

COURSE SYLLABUS

Urban Mission and Ministry

Course Lecturer: Roger S. Greenway, ThD
Former Professor of World Missiology at Calvin Theological Seminary

Course Description

As the cities go, the world goes—politically, intellectually, economically, socially, and religiously. This course addresses Christian mission and ministry in the world’s growing cities. A biblical basis for urban ministry is presented and case studies of effective urban strategies worldwide are examined. The course provides key logistics, strategies, models, and insights from one of the leading experts in urban missiology. Throughout the lessons the instructor emphasizes *holistic* ministry, i.e., meeting all needs: social, civil, and political, as well as the spiritual.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, you should be able to:

- Articulate the biblical and theological framework for urban ministry.
- Evaluate contemporary urban ministries in light of biblical principles.
- Recognize various models of effective urban church planting/ministry.
- Synthesize course content into a workable urban ministry paradigm.
- Assess one’s giftedness and calling in light of God’s call to evangelize and minister to urban populations.

Course Lecturer



Roger S. Greenway, ThD

Education:

- Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, ThD
- Calvin Theological Seminary, BD and ThM
- Calvin College, BA

Teaching Career:

- Named Missionary in Residence and Research Fellow at Yale Divinity School

- Missionary in Residence, Calvin College
- Dean of Students, Calvin College
- Professor of World Missiology, Calvin College
- Professor, Westminster Seminary (1982-1986)
- Courses taught at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and Fuller Theological Seminary
- Lecturer at various schools and institutions throughout North, Central, and South America; active at schools in Canada, France, and Venezuela
- Extensive research on various missiological topics and considered a specialist in global urbanization, church growth, and anthropology and intercultural communication

Other Career Highlights:

- Executive Director of Christian Reformed World Ministries (1986-1990)
- Numerous pastoral roles
- Coordinator for the CRC's Spanish Literature Committee (1972-1980)
- Area Secretary for Latin America Board for World Missions (1972-1978)
- Missionary in Mexico (1963-1970)
- Missionary in Sri Lanka (1958-1962)
- Member of the Foreign Bible Society
- Highly influential in Jewish outreach
- Named a member of the Lausanne Committee for Jewish Evangelism
- Recipient of numerous awards in dogmatics, Jewish evangelism, and preaching
- Editor of *The Herald* (1960-1962) and *Urban Mission* (1983-1990)
- Membership in several professional and honorary societies

Publications:

- Numerous books written in English and Spanish, in addition to the other 12 languages into which his materials have been translated
- Among his most notable books are *Go and Make Disciples!: An Introduction to Christian Missions, Guidelines for Urban Planting, Cities: Missions' New Frontier*, and *Discipling the City: A Comprehensive Approach to Urban Mission*
- Contributor to various missiological dictionaries and encyclopedias

Recommended Reading

Though not required, you may choose to read the articles shown below to supplement your learning.

Claerbaut, David. "The Urban Church and the Urban Minister." In *Urban Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan (1983), 189-210.

Greenway, Roger. "Jeremiah: How to be a City Saint." In *Apostle to the City: Biblical Strategies for Urban Missions*. Grand Rapids: Baker (1979), 29-42.

_____. "Don't Be an Urban Missionary Unless..." *Evangelical Missions Quarterly* 19:2 (April 1983): p. 86-94.

_____. *Guidelines for Urban Planting*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1976. Chapters 1, 2, and 8.

Reeder, Harry L. "Revitalizing a Dying Church." In *The Pastor-Evangelist: Preacher, Model, and Mobilizer for Church Growth*, ed. Roger S. Greenway. Philadelphia: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing (1987): 162-181.

Textbooks can be ordered through your local bookstore, various online bookstores, or through your preferred eReader when available.

Course Methods

The lecture content for each lesson is provided in two easy-to-use formats: audio and PDF text (if available). Students can choose the medium (or combination of media) that most closely aligns with their individual learning styles.

Course Assessment and Requirements

To earn a Certificate of Completion, you must complete the course requirements. Course requirements include:

1. Listening to all 24 audio lectures.
2. Completing a final self-assessment form in which you will reflect on the content in the course and evaluate your life in light of what you have learned. The specifics of this assessment are provided in the course materials.

Course requirements noted in this syllabus will be validated before a Certificate of Completion is awarded to any student.