



CH (CPT) Simon Ko, PhD
Course Manager for CMM/EMM, Moral Injury, and Substance Abuse
School for Spiritual Care and CPE

Chaplain (Captain) Simon Ko was born in Seoul, Korea, and grew up in Seoul, Jeddah (Saudi Arabia), Cairo (Egypt), and Bellingham, Washington. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from Western Washington University (*cum laude*), and a Master of Divinity degree (with 2nd Place Masters' Thesis Award) and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Philosophical Theology from Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, Michigan, where his dissertation focused on Contemporary Metaphysics of Free Will and its ramification on the theology of divine providence and human responsibility.

His military education includes the US Army Chaplain Basic Officer Leader Course (CH-BOLC), Family Life Chaplain Intro Course, Combat Medical Ministry Course, Moral Injury Course, Air Assault School, Clinical Pastoral Education Residency, Common Faculty Development – Instructor Course, Common Faculty Development – Developer Course, Medical Management of Chemical and Biological Casualties Course (MCBC), Traumatic Event Management (TEM), ACE-Suicide Intervention, and Chaplain Captain Career Course (C4). His chaplaincy is currently endorsed by Presbyterian Federal Chaplaincies (PFC)/PCUSA.

Chaplain Ko entered Active Duty in January 2017. His first assignment was at Fort Cavazos, Texas, with the 79th Ordnance Battalion (EOD). His yearlong CPE Residency took place at Brook Army Medical Center (BAMC) at Joint Base San Antonio (JBSA), Texas. His CPE utilization was at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM), Washington with the 504th Military Police Battalion.

In his professional life, Chaplain Ko held various pastoral positions at Western-Michigan Korean Methodist Church (MI), Hahn-In Christian Reformed Church (CRC) (MI), Colton Christian Reformed Church (SD), All Nations Community/Seattle Onnuri Church (WA), Alameda Christian Reformed Church (CA), and Shoreline Community Church (FL). While working as a church planter in Port Saint Lucie, Florida, he also worked two-plus years as a Martin County Sheriff's Deputy in both law enforcement and corrections. During his doctoral study, he served as a TA and as an Online-Course Instructor at Calvin Theological Seminary, and as an Adjunct Professor at Calvin University, Michigan.

Chaplain Ko has been awarded the Army Commendation Medal with one oak-leaf, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and Humanitarian Service Medal. He is also authorized to wear the Air Assault Badge and the silver covered Norwegian Foot March Badge.

Chaplain Ko is married to Heidi from Tacoma, Washington, and has three children and two stepchildren.