

MISS6342 Introduction to Urban Missions
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Pastoral Missions
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Internet Class Spring Semester 2015

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 being emphasized 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 class 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 online presentations by the professor, PowerPoint presentations, readings, and online handouts. There will be frequent brief audio lectures. Students will spend time with online mission resources. Other teaching methods include discussions on Blackboard forums.

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. Once each student has completed the registration procedures and had cleared the business office, he or she will be automatically enrolled in the Blackboard portion of the course. The class will begin on Jan. 20. The first thing each student should do is go through "Unit 1: Getting Started". This will explain course procedures. The brief work in this unit (not a long unit) is due on Sat., Jan 24.
2. Students should proceed through the learning units in numerical order beginning with "Unit 1: Getting Started." New units will be released several at a time so students should not expect to work ahead too far. Units will be due on each Saturday. All units must be completed along with required readings. At the end of each section of a unit students will indicate completion of that section of the unit by clicking on the "Reviewed" button. PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO MARK AS REVIEWED AS YOU GOT THROUGH THE DIFFERENT PARTS OF EACH UNIT. Orderly completion of the weekly Units along with attention to the specific assignments given in this syllabus will keep the student on track for successful completion of the course. The deadline

for completing a unit is midnight on the date it is due. Unit 1 is due at 11:59 PM on Sat., Jan.24. Most units will contain quizzes. Quizzes CANNOT be taken late. If you miss a quiz you will not get credit for that quiz. The two lowest quiz grades will be dropped. Quizzes can be taken **at least twice** and you can access any materials in completing the quizzes. A second attempt on a quiz CANNOT add more than 50 points to your quiz score, so students should attempt to answer all questions on the first attempt. For example, if you make 40 on the first attempt, even if you get all answers correct on the second attempt, your score on the second attempt would be 90.

3 Outside Projects (Assignments not found in Blackboard Units but to be submitted on Blackboard as noted below):

- a. **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). Submit the annotation to the appropriate Blackboard assignment section by April 18.
- b. **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 April 25.
- c. **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 April 23 and the discussion entered in Blackboard by April 25.
- d. **Extra Book.** From a list of books provided by the instructor choose one to read and discuss. The discussion will be entered in the appropriate discussion forum. The discussion should be six to eight paragraphs in length. The discussion of your book should be entered by Thursday, April 2. You should read the discussion of each of the others in the class and respond to each of these. The responses should be entered by Sat., April 4.
- e. **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 (these will be available in Unit 13). Spend at least one hour in prayer walking. Enter in the proper discussion forum by April 25 a four to six paragraph discussion of your prayer walk experience. 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.

Unless otherwise noted all assignments will be uploaded into the appropriate assignment section through Blackboard. It is the student's responsibility to keep a backup copy of ALL assignments.

NOTE: Assignments turned in late will receive an automatic 15 point deduction for the first day, and a 10 point deduction for each additional weekday late.

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

Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior

Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on the Discussion Board. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times in the online environment.

Course Evaluation

Final Exam	10%
Unit Quizzes	20%
City Research Annotated Bibliography	10%
Volunteer Hours	5%
Urban Issue Annotated Bibliography	10%
Completion of Unit Assignments including Discussion Forums	35%
Extra book discussions	15%

Outline of Course and Completion Dates for Units

(Note: Below you will find the names of the Learning Units that you will find on the class Blackboard site and textbook readings for each unit. In addition each unit will contain additional online readings and assignments. A completion due date is given for each unit. In each unit you will find the assigned textbook readings, online readings, and other assignments. It is extremely important that you not get behind. If you get behind you will miss quizzes and have points deducted for late work.

Unit 1: Getting Started	Completion date	Jan. 24
Unit 2: Introduction to the Urban Context, pt. 1- Introduction, Chap. 1	Comp. date	Jan. 31
Unit 3: Introduction to the Urban Context, pt. 2- Chaps. 2, 3	Comp. date	Feb. 7
Unit 4: Biblical Background for Urban Missions, pt. 1- Chaps. 4, 5	Comp. date	Feb. 14
Unit 5: Biblical Background for Urban Missions, pt. 2- Chaps. 6, 7	Comp. date	Feb. 21
Unit 6: Understanding the City, pt. 1- Chaps. 8, 9, 10	Comp. date	Feb. 28
Unit 7: Understanding the City, pt. 2- Chaps. 11, 12, 13	Comp. date	Mar. 7
Unit 8: Researching the City, pt 1- Chaps. 14, 15	Comp. date	Mar. 14
Unit 9: Researching the City, pt 2- Chap. 16	Comp. date	Mar. 21
Spring Break March 23-28		
Unit 10: Extra Book Discussions and online reading	Comp. date	Apr. 4
Unit 11: Reaching Special Groups in the City- Chap. 17	Comp. date	Apr. 11
Unit 12: Christian Community Development- Chap. 18	Comp. date	Apr. 18
Unit 13: Spiritual Warfare in the Urban Context- Chap. 19	Comp. date	Apr. 25
Unit 14: Developing Leaders for Urban Ministry, pt. 1- Chaps. 20, 21, 22	Comp. date	May 2
Unit 15: Developing Leaders for Urban Ministry, pt. 2- Chaps. 23, 24	Comp. date	May 9
Final Exam	Must be completed by May 13	

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