



## **PMMI8301 The Church in the Urban Context**

A Professional Doctoral Seminar

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

October 9-11, 2018

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*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.*

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### **Course Description**

Participants in this seminar will examine the unique challenges faced by the urban church and the individual urban Christian. Attention will be given to issues such as community transition, addiction, unemployment, and urban family structure, with emphasis on the response of the local church to these challenges and the development of appropriate evangelistic and church-planting strategies.

### **Core Values Addressed**

**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.

**Spiritual Vitality** - The professors will teach that church revitalization is not attainable without spiritual vitality among leadership and membership.

**Mission Focus** - The mission focus will be highlighted during the course as a prerequisite and by-product of effective church revitalization.

**Characteristic Excellence** - The professors will teach that effective church revitalization is a service to Christ and therefore should be rendered with characteristic excellence.

Servant Leadership - The professors will teach that servant leadership is the supreme model of leadership necessary for effective church revitalization.

### **Core Value Emphasis**

The Core Value of emphasis for 2018-2019 is Doctrinal Integrity.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

By the completion of the course, each student will be able to:

- Formulate essential biblical principles for urban ministry.
- Identify various contemporary approaches to urban ministry.
- Develop an understanding of strengths and limitations of existing contemporary mission methods and movements.
- Value strategy development in the urban context
- Increase and implement strategic planning skills for urban ministry
- Students become familiar with the unique needs, obstacles, and opportunities of missions in the city
- Analyze the mission strategies used in urban environments.

### **Required Textbooks**

Keller, Timothy. *Loving the City: Doing Balanced, Gospel-Centered Ministry in Your City*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2016.

Keller, Timothy. *Serving a Movement: Doing Balanced, Gospel-Centered Ministry in Your City*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2016.

### **Seminar Requirements and Assignments**

#### ***Before the Seminar:***

1. Each student will read and prepare an **Executive Summaries** of each of the two required textbooks. The Executive Summaries should be primarily focus on contemporary mission methods and movements. The Executive Summary is to be 7-9 pages, single-spaced, a space between each single-spaced paragraphs, and paragraph indentions. No first person allowed. Each student will employ formal style according to Turabian regarding cover page, margins etc. Instead of footnotes, quotations may be referenced with end notes. The assignment will be due on Oct. 9 (hard copy) at the beginning of the seminar. Each student will be assigned a section one of the books on which to make a seminar presentation.
2. Each student will read TWO (1) of the books listed below, and compose an Annotated Analysis for each book, to involve the following components: (1) a two-page summary of the contents of the book, (2) the identification of five [5] key insights and issues addressed in the book related to contemporary mission methods and movements and a

one-page discussion for EACH insight, relating the importance of the insight in the student's ministry context, and (3) a one-page reflection on the two significant strengths of the book. (Total page count for this assignment = 6-8 pages). The Annotated Analysis is to be single-spaced, a space between each single-spaced paragraph, no paragraph indentions, and must utilize formal style according to Turabian, regarding cover page, margins, pagination, headings/subheadings, etc. Instead of footnotes, quotations can be referenced with end notes. No first person allowed. Students will present their book during the seminar. The Annotated Analysis (hard copy) will be due on Oct. 9 at the beginning of the seminar. **Students are to email the instructor of their first choice, second choice, and third choice of books.** The professor will make the assignments in the order of emails received.

Benesh, Sean. *Exegeting the City: What You Need to Know About Church Planting in the City Today*. Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2015.

Crane, Michael. D. *Sowing Seeds of Change: Cultivating Transformation in the City*. Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2015.

Fikkert, Brian and Steve Corbett. *When Helping Hurts: Alleviating Poverty Without Hurting the Poor. . .and Yourself*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2009.

Fuder, John and Noel Castellanos. *A Heart for the Community*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2009.

Fujino, Gary, Timothy R. Sisk, Tereso C. Casino, eds. *Reaching the City: Reflections on Urban Mission for the Twenty-first Century*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2012.

