Instructor: Gide Démosthène, DMin. Office Hours: Wed. 5:30p – 6:00p
Telephone: 617-427-7293 ext. 1634 Email: gdemosthene@gordonconwell.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION
MC622 is the second of two consecutive 13-session seminars. Combined, MC621 and MC622 integrate academic and group process seminars with applied research in an urban environment. Seminars feature lectures, reading discussions, personal sharing times and reflection on personal ministry experiences to foster a more holistic learning experience. Spouses are invited to attend seminar sessions.

This course was originally designed for those doing or preparing to do urban ministry. Now it is attracting increasing numbers of non-urban students. It is our observation that the city system is a capsule of broader reality; consequently, ministry factors and approaches that work in urban settings are applicable in all contexts. This is even truer now that many once unique urban factors, such as crime, drugs, ethnic diversity and social needs of the poor, have become true of suburban areas as well. This course is contextualized for urban ministry in the Haitian community.

Meeting Site: Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary-Boston, Center for Urban Ministerial Education, 90 Warren Street, Roxbury, MA 02119, Room 116.

Time: Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Parking: Street parking is available all around the campus. Extra parking spaces are available after 5:30 pm, on a first come first serve basis, at the rear of the Urban League facility at 88 Warren Street, Roxbury, MA 02119. After class, it is advisable to walk in group toward your vehicles at the parking lot.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
To develop Biblically-oriented, systems-thinking pastors and leaders who can:

- engage their self-understanding to cope with the difficulties of urban ministry and contribute to long-term and effective ministry in any environment;
- demonstrate an awareness / understanding of the richness and complexity about the city and ministry;
- move from analysis of an environment or problem to strategies designed to accomplish relevant Christian goals in that context;
- analyze and discuss their ministries in the form of an applied research paper, and express their opinions in essays and class discussions.

Texts
Texts are available at the CUME bookstore.

It is expected that students are currently involved in supervised, mentored, or other ministry. The time spent in this ministry is not part of the study load of the course. We estimate that students will need to spend about ten hours a week on the course in addition to their normal ministerial responsibilities.

Typical Class Schedule:
6:30 – 6:40 Worship and Opening Prayer
6:40 – 6:50 Announcements and Reflection
6:50 – 7:15 Critical Incidents
7:15 – 8:50 Lecture
8:50 – 9:00 Break
9:00 – 9:30 Discussion Groups

*Syllabus is subject to minor changes, such as a possible change of date for guest speakers.*

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING

1. Ministry Proposal Project 75%
   *Personal Analysis due Sep. 21
   *Five-part Annotated Outline due Oct. 19
   *Ministry Proposal Project w/ Mentor’s Critique due Nov. 16

2. Class Participation 25%
   Attendance & class participation
   Critical Incident, p. 5 sign up for date
   Readings: % reading completed due Dec. 21

* Papers must be typed & double-spaced in 12-pt. font.
* Bring 1 hard copy of each assignment to class
* Additionally, you may send electronic (email) versions of the Personal Analysis, Five-part Annotated Outline, and Ministry Proposal Project to (gdemosthene@gordonconwell.edu)

