and drawing on secondary literature, media reports, the author's experience, interviews, and Church documents, this book argues that the Catholic Church's institution of the celibate seminary formation as the only mode of clerical training for Catholic priests has resulted in negative unintended consequences to human formation such as the suspension of normal human socialization in society, psychosexual immaturity, and weak social control against clerical sexual abuse. The author thus contends that celibate training, while suitable for those who do live in religious or monastic communities, is inappropriate for those who are obliged to live alone and work in parishes. As such, an alternative model for diocesan clerical formation is advanced. A fresh look at the aptness – and effects – of celibate formation for diocesan clergy, this volume is the first to relate the persistence of Catholic clerical sexual abuse to celibate seminary formation, exploring the structural links between the two using sociological arguments and proposing an apprenticeship-based model of formation, which has numerous advantages as a form of clerical training. It will therefore appeal to scholars and students of religion, sociology, and theology, as well as those involved with seminary formation.

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spiritual direction training online catholic: *Spirituality for the Sent* Nathan A. Finn, Keith S. Whitfield, 2017-03-28 While spiritual formation focuses on the inner life of the Christian, the missional church discussion focuses on one's life in the world. Nathan A. Finn and Keith S. Whitfield bring together leading evangelical voices to cast a new vision for a missional spirituality that fosters spiritual maturity while also fueling Christian evangelism, cultural engagement, and the pursuit of justice.

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spirituality and mental health. He covers a range of experiences including: upsides, downsides, recovery, balance, loving life and spirituality. Bringing together wisdom from psychology and spirituality, he acknowledges the enormous benefit of psychological tools for wellness as well as a spirituality that aims to tell a different story. Ignatian Spirituality is a consistent thread throughout that offers a psycho-spirituality of great depth and awareness. This is a gentle introduction to spirituality and mental health. The real-life examples show that there is no dividing line between mental illness and normality. Everyone is somewhere along the mental health continuum and God is with them every step of the way.

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ministries offer insightful scholarly and creative pastoral engagement of the Spiritual Exercises for the ongoing journey of conversion from racism and white supremacy in the United States.

Contributors include: Maka Black Elk (Oglala Lakota) — Laurie Cassidy — Matthew J. Cressler — Pauline Delgadillo — Elise Gower Armando Guerrero Estrada — Jeannine Hill Fletcher — Ken Homan, SJ — Alex Mikulich Maria Teresa Morgan — Marilyn L. Nash — Maureen H. O'Connell — Hung T. Pham, SJ Christopher Pramuk — Andrew Prevot — Patrick Saint-Jean, SJ — Justin T. White

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spiritual direction training online catholic: American Medical Association Guide to Talking to Your Doctor American Medical Association, 2007-07-17 The last time you visited your doctor, did you . . . * hesitate to ask a question-and leave without the answer you needed? * not understand your doctor's explanation of your illness or its treatment? * wish you could be more in control of your healthcare? You can take control. The more you know about your healthcare needs and the more actively you work with your doctor, the better healthcare you will receive. In this concise, easy-to-understand book, the American Medical Association-the world's most prominent organization of physicians-demystifies the relationship between patient and doctor and guides you in building an ongoing dialogue with your healthcare provider. Using nontechnical language and a reassuring tone, the American Medical Association Guide to Talking to Your Doctor explains: * What your doctor needs to know about you and what he or she looks for in an examination * How to understand a diagnosis and discuss treatment options and goals * When and how to ask for a second opinion * How to speak for a child or older person in your care * How to discuss sensitive subjects such as sexuality, drug dependence, depression, and family violence * Your rights and responsibilities as a healthcare consumer * Where to go for more help and information Encouraging, authoritative, and thorough, the American Medical Association Guide to Talking to Your Doctor empowers you to communicate better with your doctor so that you can work together to achieve a common goal-your good health. For more than 150 years, the American Medical Association has been the leading group of medical experts in the nation and one of the most respected health-related organizations in the world. The AMA continues to work to advance the art and science of medicine and to be an advocate for patients and the voice of physicians in the United States.

