

# ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

MSS 639/PTH: Ministry to Muslims in Urban Contexts

Thursdays August 30-December 13  
1:30-4:15 PM

Mark Hausfeld, D.Min

Fall 2007

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

*Ministry to Muslims in Urban Contexts* will first establish the urgent need for deliberate, carefully-strategized evangelization of Muslims. Study of the fundamentalist monotheistic and pluralistic urban world of Scripture will help explain the nature of Islam in its current urban framework and will construct a base upon which local theologies and missiological strategies must be developed. Anthropological and sociological dynamics of Muslims in cities will shed light on Muslims' felt needs and the Church's opportunities to introduce Christ in their midst. Students will be introduced to models of successful outreach to Muslims to enable them as they prepare for ministry to Muslims in urban contexts.

### Course Objectives

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

1. Apply Old and New Testament principles relevant to evangelism, discipleship and church planting to the task of developing ministry to Muslims in urban contexts.
2. Understand the anthropological and sociological dynamics of Muslim urban contexts and how such settings enhance and hinder life, spirituality and thus, effective work among Muslims in cities.
3. Construct local theologies based on scriptural truth, local historical perspectives and cultural analysis.
4. Draw from models of ministries to Muslims in urban settings around the world and creatively develop strategic praxis for ministry to urban Muslims in specialized ministry settings.

### Textbooks

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

Livingstone, Greg. *Planting Churches in Muslim Cities: A Team Approach*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1993.

Meeks, Wayne. The First Urban Christians: The Social World of the Apostle Paul.  
New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University Press, 2003.

Omar, Ifran Ed. A Muslim View at Christianity. Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis Books, 2007.

Robinson, Stuart. Mosques and Miracles: Revealing Islam and God's Grace. Upper Mt Gravett  
Qld 4122 Australia: City Harvest Publications, 2004.

### Course Outline

August 30; September 6, 13, 20

(Class Chapel – September 20, 1:30 – 2:45)

*Introduction to Biblical theology and Church history in the urban context*

September 27: October 4, 11

*Anthropological and sociological dynamics of Muslims the urban setting*

October 18; November 1, 8

*The synthesis of theological, historical, anthropological, and sociological dynamics into practical aspects of ministry to Muslims in urban settings*

November 15, 29

*Constructing a local theology of ministry to urban Muslims*

December 6, 13

*Examples of current and effective ministries to Muslims in urban contexts*

### Methodology

A combination of readings, lecture, class interaction and sharing by actual practitioners who minister to Muslims in urban contexts

### Course Requirements

1. Read the course textbooks and write a three-page book review on each of them. Each review needs to communicate at least three primary ideas that you find speaks to what is important to reflect on and implement when ministering to Muslims in urban contexts. Due dates are as follows. Please read and review the books in the order specified below:

September 13: Bakke, A Theology as Big as the City

October 4: Meeks, The First Urban Christians

October 25: Omar, A Muslim View at Christianity

November 15: Robinson, Mosques and Miracles

December 13: Livingstone Planting Churches in Muslim Cities

2. Write a fifteen-page paper in which you will research and reflect on an area of interest concerning ministry to Muslims in urban contexts. The paper will be based on the missional helix presented in class. Your paper will be four-fold: a) give a theological foundation for the ministry you choose, b) relate the historical perspective that gives voice to the need this ministry, c) analyze the cultural context which the ministry will address, and d) form a strategy of ministry to Muslims in that urban context. Please use size 12 New Times Roman font. You will need at least a minimum of 10 references in your bibliography.
3. Class participation is expected and will be noted for a grade.
4. This class meets once a week so attendance is very important. The student will need to contact the instructor at [markhausfeld2@pactec.net](mailto:markhausfeld2@pactec.net) for any anticipated absence from any time of class.

#### Grading Procedure

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Class participation | 25% |
| Book reviews        | 25% |
| Research paper      | 50% |

#### Specific Data

Revised syllabus prepared and submitted June 5, 2007 by Mark Hausfeld, D.Min.

#### Selected Bibliography

A selected bibliography will be provided the first day of class.