

Aquinas at a Glance

Offering many courses on campus and “synchronously” online!

Aquinas Institute of Theology is a graduate school of theology and ministry operated and staffed by the Dominican Order. Aquinas Institute is the one of the largest Roman Catholic theology schools in the United States. We currently enroll approximately 250 students.

Our mission statement reads:

Impelled by the Catholic faith and the Dominican mission, Aquinas Institute of Theology educates men and women to preach, to teach, to minister, and to lead.

Many of our degrees and certificate programs can be taken online for the convenience of those who live outside the St. Louis area. Online students meet synchronously with on campus classes. i.e. at the same time, via *Adobe Connect*.

Master's degrees:

- Master of Arts in Theology (MA)
- Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies (MAPS)
- Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies/Master of Social Work (MAPS/MSW)
(dual degree in collaboration with Saint Louis University)
- Master of Divinity (MDiv)
- Master of Arts in Theology/PhD in Health Care Ethics (MA/PhD)
(dual degree in collaboration with Saint Louis University)

Non-degree graduate certificate programs:

- Spiritual Direction (on campus, or as an online-hybrid program)
- Pastoral Care
- Biblical Studies
- Thomistic Studies

Online-hybrid cohort degrees:

The following are “online-hybrid” programs taught in a cohort format. These cohort programs begin only at specified times and ordinarily cannot be taken on campus. Online reading, discussion, and written assignments are completed each week at the student’s convenience. Students take only one online course at a time, but come to our St. Louis campus for an extended weekend of intensive learning with their professor during most courses (a full week for the doctoral program).

Master's degrees:

- Master of Arts in Health Care Mission (MA-HCM)
- Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies – Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (MAPS-CGS)

Doctoral degree:

- Doctor of Ministry in Preaching degree (DMin)

Spiritual Formation

The faculty at Aquinas Institute places a strong emphasis on personal spiritual formation for our students. We believe that anyone who is leading others on their journeys toward God must themselves have a relationship with God that is strong and growing. Thus, students preparing for ministry enroll in three or four units of Lay Spiritual Formation during their time of study at Aquinas Institute.

Additional Facts

Aquinas Institute has full accreditation from the **Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada** (ATS)

Aquinas Institute maintains memberships in the following professional organizations:

- Association for Clinical Pastoral Education
- Association of Graduate Programs in Ministry
- Association of Theological Field Education
- Catholic Association of Theological Field Education
- Catholic Health Association
- Midwest Association of Theological Schools
- National Association of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- National Association of Lay Ministry
- National Catholic Education Association

We provide opportunities for cross-registration of courses at the following local schools:

- Saint Louis University (Jesuit)
- Kenrick-Glennon Seminary (Archdiocese of St. Louis)
- Eden Theological Seminary (United Church of Christ)
- Concordia Seminary (Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod)
- Covenant Theological Seminary (Presbyterian)

Just over 50% of our students are women.

About 15% of our students are not Roman Catholic.

Our Students and Graduates

The majority of our students are already involved in Church ministry at the parish or diocesan level. They come to Aquinas Institute to acquire credentials they need to continue in their roles or to deepen their understanding of the Church and strengthen their expertise as ministers to God's people.

Other students come to Aquinas Institute directly from college or after a year of participating in a volunteer program and wish to acquire a graduate degree prior to embarking on their careers.

Our graduates serve as catechists, pastoral ministers, parish life coordinators, spiritual directors, chaplains, program directors, campus ministers, youth ministers, mission leaders, social workers, and similar ministries.

Aquinas Institute is the only Roman Catholic theology school in the world that offers the Doctor of Ministry in Preaching degree. Over 100 men and women have received their D. Min. from Aquinas Institute. Nearly one-third of them currently teach homiletics in seminaries or theology schools throughout the country.

Nondiscrimination Policy

Aquinas Institute of Theology does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs or activities. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Office of the Academic Dean
Fr. Gregory Heille, O.P.
23 S. Spring Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63108
314-256-8881

Office of the Director of Student Services
Kevin Sweeney
23 S. Spring Ave
St. Louis, MO 63108
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