

2008-2009

Introduction

Anglican School of Ministry-Little Rock

Advantages and disadvantages of studying at ASM-LR





What are the advantages and disadvantages of ASM-LR's programs compared to other programs?

Studying at ASM-LR is not for everyone. We encourage you to weigh the advantages and disadvantages of our program in comparison to other theological training programs.

Traditional, in-residence Master of Divinity

Advantages

Long-term participation in a community of learning: professor-student relationships; student-student relationships; building of future networking connections

Improved educational environment: better professor access; libraries and other resources; higher requirements, especially languages, provides broader, deeper education

Networking: Broader prospects for ministry through increased connections

Disadvantages

Removes candidate from parish setting: easily loses contact with sponsoring parish; may develop ethos contrary to AMiA (especially if attending a non-Anglican seminary)

Focuses more on academics and less on ministry

Expensive: approximately \$30,000-\$40,000 for tuition alone for an M.Div. (does not include living expenses)

Traditional, in-residence Master of Arts (or similar 2 year degree)

Advantages

Long-term participation in a community of learning: professor-student relationships; student-student relationships; building of future networking connections

Improved educational environment: better professor access; libraries and other resources; higher requirements, especially languages, provides broader, deeper education

Networking: Broader prospects for ministry through increased connections

Disadvantages

Removes candidate from parish setting: easily loses contact with sponsoring parish; may develop ethos contrary to AMiA (especially if attending a non-Anglican seminary)

Focuses more on academics and less on ministry

Expensive: approximately \$20,000-\$30,000 for tuition alone for an M.A. (does not include living expenses)

Distance learning M.A. (or similar 2 year degree) from a traditional seminary

Advantages

Candidate remains in parish setting: maintain contact with sponsoring parish; continues to develop an AMiA ministry ethos; allows a better balance between ministry and academics

Candidate earns an accredited degree, even though the degree was completed at a distance

Focus remains more on ministry

Disadvantages

Little to no participation in a learning community (with all of those advantages), depending on whether or not short-term residencies are required

Networking: Fewer prospects for ministry due to limited connections

Expensive: \$15,000-\$20,000 for tuition

Access to valuable educational resources limited (e.g., libraries)

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Advantages

Candidate remains in parish setting: maintain contact with sponsoring parish; continues to develop an AMiA ministry ethos; allows a better balance between ministry and academics; guided mentorships

Focus remains more on ministry

Inexpensive: Depending on the program, \$1,000-\$2,000 for tuition (does not include books or cost of residency during short courses)

Networking: Students remain in regular contact with fellow AMiA candidates and leaders

Disadvantages

Student does not earn an accredited degree: depending on student background, an additional program may have to be completed for certain postgraduate program and ministry positions

Participation in a learning community may be limited to just the short-term residencies

Access to valuable educational resources limited (e.g., libraries)

