

## Directed Study in Urban Missions

Miss 4283 -- ARRANGED SYLLABUS

Howard Culbertson - Office R207 - Phone 491-6693; Home 721-1915

### **Course Description:**

An intensive, advanced, personalized study that offers an opportunity for a student to investigate some of the particular challenges of urban ministry. Through an individualized project, the student will develop an appreciation for issues in urban ministry research and program implementation. After completing the requirements of this course, the student will be better prepared for effective ministry within the urban setting.

### **Objectives**

- As students read and do on-site investigations, they will gain deepening understandings of urban ministry and will broaden their knowledge of its actual situation within central Oklahoma.
- As students reflect on their reading, they will become more adept at analyzing specific urban ministry visions and projects.
- Students will likely expand their vocabulary as it relates to urban ministry.
- Students' reading program will give them practice in finding and using primary sources.
- Students' on-site investigations will improve their communication skills, particularly in the area of interviewing.

### **Directed Study Project**

After settling on an urban ministry topic, the student will consult with the professor about the rationale for wanting to choose it and, in conjunction with the professor will lay out a plan of individualized research on the topic. The directed study project will have two major components: (1) extensive reading on the history and background of the chosen topic, and (2) direct, investigative engagement with urban ministries and programs within the metropolitan area.

The completed project will enable the student to see connections between the available literature on urban ministry and actual ministry situations as well as reflecting on the relationship between the historical and present context.

### **Time commitment**

This is a 3-credit-hour course. Thus, each week, the student should expect the equivalent of 3 one-hour lectures with at least another 3 hours of individual study and class assignments. As a general guide, students should schedule about 6 hours per week for this course (or about an hour a day, Monday through Saturday). Over the period of the semester, that will total between 90 and 120 clock hours. It is expected that about one-third of the time will be given to reading and two-thirds to direct investigation of and involvement with urban ministry programs.

### **Time log / journal**

A log will be kept of dates and times spent in course along with journal entries detailing interviews and other direct investigation into existing urban ministry programs.

### **Reading journal**

A reading journal of thoughts and key ideas related to wide-ranging reading.

### **Integrative paper**

At the end of the semester a wrap-up paper will be written drawing together experiences, readings and insights. It will be important for students to clearly frame their encounters with actual urban ministries within the background provided by the readings. The writing should document the learning and include a) a description of the experience detailing the particular kind(s) of activities performed, b) a clear explanation of the knowledge drawn from the experience and c) evidence that the learning objectives of course have been met and that one can generalize from the experience to other settings.

### **Grades**

The course grade will be based on:

- Evaluation of time spent
- Quality of research in both the reading and the on-site investigations
- Accomplishment of personally stated goals.

### **Expectations**

While written work is to be turned in during final exams week, students are expected to work steadily on the course throughout the semester.

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students should refer to the university catalogue for a definition of academic dishonesty and its penalties, or they should go here and familiarize themselves with the relevant material.

Any student who, because of a disabling condition, feel that her or she requires special arrangements to meet the course requirements should contact the office of student services as soon as possible.

### **Course Prerequisites**

None

### **Suggested Background Knowledge/Skills**

Students should be comfortable with reading and writing at a university level. They should have adequate research and library skills so as to be able to successfully complete assignments. Students taking the course for graduate credit are expected to do graduate-level work in terms of interviews, written assignments and readings.

### **The Instructor and Office Hours**

There are no tutorial arrangements needing to be made. However, the instructor is available to meet with students on a “need to” basis. The instructor will be available during posted office hours and at other times by appointment.

### **Beginning Bibliography**

This is an independent study course which allows / requires the student to take responsibility for designing his/her own reading list that will ensure that his/her own learning objectives are met. However, here is a starter list of material in the SNU library.

- A cup of cold water: HEAVENTRAIN: a church on wheels ministry into the inner-city* -- Batten, Phil. BV 637 .B288 1993
- A heart for the city: Effective ministries to the urban community* -- Fuder, John, editor BV 2653 .H38 1999
- A theology as big as the city* -- Bakke, Raymond J., BV 637 .B235 1997
- Children in crisis: A new commitment* -- BV 639 .C4 C42 1996
- Evangelism : Doing justice and preaching grace* -- Conn, Harvie M. BV 3790 .C595
- God so loves the city: Seeking a theology for urban mission* BV 2653 .G64 1994
- Home groups for urban cultures: Biblical small group ministry on five continents* -- Neumann, Mikel BV 652.2 .N48 1999
- Incarnational ministry: Planting churches in band, tribal, peasant, and urban societies* -- Hiebert, Paul G. BV 2063 .H463 1995
- On fragile wings: Stories of hope from the inner city* -- Forsberg, Doug. BV 639 .P6 F689 1995
- Planting and growing urban churches: From dream to reality* -- Conn, Harvie, editor BV 637 .P53 1997
- Revolution and renewal: How churches are saving our cities* -- Campolo, Anthony. Book BV 637 .C26 2000
- Seek the peace of the city: Reflections on urban ministry* -- Villafañe, Eldin, BV 637 .V55 1995
- Serving with the urban poor* BV 2653 .S47 1998
- Signs of hope in the city* BV 637 .S54 1995
- The urban Christian: Effective ministry in today's urban world* -- Bakke, Raymond J. BV 637 .B275
- The urban mission: Essays on the building of a comprehensive model for evangelical urban ministry* BV 2653 .U7 1983
- To the city with love : A sourcebook of Nazarene urban ministries* BV 637 .T6
- Transforming the city: Reframing education for urban ministry* BV 637.5 .R44 2001
- Urban ministry in Asia: Cities, the exploding mission field* BR 1065 .U7