Church and Community: 
Introduction to the Public Ministry of the Church (MC/SE 602) 

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“You are the salt of the earth... 
You are the light of the world.”
Matthew 5: 13-16

I. Course Objectives: The Student:

A. Develops his or her understanding of the biblical and theological basis of the public ministry of the Church

B. Develops his or her biblical, theological and social ethical reflection on the Mission of the Church and public ministry.

C. Develops an understanding of types of action which the Christian and the Church can take for faithful public ministry

II. Textbooks

Required:


Recommended:


III. Course Requirements:

A. Common Reading: As a background for course and class lecture/discussion, the student should complete required readings (whole book) by the first day of class.

B. Critical Analysis and Reflection on three Required Texts:

As you read the books, select two key themes/ideas in each book that will be helpful to your ministry.

Provide a brief three-page analysis of each of the following books:
   a) Sabbath in the City, by Stone and Wolfeich;
   b) The Externally Focused Quest, by Swanson and Rusaw; and,
   c) Faith Works, by Wallis.

Due date: December 4th, 2011. Please email to elianarunyon@hotmail.com. No printed copy is necessary.

D. Final Paper:

Based on class lectures, course required readings, bibliographical resources, and your knowledge, prepare a sermon, Bible study or academic paper on one of the following themes/issues:

1. The Biblical Basis for Public Ministry
2. Justice and the Public Ministry of the Church
3. Politics and the Public Witness of the Church
4. The Public Ministry of Jesus
5. The Christian Community as a Public Church

Paper should be 8-10 pages long (not counting cover sheet and bibliography).
Due date: December 4th, 2011.
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IV. Grade Evaluation

Your class grade will be evaluated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Readings</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical Analysis and Reflection</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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</tbody>
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Minus any penalty for unfulfilled requirements (e.g. regular attendance, late papers).
Course Outline

Introduction

A. “Knowing Each Other”
B. Scope, Objectives, Method and Requirements of Course
C. Defining our Theme

I. Biblical and Theological Basis of the Public Ministry of the Church

A. The Jeremiah Paradigm for the city (The theological concept of *Shalom*)
B. A Theology of Prayer: The City and Spirituality
C. The Church and Its Public Ministry: Lessons from Jesus

II. The Church and its Public Witness

A. The Classical Missiological Categories of the Church’s Mission
B. Justice Towards the Poor

III. Social *Diakonia*: The Public Ministry of the Church

A. Typology of Social *Diakonia*
B. Towards Faith-Based Community Organizing: Saturday Workshop
**Selected Bibliography**


____________. *Empowering the Poor: Community Organizing Among the City’s “Rag, Tag, and Bobtail.”* Monrovia, CA: MARC, 1991.