Gordon, Wayne and John M. Perkins. *Making Neighborhoods Whole: A Handbook for Christian Community Development*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2013.

Looney, Jared and Seth Bouchelle. *Mosaic: A Ministry Handbook for a Globalizing World*. Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2017.

Looney, Jared. *Crossroads of the Nations: Diaspora, Globalization, and Evangelism*. Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2015.

Malone, Kelly. *City Church: Working Together to Transform Cities*. Skyforest, CA: Urban Loft Publishers, 2016.

Peters, Ronald E. *Urban Ministry: An Introduction*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2007.

Saunders, Doug. *Arrival City: How the Largest Migration in History Is Reshaping Our World*, reprint ed. New York, Vintage Books, 2012.

### 3. Study of an Effective Urban Missional Church

Locate and study what you consider an effective urban missional church (see Keller's *Serving a Movement* for a discussion of what a missional church is) in an urban context somewhat similar to the urban context where you now serve or similar to the urban context where you might one day serve. This church must be one in which you have never served on staff member or as a member. Your study may or may not require a personal visit to the church and interviews with staff members or members. Address at least the following issues:

- A. Why did you chose this church in this urban context?
- B. What makes this church missional and effective?
- C. How does church demonstrate the marks of a missional church?
- D. What is this church's basic theology of ministry in an urban context?
- E. How does this church seek to contextualize the gospel in its urban context?
- F. How does the church demonstrate any or all of the "Seven Features of a Church for the City" described in Keller's *Loving the City*?

The Research Project is to employ formal style according to Turabian regarding cover page, margins etc. Instead of footnotes, quotations may be referenced with end notes. The assignment is to be single-spaced (at least four pages), a space between each single-spaced paragraphs, and paragraph indentions. No first person allowed. This study will be due (hard copy) on Oct. 9 at the beginning of the seminar. **Students are to email the instructor of their** choice of the church they will study by Sept. 1. Each student will present his or her research during the seminar.

### *After the Seminar:*

#### 4. Personal Urban Ministry Assessment and Plan

Choose the urban church or ministry that you are no involved in, or, if not involved in an urban ministry or church, choose a potential ministry or church for this project. Address at least the following issues:

- A. How do you describe your urban context?
- B. How do you personally fit in this urban context?
- C. What is your church or ministry's attitude toward the city?
- D. What is your theology of ministry in the urban context?
- E. How is your church or ministry seeking to contextualize the gospel in your urban setting?
- F. How is your church or ministry demonstrating the "Seven Features of a Church for the City" described in Keller's *Loving the City*?
- G. How is your church or ministry seeking to reach the four important groups of people Keller says must be reached to fulfill the mission of the church, each of which he says can best be reached in the city? Alternatively, what is your plan for reaching these groups?
- H. What is your church or ministry's response to the culture of your city?

This assignment must draw upon seminar textbooks, class discussions, and research. The Research Project is to employ formal style according to Turabian regarding cover page, margins etc. Instead of footnotes, quotations may be referenced with end notes. The assignment is to be single-spaced (at least six pages), a space between each single-spaced paragraphs, and paragraph indentions. First person **is** allowed in this assignment. The assignment will be due Nov. 13 and is to be emailed to the professor at ktaylor@nobts.edu.

### ***During the Seminar***

**Seminar Presentations:** Each seminar participant will be involved in seminar presentations and discussions involving all four Pre-seminar assignments.

**Seminar Participation:** Seminar participants are expected to be active participants in all sessions of the seminar.

### **Course Evaluation:**

Executive Summaries	20%
Annotated Analysis	20%
Study of an Effective Urban Missional Church	20%
Personal Urban Ministry Assessment and Plan	25%
Seminar Participation	15%

### **Seminar Bibliography**

Allen, Jerry and George Bullard. *Shaping a Future for the Church in the Changing Community*. Atlanta: Home Mission Board, 1981.