spiritual direction training online catholic: Understanding Children's Spirituality Kevin E. Lawson, 2012-03-22 How important is childhood in the spiritual formation of a person? How do children experience God in the context of their lives as they grow? What does God do in the lives of children to draw them to himself and help them grow into a vital relationship with him? How can adults who care about children better support their spiritual growth and direct it toward relationship with God through Jesus Christ? These are critical questions that church leaders face as they consider how best to nurture the faith of the children God brings into our lives. In this book, over two dozen Christian scholars and ministry leaders explore important issues about the spiritual life of children and ways parents, church leaders, and others who care about children can promote their spiritual formation.

spiritual direction training online catholic: Case Studies in Spiritual Coaching DeeAnna Merz Nagel, Madison Leigh Akridge, 2023-11-06 The proposed text addresses a major problem in teaching and informing practitioners and trainees about the application of spirituality within the field of coaching. Its purpose is to inform the coaching profession about how spirituality is being utilized by various coaches across the life, wellness, and executive coach domains. The goals are to

provide definitions, applications, ethical considerations, and speculation on the future of the profession on a wide range of applications. The content of the book will be a succinct series of case studies while providing cutting-edge tools and interventions for the coaching profession. Both editors are certified coaches as well as licensed mental health practitioners in the counseling and social work fields. The goal of this book is to offer guidance for the coach whose client brings direct or indirect spiritual content into the coaching session. Each chapter highlights established coach skills such as active listening, powerful questioning, and goal setting. The text brings together both seasoned spiritual coaches who have influenced this new and growing area coaching profession, and new spiritual coaches who bring their own diverse knowledge. The contributors describe their work in a diverse array of case studies, with their wide range of backgrounds and approaches, so that others can learn. *Case Studies in Spiritual Coaching* can be used as a primary text for courses that teach spiritual or intuitive coaching and/or courses that teach any coaching domain such as life coaching, wellness coaching, or executive coaching. This book may also be used as an adjunct text for courses that include an introduction to spirituality within the coaching profession.

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spiritual direction training online catholic: Re-Enchanting Education and Spiritual Wellbeing Marian de Souza, Anna Halafoff, 2017-09-14 Education is in a constant state of renewal internationally where it responds to a number of pressing social, political and cultural issues. Processes of globalization, a number of conflicts and acts of terror, economic and environmental crises have led to large waves of migration and asylum seekers arriving in countries with the hope of finding safer and more stable places to settle. This, in turn, has led to cultural and religious pluralism being a key characteristic of many societies with corresponding issues of belonging and identity. As well, for many people, there has been a shifting influence of and allegiance away from traditional religious frameworks with the emergence of new religious movements, both peaceful and violent, and a rise in popularity of spirituality and non-religious worldviews which provide alternate frameworks for living healthy and ethical lives. In order to prepare today's student for tomorrow's world, one which is confronted by a range of risks and crises and which is being shaped by rapidly changing technologies, educators and researchers are investigating new ways of equipping students to deal with these challenges and opportunities, including the nurturing of spiritual wellbeing. This book brings together the voices of many experienced educators to discuss ways to re-enchant education and re-enliven learning programs in response to these 21st century issues in an increasingly global and interconnected world. It examines a range of international contexts, including secular and religious educational settings, and provides an avenue for visionary voices that identify problems and offer solutions to help shape a more promising education system that will prepare children more constructively and beneficially to flourish in their future worlds.

spiritual direction training online catholic: *Religion Online* August E. Grant, Amanda F. C. Sturgill, Chiung Hwang Chen, Daniel A. Stout, 2019-03-07 *Religion Online* provides new insights about religiosity in a contemporary context, offering a comprehensive look at the intersection of digital media, faith communities, and practices of all sorts. Recent research on Apple users, video games, virtual worlds, artificial intelligence, digital music, and sports as religion supports the idea

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