

Perkins School of Theology Southern Methodist University

DM 9321 and XS8321 Witness and Ministry in Global Context: Experiencing a Culture of Homelessness 3 Credit Hours

Christian Community Development Immersion Class

**From Tuesday, January 16 to Sunday, January 21, 2018
At Mission Waco, Waco, Texas.**

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Class Location & Accommodations: Perkins Seminary students enrolled in the January intensive will be in Waco, Texas, from Tuesday, Jan. 16 (noon) to Sunday, Jan. 21 (around 1 pm, after worship service) working with Mission Waco www.missionwaco.org and Church Under the Bridge www.churchunderthebridge.org in an experiential context of urban ministry. Students will stay in the Mission Waco Training Center, 628 N.15th, 76707, throughout the immersion.

Course Goals:

1. To prepare students to understand and engage in holistic urban ministry among the poor and marginalized;
2. To help students learn to build networks among social service, civic, neighborhood, and various church groups;
3. To sensitize students in asset based Christian community development and social justice;
4. To deepen the student's theological base for urban ministry;
5. To introduce students to "best practices" of urban ministry from around the nation.

Guest Lecturer and Local Class Coordinator:

Dr. Jimmy Dorrell, *Founder and Executive Director of Mission Waco; Pastor of Church Under the Bridge; Adjunct Professor-George W. Truett Seminary, BGU, and Eastern Univ. Urban Studies*

Packing for the trip:

Bring personal care items, sleeping bag, and pillow. Dorm accommodations.

Course Requirements:

- Attendance (10%) All Waco lectures and ministry connections.
- Book Reviews (20%) Students will review the 3 required texts. The Book Review should provide summary of author's thesis (1 page), engagement and critique of the book (2

pages), and discussion of the book's value for practitioners of community transformation (1 page). Total length 4 pages per review. Due: Tuesday, January 16, 2018.

- Journal (10%) one page per day, reflecting on day's experiences and learning. No later than Sunday, January 21, 2018.
- Theological and Ethical Analysis Paper (30%): Based on your immersion experience, required readings, and two of books from the recommended list (your choice), write a paper (6-8 pages) in which the each students will provide ethical, biblical, and theological reasons for Christian ministry and solidarity with the poor. Due: January 22, 2018.
- Final Project (30%): Design a community development project using resources from readings, class discussions and immersion experience. Project should help connect the existing church with community development. Project should be in your geographic location. (6-8 pages). Due: January 22, 2018. This project will be chosen with the Professor of Record to assist the student toward involvement in a project that may be personally helpful to his/her ministry context. Although projects differ based on kind, generally each will involve some a) action research (surveys, interviews, background study, etc.), b) assessments based on the research, c) interaction with a local community, d) implementation of a project, and e) evaluation of the project or its potential. All work and hours are to be documented and briefly explained (ex: *11/10/11; 2:00-3:30; interviewed residents on Colcord Ave regarding the neighborhood assets*). Surveys, findings, evaluation forms, etc must be submitted with the summary paper. The summary paper should be four to six typewritten pages (double space) and include a narrative of the goal, experience, learning, next steps, and conclusions. Grade will be determined based on effort and implementation of appropriate methodology, including longer-term impact from project.

Required Reading:

1. Corbett, Steve and Fikkert, Brian. *When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor and Yourself*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2009. ISBN-10: 0802457053
2. Dorrell, Jimmy. *Trolls and Truth: 14 Realities about Today's Church that We Don't Want to See*. Birmingham: New Hope Publishers, 2000. ISBN-10: 1596690100
3. Lupton, Robert D. *Compassion, Justice and the Christian Life: Rethinking Ministry to the Poor*, Ventura: Regal, 2007. ISBN-10: 0830743790

Recommended Reading:

Bakke, Ray. *A Theology As Big As the City*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1997.

Bakke, Ray. *The Urban Christian*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1987.

Campolo, Tony. *Speaking My Mind: The Radical Evangelical Prophet Tackles the Tough Issues Christians Are Afraid to Face*. Nashville: W Publishing Group, 2004.

Conn, Harvie M. *Planting and Growing Urban Churches*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1997.

Coon, Harvie and others, ed. Manuel Ortiz and Susan Baker *The Urban Face of Mission: Ministering the Gospel in a Diverse and Changing World*. P&R, 2002.

Couture, Pamela D. *Seeing God, Seeing Children; A Practical theology of Children and Poverty*. Nashville,: Abingdon, 2000.

Dawn, Marva J. *Unfettered Hope: A Call to Faithful Living in an Affluent Society*. Louisville: Westminster John Know, 2003.

