

The Chisholme Institute

Discovering Unity ***Six-Month Intensive Winter Retreat***

1 October 2016 to 24 March 2017

Application Form

Please return the completed form marked *CONFIDENTIAL* to:

The Director of Studies
The Chisholme Institute
Roberton, Hawick
Scottish Borders
TD9 7PH
United Kingdom

Tel:+44 (0)1450 880215

or by email to:

secretary@chisholme.org

Application Procedure

The Discovering Unity Intensive Six Month Winter Course is a significant commitment of time and money. As such prospective students are advised to undertake, if possible, either a Discovering Unity evening course or a short introductory weekend course at Chisholme or elsewhere, in order to become familiar with the process and perspective within which the retreat happens.

We would also encourage you to visit Chisholme and find out more. You are always welcome.

You are strongly advised to submit your application early. Applications will usually be followed by an interview (Skype or telephone if a face-to-face meeting is not possible). You will be informed of your provisional acceptance for the course within a fortnight of applying¹. The final submission date for applications is 1 July 2016.

Applicants from non-EEA (European Economic Area) countries please get in touch to find out about visa requirements.

Fees and Payment

The fee for the six-month winter retreat is £6000, including food, accommodation, course materials and a one-week study visit to Turkey. A reduced fee of £5800 applies if paid in full by 1 September 2016. There is a non-refundable deposit of £500¹ which must be paid when your application is accepted. The balance is normally paid at the start of the course. This, however, can be paid in equal instalments throughout the course if necessary.

The fee includes the cost of the study trip to Turkey. It covers all travel to and within the country, shared accommodation in Turkey and entrance to museums; it does not include meals and refreshments other than breakfasts. You will also be required to arrange and pay for suitable travel insurance and for your visa and, of course, to have a valid passport. The costs are based on those of 2015. Should costs in 2016 be significantly greater you may be asked for an additional payment: this is very unlikely to be more than £100. Should the trip not take place you will be refunded any costs not already paid.

A payment scheme is available for students requiring financial assistance. This allows for a sum of £3000 (including deposit) to be paid before the course, with the remaining balance of £3000 to be paid by Standing Order over two years. Applications for this payment scheme will be considered individually; please contact the secretary concerning this.

In the event of you withdrawing from the course due to unforeseen circumstances you will be refunded £28 per unused day (or the amount outstanding reduced by this amount)

Bursaries

Full and partial bursaries may be available for qualifying students. Please contact the secretary if you wish to apply.

¹ The deposit will be returned in full if the course does not take place. The institute will confirm the running of the course once the minimum number of students have been reached. Confirmation will be given by 1 August 2016.

This application form is very important in the assessment of your acceptability for the course. Therefore, please take due consideration before answering each question and answer fully and honestly. If the space allotted for answers is insufficient you may continue on separate sheets.

Applications will be treated in confidence.

Mr Mrs Miss Ms:
Surname:
Forenames:
Nationality:
Present country of residence:
Full postal Address:
Telephone land line: Mobile/Cell:
Email address:
Date and place of birth:
Marital status: Languages spoken:

1) Why are you interested in doing this course?

2) What do you expect to gain from it?

3) What would you most like to change a) in yourself and b) in the world

a)

b)

4) Can you identify any obstacles to change within yourself?

5) Given the situation of the world today, what would you say is the hope for the future?

6) Have you ever fallen in love? Please explain what you consider love to be.

7) Please describe the most significant events of your life, and in particular explain what has prompted you to search for a contemplative perspective.

8) Have you been involved in any contemplative, spiritual or religious way, or group work? What is your present commitment to such way or group?

9) How did you hear about the course?

10) Religious upbringing

11) Religious affiliation of parents

12) Detailed curriculum vitae including your education, any qualifications and occupation since leaving full time education (you may attach an up-to-date CV if this is simpler).

13) Give a list of your interests.

14) Give an account of any capabilities and skills you have (e.g. typing, carpentry, gardening etc).

15) State what you consider to be your main weakness.

16) State what you consider to be your most positive characteristic.

17) After completing the above ask a close friend or relative what they consider to be your main weakness and your most positive characteristic.

18) State in detail your dependants and any financial and moral obligations.

19) Please tell us about any factors in your personal and life circumstances you think might affect your full participation in this retreat course.

19) Have you already raised the full fee? *If not please state how the money is being raised. It is most important that students make their financial arrangements in good time so that financial worries do not affect their total concentration on the course.*

20) Food: The preparation and enjoyment of food at Chisholme House is considered an essential part of an education in self-discovery and awareness. Cooking concerns the transformation of matter from the raw and inedible to the life sustaining and delicious and is a direct expression of the transformation of the person from a condition of distraction and division to one of wholeness and focus.

The Chisholme kitchen aims to provide a nutritious and well-balanced diet, including as much organic and locally sourced produce as possible. It includes meat, poultry and fish, all of which is organic, free range or ethically sourced. Over 60% of the meals are strictly vegetarian. Otherwise we endeavour to provide a vegetarian option where possible. We regret we are unable to cater for any special diets unless there is a clear medical reason. Please let us know below if you are a vegetarian or have any food allergies.

21) Health: Applicants need to take into consideration the demanding nature of the course; it involves a rigorous and exacting programme of work. It is strongly recommended that an introductory course is undertaken prior to any application for the six-month course so that a realistic appraisal can be made with regard to any health issues.

Please give below all previous illnesses with approximate dates, including any recurrent health problems, mental disorders or disabilities. If considered necessary, a professional assessment of any current condition may be requested.