



NEW ORLEANS
BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

Introduction to Urban Missions MISS6342

Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Pastoral Ministries Division Defend Apologetics Conference—January 8-12, 2018

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Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for this academic year is Servant Leadership, which states in part: “We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.”

Curriculum Competencies

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are: Biblical Exposition, Disciple Making, and Servant Leadership.

Course Description

In this course students are introduced to the biblical and theological foundations for missions in the city. The historical foundations of urban missions are briefly examined. Trends in urbanization are explored along with the implication of those trends for mission and ministry in the urban environment. Contemporary strategies for reaching the city, both national and international, are studied.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand the place of the city in the Bible and in God’s plan for evangelizing the world.
2. Become aware of the history of urban missions.
3. Understand the urban context of ministry in today’s world.
4. Become aware of methods of urban mission and ministry.
5. Develop skills in strategizing, ministry, and missions in an urban environment.

Textbooks

Brooks, Christopher. *Urban Apologetics: Answering Challenges to Faith for Urban Believers*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2014.

Conn, Harvie M. And Manuel Ortiz. *Urban Ministry: The Kingdom, the City and the People of God*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2010.

Course Teaching Methodology

This is an event course tied to attending the Defend Conference at NOBTS. The Breakout sessions for this course will include lectures and class discussions, and will be taped for the conference. Following the Conference, students will continue to learn through reading and writing assignments, and audio resources.

Course Requirements

1. **Lecture Attendance.** Students are required to attend all sessions of the Defend 2018 Christian Apologetics Conference. Students are to listen to all sessions of the Defend 2018 Christian Apologetics Conference which they do not attend. Students must affirm that they have completed this. Students will confirm on Blackboard how much they attended/listened to. Failure to attend/listen to all of the conference will result in a 5 point deduction from a student's final average.
2. **Conn Book Summary.** Read the Conn testbook. Prepare detailed summaries of each chapter (approximately three substantial paragraphs). Submit summaries of chapters 1-2 on Blackboard by March 15. Submit summaries of chapters 13-24 by May 1.
3. **Brooks Book Review.** Read and review the Brooks textbook. The book review should be four to six pages in length and double-spaced. The review is due on February 5 and should be submitted on Blackboard.
4. **Session Summaries.** Students will write one-page, single-spaced summaries of 12 different breakout sessions from the Defend 2018 Christian Apologetics Conference. Students taking more than one Defend 2018 course for NOBTS credit may use 6 session summaries that they summarize for another course so long as they are shaped for the concerns of each course. Summaries should be submitted via Blackboard. Summaries are due 8 weeks after the conclusion of the Defend 2018 Apologetics Conference (March 9, 2018).
5. **Volunteer service.** Spend 5 hours in volunteer mission work in an urban context. Report on the experience in the Blackboard Discussion Board. Clear the volunteer experience with the professor before you commit to the volunteer placement. A four to six paragraph discussion of the experience should be entered on Blackboard by April 1.

6. Prayer Walk. See Blackboard for prayer walking resources. Determine a location to do a prayer walk. Take at least one other person with you on the prayer walk. Give the person or persons accompanying you some basic directions. Spend at least one hour in prayer walking. Enter a four to six paragraph discussion of your prayer walk in the appropriate discussion forum in Blackboard by March 14. Discuss, among other items, 1) Why you chose the location; 2) Whether you were prepared; 3) How those accompanying you reacted to the experience; 4) Interesting experiences you had during the prayer walk; 5) Reactions from those you met during the prayer walk; and 6) How effective you think prayer walking can be in the city.

NOTE:. Assignments turned in late will receive an automatic 15 point deduction for the first day, and a 10 point deduction for each additional weekday late.

ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.

Course Evaluation

Brooks Book Review		10%
Conn Book Summary and Review	40%	
Session Summaries	40%	
Volunteer Hours	5%	
Prayer Walk	5%	

Technical Assistance

Need technical assistance? Contact the ITC today!

Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)

BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.

ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.

504.816.8180 - Call for any technical questions/support requests.

www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

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