

# Master of Arts in Theology

Offered online  
“synchronously”  
with our on  
campus classes!

Aquinas Institute of Theology's **Master of Arts in Theology (MA)** is a 36-hour course of study that moves beyond the foundational elements of Christian theology into areas of theological research, analysis, and synthesis through coursework, a comprehensive examination, and a major paper or thesis. This is a strictly academic degree program with no supervised ministerial components.

## Who should pursue this program?

The MA in Theology program is recommended for those students who wish to gain a solid foundation in theological studies and who do not require the ministerial and pastoral training associated with the MA in Pastoral Studies or Master of Divinity degrees. Students who wish to advance to doctoral studies in the discipline of theology are highly encouraged to take advantage of the foreign language and thesis option within the MA program, while those students who do not plan further formal study in theology write a major paper in place of the foreign language study and thesis.

Applicants to the MA program are required to have completed 12 undergraduate credits in philosophy and/or theology, although deficiencies in this area may be made up at Aquinas, with approval of the Academic Dean.

## What types of careers or ministries will this program prepare me to engage in?

The MA in Theology prepares students for work in a variety of academic settings such as teaching and theological research and writing. Some Aquinas graduates with this degree have pursued doctoral studies in theology at schools like the University of Notre Dame, Boston College, Catholic University of America, or Oxford University in England and have eventually become college professors or professional theologians. Other graduates of the program teach religion at the secondary school level or work in related educational ministries.

## How long will it take me to complete this program?

Full-time MA students (9+ credit hours per semester) can complete this program in 2 years, while part-time students may take up to 5 years to satisfy the degree requirements.

## What courses will I be required to take to complete this program?

The 36 hours of course work required for the MA degree are distributed as follows:

Course Title	Credit Hours
Proseminar	3
Introduction to Theology and Theological Method	3
Bible Interpretation	3
Scripture Elective	3
Church History I: Patristic and Medieval	3
Church History II: Reformation to Post-Modern Era	3
Foundations of Catholic Morality	3
Electives	15
Major Paper <i>or</i> Thesis	-
Comprehensive Exam	-

## If I take classes online, what technology requirements I will need?

Aquinas Institute uses an Internet platform called Adobe Connect 9.2 for our synchronous classes (occasionally Skype or Google Hangouts). You will need:

- A computer with minimum 4 GB RAM; (iOS and Android app are *not reliable* for class participation.)
- A wired DSL/cable broadband connection with minimum 15-30 mbps download speed and 5-10 mbps upload speed. A wireless connection is unacceptable for a quality experience.
- Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8, or Mac OS 10.6, or higher operating system.
- Current versions of IE 8 or higher, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome or Apple Safari.
- HD quality-webcam/microphone and speakers. If using an onboard laptop webcam, a headset-style microphone is required to avoid feedback.