Work Submission
- Graduating students must submit work by December 9, 2011.
- You may pick up all graded work at the CUME library after January 21, 2012.
## SPRING 2011 LECTURE & ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture Topic and/or Assignment Due</th>
<th>Lecturer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep. 14</td>
<td>Course Overview&lt;br&gt;A New Age with a New Vision for Redeeming Ministries</td>
<td>Demosthene</td>
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<td>Sep. 21</td>
<td>Holistic Ministry In the Local Church: The Apostolic Calling</td>
<td>Demosthene</td>
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<td>Sep. 28</td>
<td>Transformational Leadership Amidst Traditional Church Systems <em>(Personal Analysis Due)</em></td>
<td>Demosthene</td>
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<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>A Theology of Prayer for Global Systemic Transformation (Personal analysis due)</td>
<td>B. Bose</td>
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<td><strong>Oct. 10-14</strong></td>
<td><strong>READING WEEK: Work on Course Assignments at Home</strong>&lt;br&gt;No Class</td>
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<td>Oct. 19</td>
<td>Re-Evaluating Your Approach to Ministry: Discipleship with a Christ-like Attitude &amp; Purpose&lt;br&gt;(Five-part Annotated Outline)</td>
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<td>Oct. 26</td>
<td>Working Effectively in and through the Living System: Envisioning &amp; Applying God’s Living System</td>
<td>Demosthene</td>
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<td>Nov. 2</td>
<td>Focusing on the Urban Youth: Empowering a New Generation of Faithful Christian Leaders</td>
<td>Gibson</td>
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<td><strong>Nov. 7-11</strong></td>
<td><strong>READING WEEK: Work on Course Assignments at Home</strong>&lt;br&gt;No Class</td>
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<td>Nov. 16</td>
<td>The History and Growth of Haitian Churches in Boston&lt;br&gt;Planting Effective Churches <em>(Ministry Proposal Project Due)</em></td>
<td>Vedrine</td>
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<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>Christ’s Ministry of Reconciliation: The Implication for Contemporary Haitian Church Ministries</td>
<td>Demosthene</td>
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<td>Nov. 30</td>
<td>Ministering to Families: Family Law and the Ministry of the Local Church – <em>(Spouses are invited to attend)</em></td>
<td>Demosthene</td>
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<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td>The Really Big Picture: A Ministry that Breathes New Life in its People and Community – Urban Boston&lt;br&gt;(Written Work due for January 2012 Graduates)</td>
<td>Seong Park</td>
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<td>Dec. 9</td>
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<td>Dec. 14</td>
<td>Empowered to Serve the Least of These: The Ultimate task of Servant Leaders</td>
<td>Demosthene</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 21</td>
<td>Partnering with God: Leading Transformational Kingdom Church Ministries <em>(Written Work Due for Fall 2011 Term)</em></td>
<td>Demosthene</td>
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GUIDELINES FOR ORAL CONTRIBUTIONS

1. Sharing Your Critical Incident
   - Sign up for a day to share.
   - Oral presentation should be 5 minutes of less. (Presentations will be timed, and you will be asked to stop at 5 minutes, so plan accordingly.)
   - Turn in a written version of your critical incident the day you present. This can be in notes or bullet-point form. (The purpose of this is (a) help you plan your content, and (b) if you run out of time, your instructor can still see the content you couldn’t cover.)
   - Use the questions below to help you shape your presentation.

Describe the most critical incident in your ministry in the past year. A critical incident can be a personal involvement that may have caused anxiety, or it may have been an event that was exceptionally gratifying. In any case, it should be some experience that can be marked as the high point or low point of the year. Try to cover as many of the following areas as possible:

1. What happened during the event? Include critical verbal and non-verbal communication involved, and your responses.
2. What were your feelings during the incident? How do you feel about it now?
3. Why do you feel this was a high or a low point?
4. If there were other people involved, what were their emotions?
5. If a low point, what were some other ways you might have responded? If a high point, what were any new insights or growth you gained as a result?
6. How do you understand or make sense of this incident theologically?

2. Discussion Groups
   A. The class will be divided into equal size discussion groups.
      - The discussion groups will follow the lecture each week.
      - Discussion will be based on the readings assigned for that week as well as the lecture.
   B. Participation in class discussions will be factored into your grade at the end of the term. Overall, class participation accounts for 25% of your overall grade, so please do the reading and come prepared to ask questions and discuss what you are learning with your fellow students.
1. **Personal Analysis – due October 5, 2011**
   Some urban ministries are often associated with a higher-than-average potential for ministerial burn-out. This assignment asks you to engage in some self-analysis and reflection, particularly as it relates to the ministry you are seeking to perform and to write about in your ministry proposal project. This personal analysis will be kept confidential, and should include the following topics (which should be sub-headings in your paper; do not exceed 5 pages total for sections a through h):
   a) Your personal calling, as you presently understand it;
   b) Your personal success history;
   c) Your strengths, talents, and spiritual gifts;
   d) Your weaknesses and limitations;
   e) Your personal goals;
   f) Your support systems (primary culture, relational);
   g) Your accountability systems (secondary culture);
   h) How you will apply your strengths and your weaknesses to future ministry;
   i) Feedback from a close and trusted friend on sections a - h. The purpose of this is to have another perspective on how you see yourself. (Show a friend a draft of sections a – h. Ask them to write a one-page response, giving you feedback, critique, suggestions, affirmation. Include their written response as section i of your paper.)

   **Evaluation:** 10 points for each of the nine categories (a – i); 10 points for writing elements.

2. **Mentor’s Contract – due September 28**
   The mentor’s contract is included in the packet you received on the first day of class and explains the role of the mentor in the writing of your ministry proposal project.

