

ANGLICAN STUDIES PROGRAM, ILIFF SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Report of the Anglican Studies Program at the Iliff School of Theology to the 136th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Colorado—October 5-7, 2023.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Anglican Studies Program at the Iliff School of Theology serves the Episcopal Church in Colorado by providing dynamic opportunities for comprehensive, graduate theological education.

DESCRIPTION

The Iliff School of Theology has joined with the Episcopal Church in Colorado to provide a specific component of the MDiv degree designed to satisfy the canonical requirements for Postulants seeking ordination in the Episcopal Church. Ordinarily, students will have undergone a substantial process of discernment and will have approval of their Commission on Ministry and Bishop prior to enrolling.

Students seeking ordination in the Episcopal Church complete the MDiv degree, incorporating four or more Anglican Studies courses. Some of these may be taken as electives; some will fulfill core requirements of the MDiv Students.

Anglican students participate in a monthly online peer reflection group with the Anglican Studies Director. On occasion, guests from outside Iliff join this group to discuss topics associated with the Episcopal Church and her mission. During Gathering Days (four times a year) in person gatherings over a meal are organized.

Courses offered under the auspices of the Anglican Studies Program are also open to non-degree students – including lay persons – seeking to enhance their ministries. Clergy pursuing continuing education opportunities also take courses in the Anglican Studies Program.

All Anglican Studies courses and most of Iliff's courses are offered on-line. For that reason, the Anglican Studies Program draws students from dioceses throughout the country. The Anglican Studies Program provides students unusual access and flexibility.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Now in its 29th year, the Anglican Studies Program continues to evolve and innovate to serve more fully the needs of the Episcopal Church in Colorado and the needs of the broader Episcopal Church for quality, graduate theological education.

COURSES AND FACULTY

The Anglican Studies Program offers courses in the winter and spring terms. Courses are usually taught in a three-year rotation. In the winter of 2023, the Reverend Austin Leininger taught "Anglican Spirituality". In spring 2023, new faculty member, the Matthew David Morris taught "Anglican Polity". In 2024, the proposed courses include "Anglican Liturgy" and a new course, "Music in Liturgical Contexts". These classes will serve as potential continuing education opportunities for clergy and lay members of the Diocese.

DIRECTOR TRANSITION

In September 2022, Professor Gregory Allen Robbins retired from the position of director after twenty

years of faithful and innovative leadership. In February 2023, the Reverend Lyndon Shakespeare was appointed by Bishop Kym to serve as the new director. In his role as director, Reverend Shakespeare provides support and mentoring to Anglican Studies students enrolled at Iliff School of Theology, acts as a liaison between Iliff and the Office of the Bishop, and seeks to link the resources of Iliff with the parishes and people of The Episcopal Church in Colorado.

Respectfully submitted,

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