Essential Information
Please refer to the following resources for information essential for the successful completion of course and degree programs at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Links to these resources are available in the Essential Information section at http://support.nts.edu.

- NTS Mission Statement & Purpose Degree Objectives
- Tips for online learning success
- NTS library services
- NTS textbook information
- Online technical requirements and Moodle support information
- NTS Student Handbook including statements of quality of work, plagiarism, and academic probation
- Handbook for Inclusive Language

Instructor Information
Professor: Doug Forsberg
Email: dforsber@mail.snu.edu
Office: (405) 491-6369
Office Hours: MWF 1-3 p.m. or by appointment

Catalog Description
A core course in the urban/compassionate ministry concentration that introduces the challenge of ministry in the city, defining and describing its unique characteristics, its theological and organizational challenges, its body of literature, resources and models, and its effects on those who minister in the urban context.

Course Narrative and Rationale
This course will purpose reflections on the nature and character of ministry in an urban context with an eye toward investigating the theological foundations and practical aspects of creating and leading a fruitful urban ministry. This course will consist of a variety of informing events such as lectures, discussions, guest presentations providing expert insights, web discoveries, question and answer sessions, plus student lead discussion. Prior to the in-class modules, students will reflect on the nature and challenge of urban ministry and how urban ministry has been an essential and fruitful venture in our Wesleyan tradition. Students will arrive at the module having read the four assigned texts with a list of questions and concerns they have created during their reading. The overall goal of the module is to empower the students with theological and historical understanding of urban ministry and the development of a skill-set toward the visioning, application, and leadership aspects of fruitful urban ministry.
Degree Objectives
This course is particularly directed at the following degree objectives of the M. Div Program:
4. Cultivation of gifts, practical skills, and vocational identity as a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through engagement in and reflection of the pastoral arts, exhibited in the following outcomes; the student/graduate will:
   a. Facilitate the formation of a community of faith as the called and gathered, centered in Christ, and sent people of God
   b. Model and facilitate Christian witness and spiritual transformation
   c. Communicate effectively in written, spoken, artistic, and other forms
   d. Engage the holistic nature of the Church in redemptive ministries of restoration
   e. Lead in such a way as to develop the leadership potential in others
5. Understanding of local and global diversity through the investigation of cultural contexts, to enable the Church to proclaim effectively and to embody the mission of God, exhibited in the following outcomes; the student/graduate will:
   a. Articulate the missional nature of the Church
   b. Exegete the congregation
   c. Exegete aspects of society including ethnicity and culture
   d. Navigate the complexities of globalization expressed through pluralism, world religions and other issues
   e. Participate in the stewardship of creation

Course Outcomes
The overarching goal of this course is to prepare the minister for ministry within the urban context. With an eye toward this goal the course will equip and inform the student of the unique aspects of urban ministry resulting in an awareness, understanding, and skill-set whereby the student will be able to:
1. To understand and express the Biblical and theological foundations for the various unique aspects of urban ministry [A1, A3, A5]
2. To understand and communicate the uniqueness of the works of mercy as means of grace within the Wesleyan theological framework [A3, A5]
3. To begin the development of a skill-set whereby the student will be able to provide pastoral care, leadership, vision, fund development, and Christian formation in the congregation located in troubled urban centers [A3, A4, A6]
4. To comprehend the ever changing processes and effects of urbanization and how it relates to a Wesleyan understanding of ecclesiology [A1, A3]
5. To develop a thorough understanding of the various options for fund development that will support ministry in financially oppressed and challenged communities [A3, A5, A6]
6. To comprehend and practice Christ centered pastoral care in the lives of persons who face the ongoing demands of life in impoverished urban centers [A2, A3, A4]
7. To integrate personal lifestyle issues that will enable the minister to not only cope with the demands of leading urban ministries but will result in a flourishing joyful spirit in carrying out the duties and obligations that come with the urban territory [A2, A4]
8. To build a comprehensive data base of reading material, web resources, and flourishing urban ministries for future reference related to urban mission [A3, A6]
9. To develop skills in leadership and visioneering for the unique aspects of urban ministry in the areas of needs assessment, procedural development, the articulation of purposes, and the management of resources both financial and human [A3]