3. **Annotated Outline – due October 26**
   This outline will briefly describe how you will develop your ministry proposal project, and should have five parts. See Ministry Proposal Project, #4 below (p. 13), below for more details about each category, and refer to Annotated Outline examples on CAMS.
a) Community study

b) Analysis of your church or organization

c) Analysis of two ministry models

d) Description of your ministry

e) Evaluation

Submit one copy (hard copy and by e-mail) and one copy to your mentor for feedback to help improve your final paper. Your mentor’s comments (critique) will be submitted with your Ministry Proposal Project (below) on September 30.

4. Ministry Proposal Project – due October 26

The writing of this paper is an opportunity for you to put on paper the dream or vision for ministry that you sense God is calling you to do, or that you would like to do. Even if you are not sure of your calling, this is a chance for you to plan out what would be involved in the ministry you envision.

In writing this paper, imagine that you are proposing your ministry idea to your pastor or denomination, or that you are writing a grant proposal to a foundation. Your goal is for your ministry to be approved by your pastor or denomination, or funded by the foundation. You need to give them enough information to clearly envision your ministry. They need to be able to understand why it is needed, what it will entail, and what the outcomes will be. Ask your mentor/pastor if they would approve and help develop this project based on what you have written.
This paper has nine parts, described below.

Length: 20 - 30 pages

a) **Cover Page, Abstract, & Keywords** (10 points for a, b, and h together)
   - An **abstract** is a one-sentence summary of the main point of your paper.
   - **Keywords** will enable a search for your paper, such as “youth ministry,” “Dorchester,” or “Assemblies of God.”

b) **Executive Summary**
   A one-page summary of your paper, including the need for your ministry, a description of the ministry, and what you hope to accomplish. Write the summary so that it tells the whole story (albeit briefly).

c) **Community Analysis** (10 points)
   Using data from your previous community analysis research project, discuss why the proposed ministry is needed in the target area. Work done in MC621 can be used here, but develop the material and data interpretation to support your focus.
   Include specific data and statistics that support your case (giving sources and dates, as appropriate). Use data from the study and other sources and make a case for the need for your proposed ministry.

d) **Analysis of Church or Organization** (10 points)
   Analyze the organization through which you will do the ministry you are envisioning.
   - If a church, use the “Guide for Church Studies” as the basis for your approach.
   - If not a church, such as a parachurch or a secular agency, you can adapt the “Guide to Church Studies” or otherwise analyze the organization’s system.

   Present in your paper an overview of each area in the “Guide for Church Studies” (History, Transitions, Present Status, Evangelistic Outreach). Highlight information and insights that are most relevant to your proposed ministry, and use them to show how suitable this organization is for your ministry. Include concerns the ministry or the host organization may have, and possible resolutions or responses.

e) **Two Models** (10 points each; 20 total)
   Identify two existing ministries which have been operating for at least two years each
and that are similar to what you intend to do. These are called “models” or “ministry examples,” and should not be confused with the “mental models” of systems thinking.

- **Describe** each ministry model. Include a **brief history** of their development.
- **Discuss key mistakes** they made that you want to avoid, and **key strengths** that you want to emulate or adapt.
- Describe aspects of each ministry model that are most **relevant** to the concerns of your paper, and/or those that are most **different**.

f) **Your Ministry** (20 points)

Here develop your vision and plans for your ministry.

- Include a detailed **description** of the proposed ministry, **goals** you hope to achieve, and expected **outcomes**.
- Include **staffing** (who will do the work).
- If funding is needed, include a **budget** that gives both sources of income and expenses (how funds will be spent).
- Discuss how your ministry **fits** into the context of your **church** or **organization**, and how you will implement what you learned from studying the **two models**.

g) **Evaluation** (10 points)

Briefly answer each of the following questions:

- How will you know that your ministry is effective?
- What data will you track to tell?
- How will you know if your ministry is being counterproductive?
- How will you could monitor the progress of your ministry to be in a Redemptive rather than Works paradigm.

h) **Bibliography**

List all resources for information you used in your paper, including those from the internet, readings and class sessions, following proper conventions.

i) **Mentor’s Critique, Instructor’s Feedback, & Annotated Outline** (10 points)

Attach the critique from your mentor, the feedback on your outline from your instructor, and your annotated outline (written assignment #3). It is important to heed the advice of your mentor as your write the final draft. This section (i) will not be
counted towards the page number total of your project.

j) **Writing Elements** (10 points)
   This would include elements such as organization of your paper, composition, grammar, punctuation, etc.

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<td>If you use someone else’s words in your writing, those words must be put in quotation marks and properly referenced. If you use someone else’s ideas in your writing, those ideas must be properly referenced. Using someone else’s words or ideas as if they were your own is called plagiarism. Plagiarism is not permitted in this class (or at CUME generally), and is grounds for failure of the class.</td>
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