The following syllabus is the teaching and learning guide for the last time this course was taught. It will give you a good idea of the descriptions of the course, how it was taught, the reading, the papers and other assignments, the intended outcomes, and the workload. By examining this syllabus and others, you will be able to form an impression of what graduate theological education at Phillips Theological Seminary requires of students.

Due to periodic curriculum revisions, course names and/or numbers may be different on this syllabus than what the name and/or number of the current offered course may be.

This syllabus is provided for your information only. The faculty reserves the right to revise the curriculum, and each professor reserves the right to decide how best to meet the learning goals of the curriculum. Therefore, the following syllabus is an historical artifact rather than a promise of how the course will be taught in the future, or that the course will be taught again.

By Phillips Theological Seminary copyright policy, the syllabus is the intellectual property of the individual faculty member, with usage rights granted to PTS. Please contact the copyright owner if you seek to use the syllabus, for other than your personal enrichment.
CC 683 MINISTRY IN THE URBAN CONTEXT

DR. GEORGE E. YOUNG, SR.

geysr@aol.com

(405) 819.3435

LOCATION:  LANGSTON UNIVERSITY CAMPUS OKC, 4205 N. LINCOLN BLVD. RM. 144

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will be an interactive experience consisting of both theological and programmatic structuring of faith based institutions, for the effective and efficient work of ministry in an urban/organizational setting. Theological foundations will be established to plan, implement and manage community development and ministry through the practice of ministry. The connection between community and ministry will be the basis of this practice and will be explored. The development of an understanding how the congregation and the community have a responsibility to not only be “in the community, but of the community.”

STRATEGIES EMPLOYED: We will be engaging in some preliminary research within our ministry settings, reading/significant points of interest or awareness in one page reports, group discussions and feedback, ministry/non-profit leaders presenting, writing assignments to develop a comprehensive plan.

PREREQUISITE COURSE: None.

COURSE CALENDAR: Monday, June 17 through Friday, June 21, Friday, 8:30 to noon-1:30 to 5:15.

COURSE POLICY:

“At PTS, class attendance and engaged participation are very important. Every member of the faculty and student community is, in fact, both teacher and learner. Therefore, a class absence means more than merely a missed delivery of educational content. It also means the irrecoverable loss of a unique dialogical ‘learning-through-teaching’ opportunity for oneself and others. In view of this understanding, PTS has an established Attendance Policy that states: Any student who misses 20% or more of the class contact hours for a course, for any reason, cannot pass or successfully audit that course. The intention of the policy is not to be punitive, but to recognize that students should retake courses for credit if they miss a significant number of the class contact hours. The 20% rule holds for online classes as well. In an online class, the instructor will set forth in the syllabus the requirements for what constitutes class attendance. The standard may change from week to week depending on the assignment. Typically, attendance is measured by the number of quality posts-per-week on the discussion board or other activities. The instructor sets the minimum number of posts-per-week required for a student to be considered present. If a student fails to make that minimum number of posts-per-week, s/he will be considered absent for the week. If a student is absent for 20% or more of the semester, s/he cannot pass the course.”

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
1. Gain insight into the history of your particular congregation or ministry setting in response to the needs of the community (Context).

2. To develop the ability to create and utilize a theological and/or Christological base of foundation for community and urban ministry (Cause).

3. To develop a fluid plans of congregational transformation an implementation to meet the needs and purpose of the community (Create).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. CLASS ATTENDANCE-Policy dictates that missing one day of this class or the equivalent number of hours that make up a class day cannot pass or successfully audit this class.

2. CLAASSS PARTICIPATION-Each student will be expected to make contributions to class discussions based on not only their ministry settings but the settings of other class members and reading assignments. Each student will make at least one class presentation and two if time allows.

3. Class Papers-There will be one major paper with four distinct parts built on the sequential work of the previous paper. There will be a one page summary of each reading assignment and each class member will evaluate presentations of their peers on forms provided.

GRADING:

1. Attendance 25%
2. Presentations 25% (one maybe two if time allows)
3. Summaries 10% (five)
4. Major Paper 40% (Four Parts: Overview; 2. Theological or Christological foundation; 3. The Proposed Project and 4. The Impact, Sustainability and evaluation.

CLASS SCHEDULE

JUNE 17

Review Course Syllabus and address questions or concerns

Reading Due: “Do You See This Woman?” A Christological Reflection On The Community Ministry Of One Congregation by George E. Young, Sr

Beyond Charity: The Call To Christian Community Development by John M. Perkins

Discussion and Lecture Topic: Where does ministry and community development intersect? Who and what causes the intersection? Is it a profitable intersection?

Assignments Due: One page summary of reading (Perkins only).

JUNE 18

Reading Due: Christological Justification and Explanation (Page 24 in Young)
Discussion and Lecture Topic: Why a theological or Christological foundation to the work of community development and urban ministry?

Assignments Due: 3-5 page paper on the identity of your ministry setting, history, demographics, social and cultural aspects that make it unique.

Presentations

One page summary of reading

JUNE 19

Reading Due: Church on the Edge of Somewhere

Discussion and Lecture Topic: What does successful collaboration of ministry and community resources look like? What does or would it look like in your community? What makes both successful?

Assignments Due: 3-5 page paper on the theological or Christological basis for ministry. Selected passage that represents why ministry ought to exist and what added value does it bring to the lives of those it will be impacting.

Presentations

One page summary of reading

June 20

Reading Due: One Size Fits All (Chapters 2 -5)

Discussion and Lecture Topic: Leadership roles and styles to implement a transformative process in ministry and community. How important is the “right” leadership in this process?

Presentations

One page summary of reading

June 21

Discussions and Lecture Topic: Implementation and Evaluation

Presentations

Closing concerns and review of due dates

Final Assignment due on July 8. Ministry Proposal: The Plan, the Organizational Structure, The Financial Plan (if needed), Maintenance and Evaluation. Re-writes are due on July 8th as well and a one page summary of With Justice for All.
“In accord with regulations announced by the United States Department of Education in October 2010, the PTS faculty defines one semester-hour of academic credit as that which may be granted for successfully completing over the course of a semester a set of required learning activities representing approximately forty-five clock hours of graduate-level study. The workload/credit calculations related to the documentation of student learning are based on projections of the minimum time that a typical PTS student should anticipate spending in each course in direct instruction by the instructor(s), recommended reading and library research, synchronous and asynchronous online discussion, creative theological reflection and writing, content review and testing procedures, and other appropriate educational assignments designed by the instructor to ensure that students achieve the learning objectives of the course as published in the course syllabus.”

BOOK LIST

REQUIRED READING

“Do You See This Woman?” A Christological Reflection On The Community Ministry Of One Congregation

By George E. Young, Sr. (This is my completed Major Project Report for my D. Min. Program) I will make available.

Beyond Charity: The Call To Christian Community Development by John M. Perkins

With Justice for All: A Strategy for Community Development by John M. Perkins

Church on The Edge of Somewhere: Ministry, Marginality, and the Future by George B. Thompson, Jr.

One Size Doesn’t Fit All by Gary L. McIntosh

Suggested Reading on Subject Matter

Urban Churches Vital Signs: Beyond Charity Toward Justice by Nile Harper

Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities by Ruby K. Payne, Ph.D., Philip DeVol and Terie Dreussi Smith

The Kingdom, the City & the People of God: Urban Ministry by Harvie M. Conn & Manuel Ortiz

Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times: Being Calm and Courageous No Matter What by Peter L. Steinke

The Significance of the Church by Robert McAfee Brown