PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

COURSE NO. CS 401-OL

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.

TITLE: Introduction to Urban Ministry **TERM:** Fall 2025-2026

NOTE: This course is required for the Graduate Certificate in Urban Ministry

PROFESSOR: R. Drew Smith CREDIT HOURS: 3

UNLIMITED _____ **REGISTRATION:** LIMITED TO: 12 # AUDITORS: 3

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 sociostructural complexities of 21st century urban life.

PREREQUISITES: None

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:

• Readings will be drawn from various sources and posted on the Canvas course portal.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:

. Grades will be based upon four 5-page discussion papers (25% each).

ATTENDANCE: Required.