MISS6242 INTRODUCTION TO URBAN MISSIONS
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- 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 during the week of --- (Do not be surprised if it is toward the end of that week). The first thing each student should do is go through "Unit 1: Getting Started". This will explain course procedures. The work in this unit (not a long unit) is due on ---.

2. Students should proceed through the learning units in numerical order beginning with "Unit 1: Getting Started." New units with be released weekly so students should not expect to work ahead too far. With the exception of the shorter Unit One, all units should be completed by Sat. of each week. For the first week of the class the first unit is due on --- and the second unit is due on ---. 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. 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.

3. Reading , review, and completion of unit materials. Mark each item as reviewed when you have completed it. A quiz may be given on any materials in or assigned in the unit.

4. 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 ---.

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 ---.

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 Nov. 2 and the discussion entered in Blackboard by ---.

d. **Additional Book**. From a book in the bibliography or from another book approved by the instructor enter into the appropriate discussion forum a paragraph or so on each of the following concerning your chosen book: a) something on the author, b) a very brief summary, c) the purpose of the book, d) the effectiveness of the book, and e) how the book could help the urban minister. After posting your discussion read and respond to the posts from all of the other students. Your original post on your book should be entered by --- and your response to the other posts should be completed by ---.
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.

Course Evaluation
Final Exam 15%
Unit Quizzes 15%
Additional Book Discussion 10%
City Research Annotated Bibliography 10%
Volunteer Hours 5%
Urban Issue Annotated Bibliography 10%
Completion of Unit Assignments
including Discussion Forums 35%

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.

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.

Selected Bibliography on Urban Missions

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