Iliff’s Graduate Certificates

Iliff’s Graduate Certificates provide non-degree students with interest in focused theological education the chance to work in a particular area. They also provide degree students an opportunity to study in areas outside of their concentration or to demonstrate advanced competency. Certificates are also a way to become familiar with Iliff and transferring to a degree program is seamless, should a non-degree student decide to pursue a master’s degree.
Graduate Certificates are available in the areas noted below:

**African American Church Studies**—The African American Church Studies certificate supports the curricular and community interests of students in the areas of professional ministry formation and academic research focusing on both traditional and contemporary themes of the Black Church experience in the United States. Typical courses offered on a rotating basis include: African American Religious History; Black-Womanist Theology; African American Preaching; African American Church Leadership and Development; and Gender and Sexuality in the African American Church.

**Anglican Studies**—Students take courses from within the Anglican Studies curriculum or related courses from across the curriculum as approved by the Director of Anglican Studies.

**Biblical Studies**—Students choose from the core Bible and/or elective courses in the Bible. They must take at least two courses focused on Biblical texts and may also include up to two courses in other fields related to the study of the Bible such as: Biblical Ethics, Teaching the Bible, and Praying with Scripture.

**Gender, Sexuality and Religion**—Students are introduced to the critical impact that religion, gender, and sexual identity play in shaping roles, traditions, and cultural contexts, both locally and internationally. This program will address such issues in a wide variety of class offerings, including Queering the Bible, Feminist Theology, Women and Spirituality, The Body and Sexuality in the Hebrew Bible, Ministry and Sexuality, Theologies of Sexuality, and Liberating Sex.

**General Theological Studies**—Students take four courses selected from across the curriculum. Courses are chosen on the basis of subject matter or thematic connections identified by the certificate student, an academic advisor, and are approved by the Dean. This certificate is not available within a degree program.

**Justice and Peace Studies**—The certificate in Justice and Peace Studies is an interdisciplinary program which draws from theology, ethics, philosophy, and the social sciences. It introduces students to theories, methods,
issues and theologies of Justice and Peace and to the analysis of concrete issues such as peace-building, war, the environment, violence, food and hunger, globalization, social, political, economic, and criminal justice as well as aspects of international development, public policy processes, and the role of social change movements. Students take four Justice and Peace related courses selected from the curriculum. Examples of recent courses include: Ethical Analysis and Advocacy, Justice and Peace Studies: Global Issues in Food & Eating, Women, War and Religion, Social Ethical Issues: Global Hunger, and J&P Praxis classes. The courses selected must include Foundations of Justice and Peace, and two Praxis Seminars (which may be counted as one course) approved by the Director of the Justice and Peace Program.

**Leadership and Organizational Management**—This certificate enhances students’ ability to guide and care for organizations. Students take 16 credit hours within either an organizational leadership track or a parish leadership track. Courses include: Financial Management, Parish Leadership and Congregational Development; Organizational Leadership and Development; Social Justice and Non-Profits: Ethics of Service. In addition, students can also take Authentic Engagement, an Iliff signature course that teaches them – as key leaders – how to engage and empower their workforce.

**Military Chaplaincy Ministry**—Active duty military chaplains, military chaplain trainees, and Veterans Administration chaplains interested in the graduate certificate in Military Chaplaincy Ministry will be able to take four courses, totaling 16 credits, in the area of spiritual and pastoral care. The courses will present core theory and offer enhanced skills in spiritual care of military service members. Chaplains will have opportunity to present their own care giving activities for consultation and review by faculty and peers. Please see the Master’s Student Handbook for certificate requirements.

**Pastoral and Spiritual Care**—The Pastoral and Spiritual Care certificate will present core theory and teach basic skills to offer spiritual care of persons facing difficult circumstances. Students take four courses totaling 12–16 credits in the area of spiritual and pastoral care. Applicants for this certificate must also complete an interview with the area faculty before acceptance into this certificate option. Please see the Master’s Student Handbook for certificate requirements.
Religion and Social Change—Students choose from courses across the curriculum related to understanding religion in its social context. Examples include: Race, Gender, Class; Ethical Perspectives on Justice and Peace; Struggles courses; Impact of War on the Pastoral Care of Families; and other social change electives. Usually two praxis seminars may be counted as the equivalent of one course.

United Methodist Studies—Students take five courses: United Methodist History, United Methodist Doctrine, United Methodist Polity for Leadership, United Methodist Mission of the Church in the World, and United Methodist Evangelism Course. When offered, they might add or substitute the General Conference seminar or other relevant courses as approved by the Academic Dean.

Further information: More detailed information about Graduate Certificates is available from the Admissions Office at 720-744-2656, admissions@iliff.edu.