

CALL Program FAQs

Registration

How do I register if my diocese/parish is paying for my tuition?

All registrations require a credit card to proceed, so there are two options: you can have a representative of your diocese or parish pay for your registration online, or you can pay for your own registration and submit a request for reimbursement to your diocese or parish, using your registration confirmation as the receipt.

If the registration deadline is past, can I still register?

Email us at call@cdsp.edu to find out if the class is full and if the instructor will take more students. Most of the time we can get you into the class in the first week after it begins.

Are there group discounts?

Participants in local formation programs with our partner dioceses receive a discount. A discount is also available to alumni of CDSP graduate programs.

Are there scholarships available?

We do not offer scholarships for CALL programs. Please contact your diocese or parish to see if they are able to offer educational funding for you.

Class time/structure

How much time do I need to be able to give to the class each week?

To earn 2 Continuing Education Units (CEUs), you need a minimum of 20 hours of contact time. Over the course of a 7-week class, this is approximately 3 hours per week. However, as you become engaged in the materials you may find yourself spending more time.

What times do the classes meet during the week?

All of CALL's online classes are asynchronous which means that none of the classes 'meet' at particular times. The instructors post lectures (in the form of essays) or videos each week along with readings and discussion questions. You work at your own pace throughout the week to complete the readings and respond to the discussion questions in written form in the forum.

Do I need to be online when the class begins on the term start date?

No. The courses become visible and available in Moodle at noon Pacific Time on the day the course starts, though some instructors may choose to make their courses available earlier. You may login to the class at any point in the first couple of days to review the materials and syllabus, introduce yourself and interact with your classmates, and begin responding to forum prompts.

Some instructors plan additional activities that may include conference calls or online chats. These are always enhancements to help people learn and never a part of the requirements of the class.

Don't I need to have a video camera on my computer to do an online class?

No. Since the class doesn't "meet," there is no need for a video camera. You will only be asked to post a picture of yourself as a part of a profile.

If I work odd hours, can I still take the class?

Yes. The work is assigned on a weekly basis and you work at your own pace over the week to complete it.

Do I have to download any software?

You will need to access the internet and download and read .pdf files. If you can do that, you do not need to download any software. CALL houses all the course information in an online platform (called Moodle) that you will log into from your computer via an internet browser. The internet browser we recommend is Google Chrome. Many Mac users have experienced intermittent issues using Safari to access Moodle courses.

Class participation and interaction

What does class participation look like?

Most class participation is in the form of discussion forums. These forums begin with written discussion questions offered up by the instructor to which you will be asked to post responses to the questions as well as respond to the posts of other students in the class.

How much access will I have to the instructor?

Instructors are available primarily by email and sometimes by phone to answer your questions. Some instructors keep office hours, much like university professors.

Do I interact with the other people in the class?

CALL instructors encourage interaction amongst their students and would prefer to have you read each other's posts and respond to them, encouraging and challenging one another through the course as you would in a regular classroom.

What reading materials are required? For purchase?

When you register for your course, you will receive a confirmation email from SONIS (our registration system) that includes the list of materials you will need. Some instructors post all of their materials online for download, so there may be nothing for you to purchase aside from the course fee. If you live in a remote location, be sure to order any books well ahead of time.

CEUs, grades, etc.

Is there a grade? How are CEUs distributed?

The minimum participation required for an instructor to grant Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to a student is: regular participation in the weekly discussion forums and a completion of a final integrative project. The instructor will offer feedback on this project and will release a CEU certificate for you. You can then print the certificate on your own printer.

Students who are participating in a diocesan local formation program will also receive a written, narrative evaluation of their coursework and participation from the instructor, which will then be communicated to their formation coordinator.

The CALL program does not issue letter or number grades for any reason other than to trigger the issuance of a certificate of completion within the Moodle system. The CALL program does not issue academic credit for its courses, and its courses may not be applied to degree programs.