**Required Texts and Course Materials**


**Course Outline**

I. Biblical Foundations of Urban Ministry (pre-module work)

II. Theological Foundations of Urban Ministry, The Wesleyan Distinctive

III. The Historical Foundations of Urban Ministry

IV. The Challenges Awaiting the Urban Minister
   a. Personal Issues and the Establishment of Boundaries
   b. Understanding Poverty and its Various Cycles
   c. Confronting Classism and Racism
   d. Visioneering a Thriving Urban Mission
   e. Fund Development Paradigms

V. Forming Urban Partnerships

VI. Shepherding the Urban Congregation

VII. Seeing Oneself within the Larger Mission of the Church

**Course Assignment and Requirements**

**Pre-module Work**

Self-Introduction: Introduce yourself to your professor and classmates by posting in the Introduction Forum on Moodle by 11:55 pm September 27, 2013.

1. Due the first day of our module on October 28 is a ten page paper on the topic of “Biblical Foundations for Urban Ministry.” Using concordance type tools our four textbooks plus other research sources each student will write a ten page paper that will provide a Biblical bases for ministry in the impoverished urban context. 5 pages should be devoted to the Old Testament and 5 pages should be devoted to the New Testament.

2. Due the first day of our module on October 28 is a list of questions and concerns the student wishes to ask and have addressed during our week long module. Our four texts must be read prior to the module. During the reading of each text the student is to list at least ten questions per text asking the author to justify a position, provide more detail concerning an issue, etc. The student should come
to the module with 40 questions in all from the textbooks plus 10 general questions and issues the student wishes the class to answer and/or investigate.

[06, 07]

Module Work

3. Participation in module discussions (15% of final grade) – engaged participation in the module is expected of all students. Each student will be given a daily grade for participation that reflects the text book reading plus the range of knowledge and insight contributed to that day’s discussion.

[01,02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 09]

4. During the week of the module each student is to write a two page journal each evening providing the professor with their personal reflections, questions, and concerns from the day’s discussion. Each journal entry should include these components:
   - Personal reflections on the discussions that day. What ideas did you take from the class to be employed in your ministry philosophy?
   - What concepts, issues, ideas where difficult for you to grasp?
   - What ideas, concepts, issues did you reject? Why?
   - Questions you would like answered from the day’s discussions.

Each journal will be e-mailed to the professor no later than midnight of the day of the class.

[03, 06, 07]

Post-module Work

5. Each student is required to write a 10 page paper on their philosophy of urban ministry. Each student will be required to write this paper using this outline:
   I. The Biblical Foundations for my Urban Ministry
   II. The Theological Foundations for my Urban Ministry
   III. My Personal Philosophy of Urban Ministry Leadership
   IV. My Philosophy of Urban Ministry Pastoral Care
   V. My Philosophy of Financial Strategies to Support my Urban Ministry

It is essential that each student reflect depth of understanding of the text books read and the module content within the framework of their respective papers.

[01, 02, 04, 05]

6. Each student is required to visit a strong urban ministry of their choice and to write a ten page assessment of that ministry to be provided for the module instructor only. The student must follow the following procedures for this assignment:
   a. Request a time to visit and interview the pastor or director of the ministry.
   b. Visit the ministry viewing personally each aspect of the ministries provided by the ministry.
   c. Conduct a 30 minute interview with the pastor/director of the ministry recording the pastor/director’s answers to these questions:
What are the specific joys and pleasures you experience in your leadership role of this ministry?

What are the specific challenges and difficulties you face in your leadership role of this ministry?

Who are your most coveted partners in this ministry and why are they important to you?

