

MISS5245 URBAN MISSIONS PRACTICUM
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Disclaimer: This syllabus is intended to give the student a general idea of the content, format, and textbooks used for this class. The professor will submit a full syllabus at the beginning of the class which will contain a course schedule and the instructor's information.

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

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- Students will be expected to serve in their ministry assignments with characteristic excellence.
5. Servant Leadership- Exposure to servant leadership will provide a model for ministry.

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

1. Disciple Making- Students will consider ways to increase disciple making in the urban context.
2. Interpersonal Skills- Students will seek to enhance their interpersonal skills for effective ministry in the urban context.
3. Servant Leadership- Students will examine leadership styles effective in the urban context.
4. 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

This practicum is designed to provide students guided study and on-site experience in urban mission settings. Students will serve in urban ministry settings and will reflect on that experience as it relates to the student's calling.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. That students examine their call to ministry in light of the urban setting.
2. That students understand the urban context of ministry in today's world.

3. That students develop skills to do ministry and missions in an urban environment.
4. That the student will discover areas of strengths and weaknesses through the supervision process
5. That students grow in their commitment to ministry.
6. That students, through supervision, develop in all areas of their ministry.

Course Teaching Methodology

This course is a practicum and the student's ministry experience, supervision, and reflection will provide the foundation for this course. The student will do reading and will interact with the professor on a regular basis.

Textbook

Fuder, John, ed. *A Heart for the City: Effective Ministries to the Urban Community*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1999.

Course Requirements

1. Urban Ministry Selection-Students will select an urban ministry in which to do supervised ministry for ten to twelve weeks for at least four hours per week for a total of at least 72 hours. If the student works for 10 weeks then the weeks worked must average at least 7.2 hours. A week with less than 4 hours worked will not count in the number of required weeks worked. The student should e-mail the instructor about the proposed urban ministry site BEFORE completing the project approval form. The instructor will give approval or suggest selecting an alternative ministry site. The student must have a qualified supervisor in order to work at a site.
2. Project Approval Form- Students will work with the supervisor in completing the project approval form. This form should be turned in to the instructor by _____. If mailed it should be postmarked by _____. The student is to meet with the supervisor on a weekly basis.
3. Supervisor's Evaluation Form-After the required weeks of ministry has been completed the student should submit the evaluation form to the supervisor. When the form is completed the supervisor should return it to the student. The student, after reviewing the form, should turn the form in to the instructor by _____.
4. Weekly Report Forms-Students will record ministry experiences on a weekly report form. The weekly report form containing the first five or six weeks of ministry is due on _____. The second weekly report form, containing the last five or six weeks, is due on _____.
5. Book Review-Do a book review (5-6 pages) of the textbook. The review is due on _____ and should be submitted via the Digital Drop Box. Discussions of the book will be held on Blackboard Discussion Forums prior to date book review is due so readings will need to begin early in the semester. Students will be notified of dates discussions will take place.
6. Reflection Paper-Do a reflection paper (6-8) pages on the ministry experience of the semester. Reflect on the challenges you faced as well as the fulfillment you gained by being involved in your selected ministry. Include a section on what you learned about yourself during this experience. The paper is due on _____ and should be turned in through the Digital Drop Box.
7. Discussion Forums-Take part in discussion forums that will be set up on Blackboard. Students will be asked to discuss their ministry experiences, their readings from the textbook, and other items. Participation in discussion forums in a TIMELY manner is crucial. Students will receive e-mails indicating discussion topics and giving the time frame for discussions.

8. Volunteer Experience- For students NOT SERVING AS A VOLUNTEER IN THEIR URBAN MINISTRY: Spend at least 5 hours serving in an urban environment (preferably in New Orleans, but can be in other locations) in volunteer service. Report on experience in discussion forum.
9. Evangelism Reports- In your supervised ministry setting select two evangelistic encounters in which you share a gospel presentation (the encounters must have taken place during this semester). In the discussion forum dedicated to this issue report on the encounter. Share the basics of the presentation you used, the response, and follow-up plans. The first report is due on _____ and the second is due on _____.
10. Each student should meet with the instructor during the first two weeks of class. Students not on the main campus should have this visit by phone. **Each student shall also meet with the instructor in the same manner during the last two weeks of classes.**
11. Blackboard. Each student must enroll in the Internet assisted part of this course by _____ **and maintain a valid e-mail address recorded in your Blackboard account at all times.** To enroll go to the nobts.edu site and complete the following steps:

Step 1: Open your web browser to the seminary home page at <http://www.nobts.edu>

Step 2: Click on the **NOBTS – Blackboard** link in the left-hand column.

If you already have a Blackboard account log in and skip to Step 6. (You only need one Blackboard account.)

Step 3: When the new page opens, choose the **Create Account** button on the left.

Step 4: Enter in your information. (Note: Fields with a red asterisk are required fields). When finished entering your information, click **Submit**.

Step 5: When the next page loads, confirming your registration, click **OK**.

Step 6: Now, your personal NOBTS – Blackboard home page should appear. To enroll in a class, click on the **Courses** tab at the top of the page.

Step 7: Under the course **Catalog Section**, choose the appropriate category (Doctoral, Graduate, Leavell College). Click on the appropriate categories (based on the Academic Catalog).

Step 8: When you find your course, click on the **Enroll** button on the right hand side of the screen. Your course is **MISS5245: Practicum in Missions**.

Step 9: Enter the access code provided by the Professor. The code is **MISS5245** (Note: The access code is case sensitive).

Step 10: Click **OK** when the confirmation page appears.

Evaluation

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Book Review | 10% |
| Reflection Paper | 20% |
| Participation in Discussion Forums | 20% |
| Ministry Experience | 40% |
| Evangelism Reports | 10% |

Assignments turned in late will receive an automatic 15 point deduction. There will be a 5 point deduction for each additional weekday the assignment is late. No work will be accepted that is more than three weeks past the due date for the assignment.

