

2. Higher Diploma in Christian Counseling (HDIP-CC)

This program can also be completed by taking courses in the evening and Saturday solely.

a. Program Goals

The Higher Diploma in Christian Counseling program aims to nurture and equip Christians who aim to become a servant in companion counseling. This program is specially designed to blend the elements of Christianity into counseling theories and practicums. Experiential learnings like personal growth, spiritual formation, interpersonal interaction and counseling practicums are adopted to develop and train companion counselors of high quality.

After completion, students would acquire: i) enhancement of personal growth in preparation for helping others; ii) basic concept in the service of Christian counseling; iii) mastery and application of the basic Christian counseling theories and practice as well the ethics code in practice; iv) application of what have learned to counseling and caring ministry.

b. Requirements for Admission

Admission requirements shall include: i) six years of secondary school studies or equivalent (an applicant who completed five years of secondary school studies may be admitted to the program with the requirement of taking an extra 18 credits, the additional credits may also be exempted by other recognized academic study or working experience); ii) baptized Christian; iii) mission on caring ministry. For application, see VII. Enrollment Procedures.

c. Program Content

Students are required to complete 30 credits, take 8 credits of experiential courses, 18 credits of theoretical and practical courses, 3 credits of free electives, 1 credit counseling practicum, plus 15 sessions of personal growth counseling. Students are required to pay extra fees for practicum supervision, personal growth counseling and camps apart from the tuition (charges according to the scale of related institutes).

i) Experiential Courses

	credits
Core Courses	
CP2017/PT2052 Personal Growth	3
CP2039 Experiential Process in Counseling	5
subtotal	8

ii) Theoretical and Practical Courses*¹

	credits
Core Courses	
CP2011 Essential Counseling Skills	3
CP2037/CT2007 Counseling Ethics and Culture	3
CP2007 Grief Counseling; or	
CP2043/SW2046 Developmental Psychology and Spiritual Growth	3
CP2010/OT2032/NT2037 Biblical Perspectives on Christian Counseling; or	

CP2036 Counseling Theories and Practices	3
CP2026/SW2021 Emotions & Spirituality; or	
CP4001/SW4001 Integrative Seminar on Counseling and Spiritual Direction	3
CP2034 Cognitive Behavioral Therapy; or	
CP2035 Satir Transformational Systemic Therapy	3
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subtotal	18

iii) Counseling Practicum*² credits

CP2040 Counseling Practice: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy; or	
CP2042 Counseling Practice: Satir Model; or	
CP3028 Companion Counseling Practicum I	1

iv) Free Electives credits

1 course	3
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v) Others

Personal Growth Counseling (15 sessions)

Total Credits Required for Graduation **30**

- *¹ Under special circumstances, a student may take courses out of the above list with the approval of the adviser in advance.
- *² Counseling practicum will be started only after finishing the required counseling courses, or it may also be substituted by guided electives on Counseling, both with the permission of the adviser.

d. Credits

Full-time students in the HDIP-CC program normally take a maximum of 18 credits in each semester.

Conditions	Credit Exemption
i) graduate of the Certificate or Diploma in Christian Counseling through Companionship: Helping Yourself and Others	a maximum of half of the earned credits
ii) graduate of the Foundation Certificate in Christian Counseling in the Companion LeShalom Centre	a maximum of 6 credits for the core courses CP2017/PT2052 Personal Growth and CP2011 Essential Counseling Skills

e. Duration

This program requires two academic years. The time allowed for completion of the program may not exceed six years.

f. Requirements for Graduation

- i) Students must complete the program requirements with a GPA of 2.50 or above; and
- ii) complete 15 sessions of personal growth counseling; and
- iii) satisfactorily meet the standard or requirements of LTS.

g. Further Study

If a HDIP-CC program student wishes to apply for the associate or bachelor's degree programs at LTS, without applying for the conferral of the higher diploma, a maximum of all successfully earned credits may be counted toward that degree. For the transferal to the Bachelor of Theology (BTH) program, a new letter of recommendation from the student's congregation (signed by the minister-in-charge) and interviews are required.

If the higher diploma is conferred, a maximum of half of the earned credits can be exempted in the associate or bachelor program, or the Master of Arts in Christian Counseling (MA-CC) program if the student holds a bachelor's degree.