

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT.

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TITLE: Introduction to Urban Ministry

TERM: Fall 2018-2019

PROFESSOR: R. Drew Smith

CREDIT HOURS: 3

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO: _____
AUDITORS: _____

UNLIMITED X
NO AUDITORS _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will examine the history, theological focus, and core values that inform ministry in the city. Attention will be given to helping students discern their vocational call in the context of city life and Christian witness in this arena.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

To explore social factors and theological premises impacting and influencing ministry approaches to urban contexts, circumstances, and populations; and to provide analytical tools (both theological and sociological) that are helpful in critiquing ministry approaches to ever-evolving demographic, cultural, psycho-social, and socio-structural complexities of 21st century urban life

These course objectives align with the following program learning outcomes:

Master of Divinity:

- Learning outcome 2: Demonstrate a capacity to integrate Christian history and theology in relation to the life of the church in the world;
- Learning outcome 3: Demonstrate a capacity to exegete and interpret the Church's various contexts as locations of God's mission; and
- Learning outcome 4: Demonstrate the capacity to reflect theologically on cultural, social, and ethical issues and how they shape the life of the church.

Master of Arts:

- Learning outcome 3: Articulate a relationship between the history of Christianity, Scripture, and the mission of the Church in the world
- Learning outcome 4: Engage in theological reflection with an awareness of contemporary contexts.

PREREQUISITES: None

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:

- R. Drew Smith, Stephanie C. Boddie, and Ronald E. Peters (editors), *Urban Ministry Reconsidered: Contexts and Approaches*, Westminster John Knox Press, 2018; ISBN-10: 0664263925; ISBN-13: 978-0664263928
- Other readings will be drawn from various sources and posted on the MYPTS course portal

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:

Three (two-page) discussion papers 35%; Final paper and presentation (12 pages) 65%

ATTENDANCE: Required.