- Dorrell, Jimmy. *Dead Church Walking: Giving Life to the Church that is Dying to Survive*. Biblica, 2011.
- Gornik, Mark R. *To Live In Peace: Biblical Faith and the Changing Inner City*. Eerdmans, 2002.
- Gushee, David P. *Toward a Just and Caring Society: Responses to Poverty in America*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999.
- Gutierrez, Gustavo. *Essential Writings*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1996.
- Jennings, Theodore W. *Good News to the Poor: John Wesley's Evangelical Economics*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1990.
- Johnson, Kelly S. *The Fear of Beggars: Stewardship and Poverty in Christian Ethics*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2007.
- Linthicum, Robert C. *Transforming Power: Biblical Strategies for Making a Difference in Your Community*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2003.
- Linthicum, Robert C. *Building a People of Power*. Colorado Springs: Authentic Publishers, 2006.
- Linthicum, Robert C. *Empowering the Poor*. MARC/World Vision, 1991.
- Lupton, Robert D. *Renewing the City: Reflections on Community Development and Urban Renewal*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2005.
- McKnight, John and John P. Kretzmann and John. *Building Communities from the Inside Out: A Path Toward Mobilizing A Community's Assets*. Chicago: ACTA Publications, 1993.
- Meeks, M. Douglas. *The portion of the Poor: Good News to the Poor in the Wesleyan Tradition*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1995.
- Rieger, Joerg. *Remember the Poor: The Challenge to Theology in the Twenty-First Century*. Harrisburg, Trinity Press, 1998.
- Sample, Tex. *Hard Living People and Mainstream Christians*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993.
- Sider, Ronald J. *Just Generosity: A New Vision for Overcoming Poverty in America*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999.
- Thurman, Howard. *Jesus and the Disinherited*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1976.
- Wallis, Jim. *Faith Works: Lessons from the Life of an Activist Preacher (revised)*. New York. Random House, 2001.

Schedule (Tentative):

Tuesday, 1/16

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| 1:00p | Arrive at Mission Waco Training Center, 628 N. 15 th St., Waco, TX |
| 2:00 | Orientation and Lecture #1- <i>Basic Essentials of Urban Ministry & Christian Community Development: Theology and Practice</i> |
| 3:30 | Break |
| 3:45 | Ministry Connection A: "Other Side of Waco Tour" |
| 6:00 | Dinner |
| 7:00 | Ministry Connection B: <i>MBK Homeless Shelter devotional</i> |

Wednesday, 1/17

7:30 Breakfast
8:30 Lecture/Discussion #2: *"Orthopraxy: Changing Our Cities Based on a Holistic Biblical Theology"*
9:20 Break
9:45 Lecture/Discussion #3: *How theologies affect our view of poverty, evil and action* (Dorrell)
11:15 Break
11:30 Lunch- Ministry Connection C-*Tuesday "Tune-Up"* (Meyer Center)
1:00 Ministry Connection D: *Alcohol/Drug Rehab* (Vincent Hartsfield)
3:00 Ministry Connection E: *Children & Youths Program*
5:45 Dinner at *Manna House*

Thursday, 1/18

6:15 Breakfast at Meyer Center (1226 Washington)
8:30 Debrief MBK shelter time
9:00 Lecture/Discussion #4: *"Empowerment vs. Relief"* (Dorrell)
10:00 Break
10:15 Ministry Connection F: *Real Life Scavenger Hunt*
3:00 Debrief
3:45 Break
6:00 Dinner *"World Banquet"*
7:15 Video: *Global Poverty* (and discussion)

Friday, 1/19

6:00a Ministry Connection I: *Homeless Breakfast (First Lutheran Church)*
8:45 (Ministry Connection G: Jubilee Center:
1. *Fair Trade Discussion*
2. *Performing & Visual Arts*
10:45 Games and Initiatives
12:15 Lunch on your own
1:45 Lecture #5: *"Asset-Based Community Development"* (Dorrell)
3:30 Ministry Connection H: *Children, Youth or Adult group time (attend your choice)*
6:00 Dinner
7:00 Lecture and Discussion #6: *Renewal of the Church to Impact Cities* (Dorrell)

Saturday, 1/20

7:30 a.m. Breakfast- World Cup Café
10:00 Ministry Connection K: *"King's Clubs" in housing complexes*
12:00 Lunch (TBD)
1:00 Lecture and Discussion #7: *Racial and Class Reconciliation*
2:30 Break and Free time
7:00 Dinner & Ministry Connection J: *Devotional at Homeless Shelter ("My Brother's Keeper")*

Sunday, 1/21

7:30a Breakfast
9:45 Ministry Connection M: *"Recovery Group" at Church Under the Bridge*
11:00 Ministry Connection N: *Worship- Church Under the Bridge*
12:30-1:30 Lunch and Evaluation, Clean up and Departure