

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
**Continuing Education Course**  
**(Chicago Field Experience)**  
**MCSE 639 SPECIAL STUDIES: INTERCULTURAL URBAN MINISTRIES**  
**May 12-18, 2008**  
**(3 credits)**

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**Summer 2008**

**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.

**TEXTBOOKS**

Bakke, Ray. A Theology As Big As The City. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1997.

Davey, Andrew. Urban Christianity and Global Order. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2002.

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

Davey, Andrew. Urban Christianity and Global Order. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2002.

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

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.

### **BASIC OUTLINE**

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

- Monday: Understanding the City Theologically  
On site: New Life Community Church  
Host: Mark Jobe
- Tuesday: Cultural Context and Theology  
On site: Kelly High School  
Host: Mark Kinsella
- Wednesday: Constructing a Contextualized Theology of Mission  
On site: Wrigleyville (two blocks from the Flubs)  
Host: Darrell Pack
- Thursday: Leadership for Effective Urban Ministries  
On site: St. Sabina Roman Catholic Church  
Host: Father Michael Pfleger/Minister Randal Blakey
- Friday: Ethnic and Religious Diversity in Urban Ministries  
On site: American Islamic College  
Host: Dr. Asi
- Saturday: Constructing a Contextualized Theology and Praxis  
On site: South Asian Friendship Center and China Town  
Host: Mark Engle
- Sunday: Worship with the Urban Church  
On site: New Life Community Church and St. Sabina's Catholic Church

### **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, Maranatha Assembly of God at the heart of the Southwest side of Chicago. Rev. Larry Peak is pastor. Students will have a rewarding cross-cultural experience, being housed with a family from Maranatha. Breakfast and supper will be taken with the host family unless otherwise notified.

The format for each day will be as follows at Maranatha except for Saturday and Sunday:

- Spiritual Formation: Preparing our hearts to love and serve God and His people from 8:00 to 9:a.m.
- Classroom lecture and discussion on respective themes from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
- Following class we have lunch. Please bring \$12.00 per day for lunch. Springfield, Missouri prices will not contextualize and leave you hungry.
- 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 - 6:00 p.m.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Read the textbooks by Bakke, McDowell/Zaka, and Fountain before class begins. Prepare a **2-3 page typewritten reflection paper** on each book, noting 4 elements in the text that were most significant to you. **Due Date: Monday May 12, 2008 by e-mail to markhausfeld2@pactec.net.**
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 typewritten reflection journal should be submitted by e-mail, to instructor by May 25, 2008.**
3. Read the remaining textbooks (except Urban Disciples) and submit a **2-3 page typewritten reflection paper on each of the texts** noting 4 elements that were most significant to you. **Due date: June 25, 2008 by e-mail.**
4. Submit a 15-18 page typewritten 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: July 13, 2008 by e-mail.**

### **GRADING PROCEDURE**

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%

### **SPECIFIC DATA**

Prepared by Mark Hausfeld, D. Min. on October 8, 2007.