

## **Wisdom School FAQ**

### A Starter's Guide

**Q: What are Wisdom Studies?**

**A:** The study of wisdom is the study of balance. It is the study of how we live harmoniously within the larger ecology of relatedness that constitutes human in society and life in nature. The person who is truly wise is the person who sees themselves in relation to the larger whole.

**Q: What is unique about Ubiquity University's Wisdom School?**

**A:** The Wisdom School of Ubiquity University is a global learning community providing opportunities to deepen your spiritual and personal development while obtaining an academic degree. Its unique learning method is designed to nurture and balance the whole person - body, mind and spirit - as a single integrated continuum.

**Q: What kinds of courses are offered?**

**A:** The Wisdom School offers courses in a diversity of ancient and modern wisdom traditions, together with the new sciences, in a spirit of intellectual discernment and creative inquiry. Most courses are structured as dialogues with people who have distinguished themselves in the world of thought and spiritual practice.

**Q: How are the courses taught?**

**A:** The Wisdom School offers live webinars, which meet once a week for 4-6 weeks, in-person intensive courses, and learning journeys to sites of sacred and historical importance. There are also independent study options so students can pursue courses of

their own choice outside the Wisdom School, subject to approval by the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Distinctive to the Wisdom School is that in-person courses are taught in week-long intensives rather than over a quarter or semester, which allows students to fully immerse in the subject at hand with their peers and faculty – as well as allowing them more easily to maintain their professional and family obligations. A typical 5-day, in-person course begins with a 30-minute centering exercise, followed by an intellectually rigorous 3-hour seminar, that requires reading preparation as well as a post-paper. The afternoons are dedicated to 3 hours of artistic activity, and the day is completed with a “process session” to help students integrate the learning on all levels, as well as after dinner discussion salons.

The Wisdom School views the globe as classroom, and offers classes in a variety of locations, linking sacred subjects with sacred sites. Pilgrimages are made to sites in Europe and Asia – for example, our annual Chartres Academy takes place each July in Chartres, France, and replicates the teachings of the mystery school that flourished there 1000 years ago.

**Q: What degree programs do you offer?**

**A:** Our students have a variety of degree options, including:

[Doctor of Philosophy \(PhD\) in Wisdom Studies](#)

[Doctor of Ministry \(DMin\) in Engaged Wisdom](#)

[Combined Masters/Doctorate](#)

[Master of Arts \(MA\) in Wisdom Studies](#)

**Q: What is the difference between a DMin and PhD?**

**A:** The main distinction between the two degrees lies in the purpose and function of the degrees. Both the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) and the Ph.D are referred to as “terminal” degrees, in the sense that they are both Doctoral degrees, but their purpose and

function is very different. The Wisdom School offers students the choice between preparation for work in the pastoral, counseling and healing professions (DMin), and a degree for those more interested in academic research (PhD).

Both DMin and PhD students take the same classes, but at the Wisdom School the Ph.D is more rigorous than the DMin, requiring 12 intensives rather than 10, and a formal defense through an Oral Examination at the conclusion of the dissertation process.

In both doctoral degrees, we emphasize the balance between subjective evaluation and objective knowledge in all the papers that students are required to write, including their dissertations.

**Q: What are the program requirements for students?**

**A:** To attend the Wisdom School it is necessary for students to have completed their undergraduate studies or demonstrate equivalent life experience. To start a PhD or DMin program, students must have a Masters degree or demonstrate equivalent life experience. Please consult the Dean of Graduate Studies for more detailed information.

**Q: Can I take a class at the WS without enrolling in a degree program?**

**A:** Yes, with the exception of the Doctoral Writing & Research Methods course, graduates and the general public may audit classes for a reduced fee.

Prospective students may also take one course under the Introductory Opportunity program prior to enrolling in a degree program. This gives them the opportunity to see if they want to continue as a fully enrolled student at the Wisdom School.

**Q: Do you offer loans or financial aid?**

**A:** On a case-by-case basis, the Wisdom School may be able to offer work-study opportunities to students who have specific skills needed by the Administrative team. This work is done in exchange for tuition. We also work with financially challenged students to arrange payment plans that make it easier for them to take our classes. All inquiries should be made to the Registrar for consideration by the Financial Aid Committee.

**Q: Who handles the logistics for the intensive courses?**

**A:** While the specifics vary course to course, students are always responsible for their own transportation to and from the city where the course takes place.

**Q: Are you accredited?**

**A:** Yes. Ubiquity University is accredited by the Accreditation Service for International Schools, Colleges and Universities, (ASIC) in the United Kingdom. ASIC is recognized by the British Government Home Office and is a member of the British Quality Foundation. ASIC is an affiliate of the European Network for Quality Assurance (ENQA) and an institutional member of the European Distance and E-Learning Network (EDEN). Accreditation by ASIC conforms to the educational standards of Britain and the European Union. ASIC is also a member of the U.S. Council on Higher Education's International Quality Group (CIQG) and conforms to the highest U.S. educational standards. ASIC accredits 320 colleges and universities in 60 countries around the world.

**Q: Will my Ubiquity degree be recognized by other universities?**

**A:** Yes. Accredited universities all over the world are recognized as being accredited by other universities. However, no university is obliged to accept a degree from any other university and no

university is obliged to accept transfer credits. Even if a university accepts a student, they seldom accept all the courses the student seeks to transfer, especially for students transferring from one country to another. It is always a negotiation.

**Q: Do you offer visas?**

**A:** Since Wisdom School courses are offered all over the world, the question of visas is dependent on where one is going. There is no need to apply for a student visa. To attend any Wisdom School or Ubiquity course, students should simply apply for a tourist visa. If a student requires a tourist visa to attend an intensive, the responsibility lies with the student to apply and obtain his/her own visa.