Bakke, Raymond J. *A Theology as Big as the City*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1997.

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Bakke, Ray and Jon Sharpe. *Street Signs: A New Direction in Urban Ministry*. Birmingham, AL: New Hope Publishers, 2006.

Bakke, Raymond J. and Samuel K. Roberts. *The Expanded Mission of 'Old First' Churches*. Valley Forge, PA : Judson Press, 1986.

Barrett, David B. *World-Class Cities and World Evangelization*. Birmingham, AL: New Hope Press for the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1986.

- Benesh, Sean. *Exegeting the City: What You Need to Know About Church Planting in the City Today*. Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2015.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Vespas, Cafes, Singlespeed Bikes, and Urban Hipsters: Gentrification, Urban Mission, and Church Planting*. Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2014.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Metrospiritual: The Geography of Church Planting*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Pub., 2011.
- Bernard, Daniel. *City Impact: How to Unify, Empower and Mobilize God's People to Transform Their Communities*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2004.
- Branson, Mark Lau and Juan F. Martinez. *Churches, Cultures & Leadership: A Practical Theology of Congregations and Ethnicities*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2011.
- Bradbury Nicholas. *City of God?: Pastoral Care in the Inner-City*. London: SPCK, 1989.
- Bunch, David T., Harvey J. Kneisel, and Barbara L. Oden. *Multihousing Congregations: How to Start and Grow Christian Congregations in Multihousing Communities*. Atlanta: Smith Publishing, 1991.
- Butler, Jason. *Dangerous Presence: Following Jesus into the City*. Indianapolis, IN: Wesleyan Pub. House, 2013.
- Carle, Robert D. and Louis A. Decaro, Jr. *Signs of Hope in the City: Ministries of Community Renewal*. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 1997.
- Casino, Tereso C., Gary Fujino, and Timothy R. Sisk, eds. *Reaching the City: Reflections on Urban Mission for the Twenty-first Century*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 2012.
- Claerbaut, David. *Urban Ministry in a New Millennium*. Waynesboro, GA: Authentic Media, 2005.
- Clark, David. *Urban World/Global City*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York: Routledge, 2003.
- Conn, Harvie M., ed. *Planting and Growing Urban Churches: From Dream to Reality*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1997.
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- Corbett, Steve and Brian Fikkert. *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty without Hurting the Poor*. Chicago, Moody Publishers, 2009.
- Cox, Harvey Gallagher. *The Secular City: Secularization and Urbanization in Theological Perspective*. London: SCM Press, 1965.

- Cox, Michael J. and Joe Samuel Ratliff. *Church Planting in the African American Community*. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 2002.
- Crane, Michael. D. *Sowing Seeds of Change: Cultivating Transformation in the City*. Portland, OR: Urban Loft Publishers, 2015.
- Cross, Robert D. *The Church and the City, 1865-1910*. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1967.
- Davey, Andrew, ed. *Crossover City: Resources for Urban Mission and Transformation*. New York: Mowbray, 2010.
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- Dawson, John. *Taking Our Cities for God*. Lake Mary, FL: 1989.
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- Dennison, Jack. *City Reaching: On the Road to Community Transformation*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1999.
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- Driggers, B. Carlisle. *Models of Metropolitan Ministry*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1979.
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- Duncan, Michael. *Costly Mission: Following Christ into the Slums*. Monrovia, CA: MARC, 1996.
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- Ellison, Craig W. and Edward S. Maynard. *Healing for the City: Counseling in the Urban Setting*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1992.
- Elliston, Edgar J. and J. Timothy Kauffman. *Developing Leaders for Urban Ministries*. New York: Peter Lang, 1993.
- Engen, Charles Edward van and Jude Tiersma. *God So Loves the City: Seeking a Theology for Urban Mission*. Monrovia, CA : MARC, 1994.
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- Gornik, Mark R. *To Live in Peace : Biblical Faith and the Changing Inner City*. Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans Pub., 2002.
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