

REGENT COLLEGE

APPL/INDS 604: URBAN ANTHROPOLOGY AND MISSION

Dr. Charles Ringma

Fall, 2001

Thursdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

3 graduate credit hours

(Register as APPL/INDS304 for 3 CCS credit hours)

Course Description

This course is a combination of lectures, theological reflection, fieldwork and the conceptualization of appropriate ministry responses. The course examines contemporary rapid urbanization; develops a theology of the city and urban ministry; provides the student with basic research skills; provides sources for theological reflection on the problems and opportunities for mission that urbanization has created; and finally, assists the student in developing appropriate ministry strategies.

Course Objectives

1. To identify the nature, problems and opportunities of rapid urbanization.
2. To understand the contribution of urban anthropology for an analysis of urban centres.
3. To develop basic anthropological research skills through an out-of-class research project.
4. To develop theological perspectives on the problems and opportunities in the growth of large urban centres.
5. To develop appropriate ministry strategies for bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ and bringing about social transformation in our large cities.

Academic Requirements And Time Investment

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| | <u>3 cr hrs</u> |
| Lectures: 2 hrs per week | 12 hrs |
| Reading and Book Summaries | 28 hrs |
| Fieldwork and Presentations * | 70 hrs |
| Final Report * (2,500 words) | <u>25 hrs</u> |
| TOTAL | 135 hrs |

* NOTE: the class will be divided into groups of 4-5 students. The fieldwork, in-class presentations and the final report will be group projects and the members of the group will be awarded the same mark.

Assignments:

1. Book Summaries.

Two or three books from the bibliography or related literature (approx. 400 pp.) should be read and summarized (3 pp. per book). It is recommended that different members of the group read different books.

2. Field Work.

The various groups of students will focus on a particular part of the city, neighbourhood, ethnic community, etc. They will profile the area, do participant observation, interviews, and identify the extent to which the church is or is not responding to that particular community or target group. An initial and follow-up class report will be made by each group to facilitate mutual learning.

3. Final Report.

Summarizes the field-work findings and formulates a mission/ministry response. This response should be framed within the broad issues of urbanization, a theology of the city, and the demographics of the Greater Vancouver area. The report will incorporate insights gleaned from the book summaries but will particularize these in the light of the field-work findings.

Evaluation

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|--------------------------|-----------------|
| | <u>3 cr hrs</u> |
| Book Summaries | 25 % |
| Field Work Presentations | 25 % |
| Final Report | 50 % |

Bibliography

A. General Textbooks on Urban Anthropology

Eames, E. & Goode, J.G., 1977, *Anthropology of the City: An Introduction to Urban Anthropology*, Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall

Fox, R.G., 1977, *Urban Anthropology: Cities in their Cultural Settings*, Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall

Giddens, Anthony, 1989, *Sociology*, Cambridge: Polity Press

Hannerz, Ulf, 1980, *Exploring the City: Inquiries Toward An Urban Anthropology*, New York: Columbia University Press

Press, Irwin and Smith, M.Estelle, 1980, *Urban Place and Process: Readings in the Anthropology of Cities*, New York: Macmillan

Rogers, Alisdair and Vertovec, Steven (eds.), 1995, *The Urban Context: Ethnicity, Social Networks and Situational Analysis*, Oxford: Berg Publishers
World Bank Infrastructure Group, Urban Development, 2000, *Cities in Transition*, Washington: The World Bank

B. Anthropological Research Methods

Babbie, E.R., 1979, *The Practice of Social Research*, Belmont: Wadsworth
Burgess, R.G. (ed.), 1982, *Field Research: A Source Book and Field Manual*, London: George Allen and Unwin
Ellen, R.F. (ed.), 1984, *Ethnographic Research*, London: Academic Books
Marshall, C. and Rossiman, G.B., 1989, *Designing Qualitative Research*, London: Sage
Spradley, J.P., 1980, *Participant Observation*, New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston
Strauss, A. and Corbin, J., 1990, *Basics of Qualitative Research: Grounded Theory Procedures and Techniques*, London: Sage

C. Greater Vancouver Regional Resources

Goldberg, M.A. and Mercer, J., 1986, *The Myth of the North American City: Continentalism Challenged*, Vancouver: UBC Press (UBC Library HT127.664)
Griffen, K., 1993, *Vancouver's Many Faces: Passport to the Cultures of a City* (UBC Library FC3847.9 A/675)
Hartley, L. (ed.), 1992, *Cities and Churches: An International Bibliography (3 Vols.)* London: Scarecrow Press (Regent/Carey BV637.H37)
Hasson and Ley, 1992, *Neighbourhood Organizations and the Welfare State*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press (UBC Library HN110.Z9 C65)
Martin, R.B., 1989, *Faith without Focus: Neighbourhood Transition and Religious Change in Inner-City Vancouver* MA Thesis (Geography) UBC
Mills, C.I., 1994, *The Social Geography of New Age Spirituality in Vancouver*, MA Thesis (Geography) UBC
Ward, P. and McDonald, A.J., 1981, *British Columbia: Historical Readings*, Vancouver: UBC Press (UBC Library FC3811.7.B75)
Wynn, G. and Oke, T. (eds.), 1992, *Vancouver and its Region*, Vancouver: UBC Press (UBC Library FC3847.3 V 345)

D. Christian Perspectives and Urban Ministry

Ahern, G. & Davie, G., 1987, *Inner City God*, London: Hodder & Stoughton
Bakke, R., 1987, *The Urban Christian*, Downers Grove: IVP
Bennett, G.W., 1983, *Effective Urban Ministry*, Nashville: Broadman
Bong, Rin Ro, (ed.), 1989, *Urban Ministry in Asia: Cities the Exploding Missionfield*, Taiwan: ATA
Claerbaut, D., 1983, *Urban Ministry*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan

- Conn, H.M., 1987, *A Clarified Vision for Urban Mission: Dispelling the Urban Stereotypes*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan
- Conn, H.M., 1994, *The American City and the Evangelical Church*, Grand Rapids: Baker
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- Duncan, M., 1996, *Costly Mission: Following Christ into the Slums*, Melbourne: World Vision
- Forster, G. (ed.), 1988, *Hope in the City*, New York: Grove
- Greenway, R., 1979, *Disciple the City*, Grand Rapids: Baker
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- Grigg, V., 1992, *Cry of the Urban Poor*, Monrovia: MARC
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- Hunter III, G.G., 1996, *Church for the Unchurched*, Nashville: Abingdon
- Linthicum, R.C., 1991, *City of God, City of Satan: A Biblical Theology of the Urban Church*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan
- Meyers, E.S. (ed.), 1992, *Envisioning the New City: A Reader on Urban Ministry*, Louisville: Westminster/John Knox
- Pannell, W., 1992, *Evangelism from the Bottom Up: What is the Meaning of Salvation in a World Gone Urban?*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan
- Perkins, J.M. (ed.), 1995, *Restoring At-Risk Communities*, Grand Rapids: Baker
- Posterski, D. and Nelson, G., 1997, *Future Faith Churches*, Winfield: Woodlake Books
- Sider, R.J., 1993, *One-Sided Christianity? Uniting the Church to Heal a Lost and Broken World*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan
- Tonna, B., 1982, *A Gospel for the Cities: A Socio-Theology of Urban Ministry*, Maryknoll: Orbis
- Van Engen, C., & Tiersma, J. (eds.), 1994, *God So Loves the City: Seeking a Theology for Urban Mission*, Monrovia: MARC
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