



Introduction to Urban Missions MISS6342
Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Church Ministry Division
Fall Semester 2022, Thur., 2:00-4:50 pm, NOLA2U Flex

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Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Course Description

In this course students are introduced to the biblical and theological foundations for missions in the city. The historical foundations of urban missions are briefly examined. Trends in urbanization are explored along with the implication of those trends for mission and ministry in the urban environment. Contemporary strategies for reaching the city, both national and international, are studied.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the place of the city in the Bible and in God's plan for evangelizing the world.
2. Become aware of the history of urban missions.
3. Understand the urban context of ministry in today's world.
4. Become aware of methods of urban mission and ministry.
5. Develop skills in strategizing, ministry, and missions in an urban environment.

Textbook

Conn, Harvie M. And Manuel Ortiz. *Urban Ministry: The Kingdom, the City and the People of God*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2010.

Course Requirements

1. **Book Review.** From a list of books provided by the instructor choose one to read and review. The book review should be four to six double-spaced pages in length. Students will present a brief presentation of their chosen book in class. Due on Sept. 29.

2. **City Research.** Choose a city to research. Clear the choice with the instructor. Compile an annotated bibliography of 25 resources that could be used to research the city you have chosen. Describe each resource with a brief annotation (2 or 3 sentences). Due on November 7.

3. **Urban Issue Annotated Bibliography.** Choose an urban issue that you would like to research. Clear the choice with the instructor. Compile an annotated bibliography of 25 resources

that could be used to research the issue you have chosen. Describe each resource with a brief annotation (2 or 3 sentences). Submit the annotation to the appropriate Blackboard assignment section by Nov. 14.

4. **Volunteer service.** Spend 5 hours in volunteer mission work in an urban context. Report on the experience in the Blackboard Discussion Board. Clear the volunteer experience with the professor before you commit to the volunteer placement. The volunteer work must be completed by November 10 and a four to six paragraph discussion entered in Blackboard by Nov. 17.

5. **Prayer Walk.** Determine a location to do a prayer walk. Take at least one other person with you on the prayer walk. Give the person or persons accompanying you some basic directions. Spend at least one hour in prayer walking. Enter a four to six paragraph discussion of your prayer walk in the appropriate discussion forum by Nov. 17. Discuss, among other items, 1) Why you chose the location; 2) Whether you were prepared; 3) How those accompanying you reacted to the experience; 4) Interesting experiences you had during the prayer walk; 5) Reactions from those you met during the prayer walk; and 6) How effective you think prayer walking can be in the city.

6. **Urban Ministry Research Projects.** Visit and research two urban ministries (one can be a church, but at least one must be a parachurch ministry. Also, get approval from the instructor of the ministries to be studied. Ministries are assigned on a first come, first serve basis). Interview a significant leader in each of the ministries. Find out major components of the ministry of each. What are the challenges? What people are targeted for ministry? How does the neighborhood and the city impact each ministry? Analyze each ministry as to effectiveness in meeting needs and growing the Kingdom. What sections of our textbook seem applicable to a discussion of each ministry? Submit a 2-3 double-spaced report and give a 5-10 minute report in class for each ministry studied. The first report is due on Oct. 13 and the second on Nov. 3.

NOLA2U Flex

If you are taking this course as a NOLA2U Flex student, please note the following attendance policies:

1. You are required to be in class either through viewing the lectures live or viewing the recorded lectures on Canvas. When you view the recorded lecture, you will be considered present for that class. Regardless of if you watch the class live or recorded, you are only allowed to miss the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in the graduate catalog.
2. You will be asked to certify that you have been present for the live session or have viewed the recorded session. This certification will be done through a quiz after having watched the class live or viewing the recorded session.
3. All video lectures are available for 7 days after the video is posted. If you are unable to view the video within that time frame, you will be considered absent for that class session.
4. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a lecture.

Course Evaluation

Final Exam	10%
Quizzes	20%
City Research Annotated Bibliography	15%
Urban Issue Annotated Bibliography	15%

Volunteer Hours	5%
Prayer Walk	5%
Urban Ministry Research	20%
Book Review and Presentation	10%

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend and participate in the class sessions. Any student missing more than nine hours may receive an automatic grade of “F” for the course. Three tardies will count as one absence.

Course Schedule

Readings are due on the Thursday of each week. Quizzes may be given at the beginning of each week’s class.

- Aug. 18: Getting Started
- Aug. 25: Introduction to the Urban Context, pt. 1- Introduction, Chap. 1-3
- Sept. 1: Biblical Background for Urban Missions, pt. 1- Chaps. 4, 5
- Sept. 8: Urban Ministry Research
- Sept. 15: Biblical Background for Urban Missions, pt. 2- Chaps. 6, 7
- Sept. 22: “**Serve Day**”
- Sept. 29: Understanding the City, pt. 1- Chaps. 8, 9, 10; Book Reviews due
- Oct. 3-7 **Fall Break**
- Oct. 13: First **Urban Ministry Research Projects** Due
- Oct. 20: Understanding the City, pt. 2- Chaps. 11, 12, 13
- Oct. 27: Researching the City, Chaps. 14, 15,16
- Nov. 3: Reaching Special Groups in the City- Chap. 17; Second **Urban Ministry Research Project Due**
- Nov. 10: Christian Community Development- Chap. 18 and Spiritual Warfare in the Urban Context- Chap. 19
- Nov. 17: Developing Leaders for Urban Ministry, Chaps. 20-24
- Final Exam Must be completed by Thurs., Dec. 1 at 4 PM

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. Canvas.NOBTS.com Click on the “Help” button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to Canvas@nobts.edu.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Course Policies

1. All assignments must be submitted for a student to pass this class.
2. Late assignments will be assessed a 10 point per day late penalty.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level.

Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

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