Description of Topic

An introduction to the task of church planting in urban centers in North America, Europe, or the Two-Thirds world. Emphasis on *introduction* to the theology, research, and strategies pertaining to urban church planting.

- **Theology**: missiology, ecclesiology, theology of the city
- **Research**: anthropology, sociology, research approaches
- **Strategy**: models, principles, challenges, resources

Purpose

- **Motivational/developmental**: to develop student’s calling and skills
- **Equipping**: to introduce church planting issues, models, and principles for a church planter’s “toolkit.”
- **Pedagogical**: to train the student to teach and to lead others into church planting.
- **Doxological**: to glorify God through the academic learning process.

Objectives (measurable output and results)

- Each participant will become aware of major issues relating to urban church planting through bibliographical study, class discussion, and fieldwork.
- Each participant will have opportunity to assess his particular strengths and gifts for church planting ministry.
- Students will work in teams to analyze a particular urban setting and propose an appropriate church planting strategy.
- The class will attempt to make a real contribution to urban church planting through field work assisting or promoting an existing or eventual church plant.
Basic Texts


Assignments

- **Annotated bibliography** of 10 books and 5 recent articles pertaining to urban church planting. Use “survey” reading to compile a bibliography of works you would use to plant and teach urban church planting along with a brief (short paragraph) of how those particular works would be useful to you.
  
  **Due: Oct. 18**  
  **15%**

- **Book review** for class discussion, due according to sign-up schedule.
  
  **Due: Sept. – Oct.**  
  **10%**

- **Research project**: Practical analysis of a particular issue in urban church planting evidenced by a research project. [Bibliography + field trip]
  
  **Field Work**  
  **Oral report TBA in Nov; written report Nov. 22**  
  **15%**

- **Personal assessment** of church planting calling, gifts, and readiness. [Developed from MNA seminar Nov. 20 (cost $75) or other gift-analysis program.]
  
  **Due: Nov. 22**  
  **15%**

Exam:

- Your own **philosophy of urban church planting** (5-10 pp.) supported by an outline of principles for urban church planting (sanitized and personalized summary of class notes and observations).
  
  **Due: Nov. 29**  
  **20%**

- **Team project**: Urban church planting **strategy** for a specific location
  
  **Due: Nov. 29**  
  **10%**
Recommended Reading


Wagner, Peter C. 1999. *Churchquake: How the apostolic reformation is shaking up the church as we know it*. Ventura, California: Regal Books.
