

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Continuing Education Course
Chicago, Illinois Field Trip for Urban Mission
August 9-15, 2004

MCSE 639 SPECIAL STUDIES: INTERCULTURAL URBAN MINISTRIES
(3 Credits)

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Summer 2004

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will take place in the City of Chicago. Chicago will be an urban laboratory in which the class will be able to apply readings and class discussions in theology, sociology, ministry, intercultural communications, ethnic/religious diversity, spiritual formation and leadership skills in real time and context.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of the course the student should be able to:

1. Understand the contextual issues facing urban ministries.
2. Articulate a theology/missiology of urban mission.
3. Appreciate the value of developing ethnic diversity in the local church.
4. Develop a consistent pattern of spiritual formation to under gird the practice of ministry.

COURSE TEXTS

Bakke, Ray. *A Theology As Big As The City*. Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity Press, 1997.

Fountain, John W. *True Vine: A Young Black Man's Journey of Faith, Hope, and Clarity*. New York: Public Affairs, 2003.

Greenway, Roger and Timothy Monsma. *Cities: Missions' New Frontier*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1989.

McDowell, Bruce A. and Anne Zaka. *Muslims and Christians at the Table*. Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reform Publishing Co., 1999.

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Paris, Jenell and Margot Owen Eyring. *Urban Disciples: A Beginner's Guide to Serving God in the City*. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 2000.

Pocock, Michael and Joseph Henriques. *Cultural Change and Your Church: Helping Your Church Thrive in a Diverse Society*. Grand rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2002.

COURSE OUTLINE

Daily themes for spiritual formation, discussion, and on-site visits (Sites may change because of unforeseen reasons):

Monday: Course overview, Q&A
On-site: Tour Chicago's Neighborhoods from the "L" Train, the Subway and the CTA (The Bus)

Tuesday: Cultural Context and Theology
On-site: St. Sabina's Catholic Church and Maranatha Chapel (AOG)

Wednesday: Constructing a Contextualized Theology of Mission
On-site: Lincoln Park Assembly of God and Kelly High School

Thursday: Leadership for Effective Urban Ministries
On-site: Central Assembly of God and New Life Community Church

Friday: Ethnic and Religious Diversity in Urban Ministries
On-site: American Islamic College

Saturday: Constructing a Contextualized Theology and Praxis
On-site: South Asian Friendship Center and China Town.

Sunday: Worship with the Urban Church
On-site: New Heritage Cathedral (AOG) and St. Sabina's Catholic Church

COURSE METHODOLOGY

Each morning will begin with spiritual formation and then classroom lecture and discussion. Following lunch at a taste of Chicago, the class will be making afternoon visits to locations throughout Chicago for the purpose of interacting with diverse models of urban ministries and ministers. Class time will be held at our host church, New Heritage Cathedral at the heart of the

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Southside of Chicago. Rev. Edward Peecher is Pastor. Students will have a rewarding cross-cultural experience being housed with a family from New Heritage Cathedral. Breakfast and supper will be eaten with the host family unless otherwise notified.

The format for each day will be as follows at New Heritage Cathedral except for Saturday and Sunday:

- Spiritual Formation: Preparing our hearts to love and serve God and His People from 8:00 to 9:00 AM.
- Classroom lecture and discussion on respective themes from 9:00 to 12:00 noon.
- Following class we have lunch. Please bring \$10.00 a day for lunch.
- Following lunch we will go to on-site settings to observe, discuss and engage with urban ministries and ministers in real time. Our day together will end at 5:00 or 6:00 PM.

COURSE REQUIERMENTS

1. Read the textbooks by Bakke, Greenway/Monsma, and Fountain. Prepare a **2-3 page type-written reflection paper** on each book noting 4 elements in the text that were most significant to you. **Due Date: Monday August 9, 2004 by e-mail.**
2. Write a 3 page journal reflection on each day's time of spiritual formation, classroom discussion, and on-site visit. A minimum of 18 pages is required. Journal entries should be made at the end of each class day in order to maximize the learning experience. **The final type-written reflection journal should be submitted, by e-mail, to the instructor by September 15, 2004.**
3. Read the remaining textbooks, plus other necessary research materials, and submit a **2-3 page type-written reflection paper on each of the texts** noting 4 elements that were most significant to you. **Due date: Friday October 15, 2004 by e-mail.**
4. Submit a **15-18 page type-written research project that focuses on one of the themes covered in classroom sessions and on site visits.** Emphasis should be given to integrating your research into a practical application of urban ministry. **Due Date: Friday October 15, 2004 by e-mail.**

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COURSE EVALUATION

The final grade for the course will be weighted as follows:

Pre-session Reading Reports.....	25%
Session Reflection Journal.....	25%
Post Session Reading Report	15%
Research Project.....	35%

BIBLIOGRAPHY

A selected bibliography will be provided to the student during the course session.

SPECIFIC DATA

Course Syllabus prepared by Mark Hausfeld, February 2004.