

**NAZARENE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
AND BRESEE INSTITUTE**

SYLLABUS

URB750

~~MSS750~~ **URBAN IMMERSION: THE CHURCH AND THE CITY**

January 4-17, 2008 Module

Conducted in Manchester, England

In joint arrangement with:

Nazarene Theological College

Professors

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I Aims

The module seeks to provide the student with the opportunity to engage with the crucial issues related to the urban context and to interact creatively with them through personal research, corporate learning experiences and critical reflection, especially in the context of the British Isles, and with attention to the Wesleyan contribution.

II Learning Outcomes

- a) To acquire an awareness and understanding of:
 - i) Urban trends both national and global.
 - ii) Inner city Issues.
 - iii) Analytical skills required to discover a working knowledge of a city's ethnography and demographics.
 - iv) Social and spiritual needs in urban situations and the current responses to them from the Church and Christian Groups.

- b) To cultivate attitudes which are:
 - i) Positive to city life and the opportunities that present themselves to those in Urban Ministry.
 - ii) Responsive to a growing urban theology.
 - iii) Tolerant of alternative approaches to spirituality and ministry.

- c) To develop the skills required through:
 - i) Research
 - ii) Clear presentation of facts and arguments
 - iii) Critical reflection

III Contents

Because of the nature of this seminar, in both its contextual (in Manchester) and its cooperative (with NTC) format, some special features will be brought included so as to maximize the learning opportunities available.

These include:

1. Prior to the week in Manchester, read assigned materials from the Reader, including themes of "Cities: World Trends" and "A History of Urban Mission in British Cities."
2. Attend the two prior sessions at NTS in preparation for this seminar as agreed-on meeting times.
3. Participate in the three day (January 4-6) London Wesleyan and Nazarene involvements
4. Daily morning sessions 8:30-12:30, in Manchester, beginning on Monday afternoon, the 7th and terminating on Thursday, the 17th. Some of the formal topics presented will include: *"The Homogeneous Unit Principle"* lecturer *Fletcher Tink* *"Towards an Urban Theology"* lecturer *Fletcher Tink*; *"A Church for the Inner City"*
5. In addition to these daily sessions, further afternoon sessions (8th, 10th, 15th, 16th and all day, the 17th) are scheduled for reflection, local field visits, and interactive engagement. These will be fashioned according to need, interest and availability.
6. Those going to Scotland for the weekend (11-13) will be able to utilize some of the exposure experiences there to meet requirements such as in journaling or personalized research.
7. There will be one 3 hour final session back in Kansas City, scheduled for the February 28, from 6-9:00 p.m. at NTS for formal presentations, completion of assignments and integrative learning. All assignments must be completed by that date. (A later date of March 28 will be given to all those who are registered to take a second module in January).

III Textbooks

Bakke, Ray and Jon Sharpe

Street Signs: A New Direction in Urban Ministry. Birmingham, AL: New Hope Publishers. 2006. ISBN 1-59669-004-6

Heitzenrater, Richard *The Poor and the People Called Methodists.* Abingdon Press. 2004. ISBN 978-068705155X

Peck, Jamie and Kevin Ward, eds. *City of Revolution: Restructuring Manchester*. Manchester University Press. 2002. ISBN 0719058880
Tink, Fletcher L. *The Urban Reader*. Copies will be provided on December 11, at a cost of \$15

IV. Requirements

1. Active participation in all seminars, prior and follow-up sessions. (10%)
2. Book reviews on three assigned texts (or alternative selections approved by the professor) . These reviews will include synopsis, critique and personal application. (20%). The review should include a third, overview of content, a third, critique, and a third, personal application.
3. The selection of an approved research topic related to urban ministry. This topic must be approved by the professor in advance. There will be four components to the presentation:
 - a. The composition of an extensive bibliography of not less than 30 components, including not less than 10 books, 10 journal or magazine articles, 10 web pages, and video or CD resources that have relevant value for the topic chosen. This topic ought to have some personal relevance for the ministry context in which the participant either finds him- or herself, or anticipates in the future, such a ministry context. (20%)
 - b. A written research project on the above selected topic of 12-20 pages, double-spaced, well-documented and formatted. (30%)
 - c. This power point presentation should have prior exposure to a lay group of Christians that allows for critique and feedback that inform and modify the project for the later seminar presentation. (20%)
4. Journal concerning all aspect of the seminar, including all sessions, visits, etc. Journaling should involve two parallel activities: 1. narrating information and observation; 2. reflecting on, and integrating the information learned.

V Select Bibliography (To be Updated Later)

- Archbishop of Canterbury's Commission on Urban Priority Areas.
Faith in the City London: Church House Publishing, 1985
- Bakke, Ray
The Urban Christian, Bromley: Marc Europe, 1987
- Bakke, Ray
Theology as Big as a City.
- Beckett, Fran
Called to Action , London: Fount Paperbacks, 1989
- Bosch, David J.
Transforming Mission, Orbis Books, New York, 1991.
- Brierley, Peter
Christian England, London: Marc Europe, 1991
- Cave, Dave
Jesus is Your Best Mate, Basingstoke: Marshall, Morgan and Scott, 1985
- Conn, Harvey M
A Clarified Vision for Urban Mission, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1987
- Cox, Harvey
The Secular City. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1968.
- Dawson, John
Taking Our Cities for God, Lake Mary: Creation House, 1989
- Flanagan, William G
Contemporary Urban Sociology. Cambridge: CUP, 1993.
- Gibbs, Eddie
Urban Church Growth, Grove Books, 1977
- Greenway, Roger
Guidelines for Urban Church Planting, Grand Rapids; Baker Book House, 1976
- Greenway, Roger S. and Timothy M. Monsma
Cities, Missions New Frontier Grand Rapids: Baker, 1989
- Griggs, Viv.
Cry of the Urban Poor. Monrovia: MARC, 1992
- Lingenfelter, Sherwood G. & Marvin K. Mayers
Ministering Cross-Culturally, Grand Rapids: Baker, 1986.
- Livingstone, Greg
Planting Churches in Muslim Cities: a Team Approach. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1993.
- Marchant, Colin
Signs in the City, London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1985.
- McClung, Floyd.
Seeing the City with the Eyes of God. New York: Fleming H Revell, 1991.
- Murray, Stuart
City Vision, London: Daybreak, 1990.
- Nees, Thomas G
'Annotated Compassionate Ministries Bibliography. Unpublished document available in photocopy form. (1991)
- Joslin, Roy
Urban Harvest, Welwyn: Evangelical Press. 1982.
- Padilla, Rene
'The Unity of the Church and the Homogeneous Unit Principle.'
Exploring Church Growth, ed Wilbert R Shenk. Grand Rapids: William Eerdmans, 1983.
- Sheppard, David
Built as a City, London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1974.
- Shorter, Aylward
The Church in the African City. London: Geoffrey Chapman, 1991.

Van Engen, Charles and Jude Tiersma, edd

God so loves the City: Seeking a Theology for Urban Mission.

Monrovia: MARC, 1994.

Vincent, John J

Starting all over again: Hints of Jesus in the City. Geneva: WCC, 1981