



## MAS 653 Ministry in Diverse Communities, 2 hrs/3 CEU

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<b>Required Reading</b>	<p>Peters, Ronald, <i>Urban Ministry: An Introduction</i>. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0-687-64225-0. List \$21.00 (Please read Ch. 1 prior to class beginning).</p> <p>Lo, Jim, <i>Intentional Diversity: Creating Cross-cultural Ministry Relationships in Your Church</i>. Indianapolis: Wesleyan Publishing House, 2002. ISBN-13: 978-0-89827-242-0. List \$10.99</p>
<b>Recommended Reading</b>	<p>Bucher, Richard. <i>Diversity Consciousness, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.</i> Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall, 2003. ISBN 0-13-149111-X or Bucher, Richard. <i>Diversity Consciousness: Opening Our Minds to People, Cultures and Opportunities, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.</i> Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall, 2009. ISBN-13 97501350 14639 List \$34.40</p>

### Course Description:

This course explores the issues facing churches and other forms of ministry in diverse and typically urban communities. The course examines the challenges and the joy of the multicultural, multiracial, and multidimensional, inclusive ministry. Real life issues of funding, working with refugees, the homeless, the impoverished, the hungry and those needing health supports are discussed. Emphasis is on empowering and valuing all voices, and healing woundedness. The issues involved are applicable whether they define the complete ministry or only a segment, as in outreach or spiritual social action.

### Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. articulate the unique challenges of the ministry to diverse communities.
2. design plans for training volunteers for working with diverse populations within the church environment.
3. Examine personal areas of sensitivity to diversity.
4. Integrate learning through field studies.

The above learning objectives partially fulfill the following program outcomes for the Master of Divinity and the Certificate in Unity Ministry:

### Assignments:

1. Find Urban ministries online, Unity and non-Unity (look for Kansas City, also). How do the ministries look like the Unity church/center from which you came? What are they doing differently

if anything? What are some of the unique issues that urban ministries may have that your previous ministry did not have? Reflect on this difference. (If you came from an urban ministry, look at some Unity and other churches in the suburbs and discuss the same questions as above.)

2. Case study: This will be given in class. What are the strategies you would use? More instructions will be given.
3. Reflection on visit to urban ministries.

### **Selected Bibliography:**

Contact the faculty member for a copy of the complete syllabus.