

MISS6342 Introduction to Urban Missions
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Pastoral Missions
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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 Purpose, Core Value Focus, and Curriculum Competencies Addressed

The purpose of this course is to carry out the mission of NOBTS as is reflected through the core values and the core competencies in the following ways:

Core Values

The core value emphasis this year at NOBTS is Spiritual Vitality.

1. Doctrinal Integrity- The course will follow the confessional commitments that are outlined in the Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message 2000
2. Spiritual Vitality- The professor will teach that urban missions without spiritual vitality is ineffective for the Kingdom of God.
3. Mission focus-The course will deal with missions in an urban environment.
4. Characteristic Excellence- The professor will teach that missions in an urban environment is a service to Christ and therefore should be rendered with characteristic excellence.
5. Servant Leadership- The professor will teach that servant leadership is a crucial aspect of those involved in urban missions

Core Competencies- The seminar will address five of the seven competencies.

1. Biblical Exposition- Biblical principles for missions in urban settings will be examined.
2. Disciple Making- Students will consider ways to increase disciple making in the urban context.
3. Interpersonal Skills- Students will seek to enhance their interpersonal skills for effective ministry in the urban context.
4. Servant Leadership- Students will examine leadership styles effective in the urban context.
5. Spiritual and Character Formation-Students will be exposed, through reading and contact, with those who model Christian character and devotion in urban settings.

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

1. That students come to an understanding of the place of the city in the Bible and in God's plan for evangelizing the world.
2. That students become aware of the history of urban missions.
3. That students understand the urban context of ministry in today's world.
4. That students become aware of methods of urban mission and ministry.
5. That student develop skills to do strategizing, ministry, and missions in an urban environment.

Course Teaching Methodology

A variety of teaching methods will be utilized such as class presentations by the professor using Power Point and handouts. Other teaching methods include small and large group discussion, multi-media presentations, utilization of missions related websites, and other communication mediums. A Blackboard shell for the class will be utilized extensively as a resource for students. Students will be expected to be thoroughly prepared for class discussions through readings and the Blackboard unit supplements.

Textbook

Conn, Harvie M. And Manuel Ortiz. *Urban Ministry: The Kingdom, the City and the People of God*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2001, 2010.

Course Requirements

1. **Textbook Reading and Other Assigned Reading.** Students will read the textbook reading assignment found in the syllabus. In class quizzes will be given over the reading assignment for the week. The lowest two quiz grades will be dropped. At times other readings may be assigned. It is essential that the reading be done in preparation for each class.
2. **Class Attendance and Participation.** Students will be expected to be prepared for class each day. Failure to read the textbook will greatly impact classroom performance and overall grade.
3. **Book Discussions.** Each student will choose two books from a list provided by the professor to read and to review. Do a 4-6 page review of each book. Present an oral presentation of the book (10-12 minutes) on the date assigned. A list of books to choose from will be given.
4. **Volunteer Work.** Spend at least 4 hours in volunteer work in an urban ministry site in New Orleans. Enter a reflection of the volunteer experience by April 23 in the discussion forum on Blackboard.
5. **Blackboard.** Each student must enroll in the Internet assisted part of this course by Jan 24 **and maintain a valid e-mail address recorded in your Blackboard account at all times.** The class ID is MISS6342KT: Introduction to Urban Missions. The access code is **MISS6342** (Note: The access code is case sensitive).

Course Evaluation

Quizzes	20%
Book Reviews and Presentations	25%
Attendance and Class Preparation, and Participation	20%
Volunteer Experience	15%
Final Exam	20%

NOTE: All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period unless otherwise noted. Late assignments will negatively impact grades. Assignments turned in late will receive an automatic 20 point deduction. There will be an additional 15 point deduction for each additional weekday the assignment is late.

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Each student is responsible for the academic integrity of his/her work. The following are examples of violations of academic integrity: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, turning in work done by someone else, and submitting a paper which has been submitted in another class. These and other violations of academic integrity may result in failure of the course.

Outline of Course.

Week 1: Class Introduction and the Global Urban World	Jan. 21
Week 2: Introduction to the Urban Context, pt. 1- Introduction, Chap. 1	Jan. 28
Week 3: Introduction to the Urban Context, pt. 2- Chaps. 2, 3	Feb. 4
Week 4: Biblical Background for Urban Missions, pt. 1- Chaps. 4, 5	Feb. 11
Week 5: Biblical Background for Urban Missions, pt. 2- Chaps. 6, 7	Feb. 18
Week 6: Understanding the City, pt. 1- Chaps. 8, 9, 10	Feb. 25
Week 7: Understanding the City, pt. 2- Chaps. 11, 12, 13	Mar. 11
Week 8: Researching the City, Chaps. 14, 15, 16	Mar. 18
Week 9: Reaching Special Groups in the City- Chap. 17	Apr. 1
Week 10: Christian Community Development- Chap. 18	Apr. 8
Week 11: Spiritual Warfare in the Urban Context- Chap. 19	Apr. 15
Week 12: Interacting with New Orleans	Apr. 22
Week 13: Developing Leaders for Urban Ministry, pt. 1- Chaps. 20, 21, 22	Apr. 30
Week 14: Developing Leaders for Urban Ministry, pt. 2- Chaps. 23, 24	May 6

Final Exam

MUST be Completed by 4 PM on May 13

In the event that the normal NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event or epidemic go to the seminary website for information. Our class will continue though our Blackboard site. Please note announcements and assignments on the Blackboard site in the event one or more of our classes is cancelled.

Selected Bibliography on Urban Missions

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