Netiquette Statement on 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 will be expected at all times in the online environment.

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

Selected Bibliography on Urban Missions

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

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

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

_____. *The Urban Christian*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1987.

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.

Carle, Robert D. and Louis A. Decaro, Jr. *Signs of Hope in the City: Ministries of Community Renewal*. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 1997.

Claerbaut, David. *Urban Ministry*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 1983.

Conn, Harvie M., ed. *Planting and Growing Urban Churches: From Dream to Reality*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1997.

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

Dennison, Jack. *City Reaching: On the Road to Community Transformation*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1999.

Dudley, Carl S. *Basic Steps Toward Community Ministry*. Washington, DC: Alban Institute, 1991.

_____. *Next Steps in Community Ministry: Hands-on Leadership*. Washington, DC: Alban Institute, 1996.

Duncan, Michael. *Costly Mission: Following Christ into the Slums*. Monrovia, CA: MARC, 1996.

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.

Fuder, John, ed. *A Heart for the City: Effective Ministries to the Urban Community*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1999.

Greenway, Roger S. *Discipling the City : A Comprehensive Approach to Urban Mission*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1992.

_____ and Timothy Monsma. *Cities: Missions' New Frontier*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI.: Baker, 2000.

Grigg, Viv, ed. *Transforming Cities: An Urban Leadership Guide*. Auckland: Urban Leadership Foundation, 1995.

_____. *Cry of the Urban Poor*. Monrovia, CA: MARC, 1992.

Linthicum, Robert C. *Building a People of Power: Equipping Churches to Transform Their Communities*. Waynesboro, GA: Authentic Media, 2006.

City of God, City of Satan: A Biblical Theology of the Urban Church. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1991.

_____, ed. *Signs of Hope in the City*. Monrovia: CA: MARC, 1996.

Perkins, John M. *Beyond Charity: The Call to Christian Community Development*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1993.

_____, ed. *Restoring At-Risk Communities: Doing It Together and Doing It Right*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1997.

Richardson, Willie. *Reclaiming the Urban Family: How to Mobilize the Church as a Family Training Center*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1996.

Rogers, Donald B., ed. *Urban Church Education*. Birmingham, AL: Religious Education Press, 1989.

Sherman, Amy. *Restorers of Hope: Reaching the Poor in Your Community*. New York: Crossway Books, 1997.

Sullivan, Barbara. *God's Ground Force: What Happened When One Church Dared to Leave the Comfort Zone*. Minneapolis: Bethany House, 2006.

Villafañe, Eldin, Douglas Hall, Efrain Agosto, and Bruce W. Jackson. *Seek the Peace of the City : Reflections on Urban Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1995.

White, Randy. *Encounter God in the City: On Ramps to Personal and Community Transformation*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2006.

_____. *Journey to the Center of the City : Making a Difference in an Urban Neighborhood*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1996.

Yamamori, Tetsunao et al. *Serving With the Urban Poor*. Monrovia, CA: MARC, 1998.

**Urban Missions Practicum MISS5245
NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
SUPERVISOR'S EVALUATION OF STUDENT'S PERFORMANCE**

NAME OF STUDENT: _____

DATE: _____

PLACE OF ASSIGNMENT: _____

Please evaluate:

1. Student's attitude toward your ministry:

2. Student's co-operation:

Did this student make significant contributions or did he/she impose limitations upon the program?

Please list any problems encountered with this student:

Overall evaluation of student's performance: **GOOD** _____ **FAIR** _____
POOR _____

Number of hours completed at your ministry site [**72 hours minimum**] _____

Supervisor's Signature _____

Student's Signature _____

Note: This evaluation will be used if needed in counseling the student regarding his/her ministry

and will not effect his/her grade. Use back of sheet for additional comments if necessary. Please go over your evaluation with the student and let the student return this form to our office.

Urban Missions Practicum MISS5245
Weekly Report Form 2 (6 or 7 -10, 11, or 12) NAME

| W e e k | Description of Ministry Activity | Hours Involved | Comments |
|----------------------------|---|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 6 or 7 | | | |
| 7 or 8 | | | |
| 8 or 9 | | | |

| | | | |
|----------------|--|--|--|
| 9 or 10 | | | |
| 10 or 11 | | | |
| 11 or 12 | | | |

Urban Missions Practicum MISS5245
Weekly Report Form 1 (1 - 6)

NAME _____

| W e k | Description of Ministry Activity | Hours Involved | Comments |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | | | |
| 2 | | | |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | | | |
| 5 | | | |
| 6 | | | |

**PROJECT APPROVAL FORM
NOBTS - Urban Missions Practicum MISS5245**

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|
| <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| Name of Field Supervisor | Name of Student | |
| <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| Name of Ministry | Address | |
| <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| Address | City | |
| <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| City, State, and Zip | Phone (include Area Code) | |
| <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| Phone (include Area Code) | Student's Ministry Position | |

I have established a learning agreement with the above-named student in the **Urban Missions Practicum class** of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary for a minimum of 10 weeks and up to 12 weeks of supervised experience. There must be at least 4 hours worked during a week for that week to count and the total hours worked must be at least 72. The ministry in which I serve has an urban component.

I. It is my understanding that my responsibilities include:

1. Supervise the involvement of the student in the various aspects of this ministry.
2. Meet with the student each week to discuss his experience in this ministry.
3. Help the student discover his/her strengths as well as lesser strengths.
4. Make a final evaluation report to the Supervised Ministry office.

II. The student's responsibilities will include:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
4. Others.... (use back if necessary)

Field Supervisor

Date

Please retain a copy of this form for your personal file