What is the secret to your financial success in developing funds to support this ministry?

If you were to encourage a young beginning urban minister what 5 wise suggestions would you be sure to tell him/her?

d. Ask for permission to attend a board meeting or staff meeting.

e. Visit a board meeting or staff meeting (if permission is granted.)

f. Write a five page assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of this ministry along with ten suggestions to improve the vitality and health of the ministry. (This is to be given to the module professor only!)

Distribution of Student Learning Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pre-module</th>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Post-module</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Sessions</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>On-Sight Visit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
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Method for Submitting Assignments

All written assignments are to be submitted electronically. For most assignments, a place on Moodle will be opened through which the student can upload the assignment. Those assignments not delivered through Moodle must be emailed to the professor. No hardcopies are required, and submission of a hardcopy does NOT take the place of an electronic submission.

Form and Style Expectations

All written material is expected to comply with one of the following three standards of style and citation: Turbian, MLA, or APA. The student is free to choose which style they prefer, but that style must be used consistently throughout all the students’ work.

Inclusive Language

NTS is committed to the equality of women and men. Recognizing that people have often used the English language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women, NTS urges students, faculty, and staff to avoid sexist language in public discourse, in
classroom discussions, and in their writings. All written work presented to meet course requirements must use gender inclusive language.

**Policy Regarding Late Work & Missed Exams**
In a compressed delivery course such as a module, all work must be completed on time for the student to fully benefit from the class experience. Pre-module work is due on the first day of class and may not be made up for any reason whatsoever. Post-module work will be accepted up to a month after it is due, but with a full letter grade penalty assessed. After one month, no late work will be accepted for any reason whatsoever.

**Course Grading**
- Biblical Foundations Paper-- 20%
- List of Questions from the texts plus personal reflection questions-- 15%
- Module Participation-- 15%
- Daily Journal-- 10%
- Personal Philosophy Paper-- 20%
- Sight Visit and Assessment-- 20%

In accordance with the provisions of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, NTS is committed to providing students with disabilities the opportunity to participate and benefit from its programs and activities. Accordingly, NTS will make reasonable modifications to its programs and activities to accommodate otherwise qualified students with disabilities, unless such modifications would impose an undue burden on the operation of the particular program or activity or would fundamentally alter the nature or purpose of the program or activity. Students needing accommodations should contact the Office of the Registrar. They also should contact the instructor no later than the end of the first class session to discuss learning needs and adaptive strategies that have been beneficial for the student in the past.

**Class Attendance**
Attendance at classes is essential for realizing the maximum benefit of your education. Given the compressed nature of a module-format class, there are only small margins of tolerance for non-attendance. If a student must be absent because of extenuating circumstances, she or he must contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss the situation. If a student is absent for 8 hrs. of the module week the professor may automatically fail the student.

Daily attendance records must be reported for those obtaining V. A. and Department of Education benefits. Students must make the professor aware if their attendance must be recorded.

**Audio and Video Recordings**
In order to foster a safe learning environment in which various viewpoints are respected, audio or video recordings or transcripts thereof by students is prohibited without the permission of the faculty member in charge of the course. If permission is granted,
redistribution of these recordings or transcripts thereof outside the scope of the course is prohibited.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>8-24-13</td>
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<td>Self-Introductions</td>
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<td>10-28-13</td>
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<td>Attend Module Session</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>All 4 texts read by this date</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Turn in Biblical Foundations Paper</td>
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<td>Write 2 page Journal after class session</td>
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<td>Due no later than midnight</td>
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<td>10-29-13</td>
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<td>11-1-13</td>
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<td>Write 2 page Journal after class session</td>
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<td>12-2-13</td>
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<td>Ten Page Personal Philosophy Paper due</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Sight Assessment Project due</td>
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Bibliography

Jennings, Theodore W. Jr. Good News to the Poor, John Wesley’s Evangelical Economics.