



Malyon
THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

EM011-612/712/812 Mission in the Urban Context

Unit Guide 1st Semester 2021



Malyon Theological College
is an approved institution of the
Australian College of Theology

As an affiliated college of the Australian College of Theology,
Malyon Theological College is approved to deliver this unit (CRICOS 02650E)

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UNIT DETAILS

Unit Description

This unit is a combination of lectures, presentations, visits, fieldwork, reflections and the conceptualisation of appropriate mission responses. The course develops a theology of the city and urban ministry, explores the contemporary urban context; provides sources for theological reflection on the problems and opportunities for mission that urbanization has created; and finally, assists the student in developing appropriate ministry strategies.

Unit Details

Credit points

- 12

Co- and Pre-requisites

- None

Exclusions

- None

Census date

- 20 August 2021

End date

- 5 November 2021

Unit Content

The unit is made up of the following sections and sub-sections:

Content

Section A: Biblical Foundations

1. Biblical views of creation, the city; aspects of the prophetic message; corporate sin and structural evil;
2. The life, ministry and teaching of Jesus, with special reference to the issues of poverty, wealth, justice and power; the theology of the cross; responses of the early church to gospel ministry and discipleship in urban contexts.
3. Theological perspectives on concepts such as 'incarnational', 'sign and agent', and 'Kingdom of God' within the context of urban mission.

Section B: Understanding the Urban Context

1. An overview of the history of urbanisation around the world;
2. Urbanisation as a cultural phenomenon; the impact of pluralism, mobility and anonymity on church structures in the urban context;
3. Approaches to mission which have been and are being applied in the urban context;

Section C: Evaluation of Mission Structures in Urban Contexts

1. Traditional approaches to urban mission and their relevance to different urban contexts today;
2. Evaluating the necessity of, and approaches to the reformation of church structures; urban church models, including adaptations of parish models; base communities; house churches; cell churches.
3. Proclaiming the gospel in urban language, symbols and life-style that are appropriate to the specific cultural context.

Unit Outcomes – EM011-612

On successful completion of this unit, student should be able to:

A. Know and understand

[Demonstrate Developing](#) knowledge and understanding of contemporary urban mission.

B. Be able to

1. Establish the biblical foundations of urban mission
2. [Account for](#) urbanism and urban culture
3. Implement a culturally appropriate approach to contemporary urban mission

4. Present [Analytical](#) evidence-based perspectives on contemporary urban mission

C. Be in a position to

Apply perspectives and skills from 'Mission in the Urban Context' in ministry contexts

Unit Outcomes – EM011-712

On successful completion of this unit, student should be able to:

A. Know and understand

[Demonstrate Functional](#) knowledge and understanding of contemporary urban mission.

B. Be able to

1. [Discuss](#) the biblical foundations of urban mission
2. [Explain](#) urbanism and urban culture
3. Implement a culturally appropriate approach to contemporary urban mission
4. Present [Critical](#) evidence-based perspectives on contemporary urban mission

C. Be in a position to

Apply perspectives and skills from 'Mission in the Urban Context' to ministry practice as a reflective practitioner

Unit Outcomes – EM011-812

On successful completion of this unit, student should be able to:

A. Know and understand

[Demonstrate Advanced](#) knowledge and understanding of, and the research underlying, contemporary urban mission.

B. Be able to

1. [Examine](#) the biblical foundations of urban mission
2. [Interpret](#) urbanism and urban culture
3. Implement a culturally appropriate approach to contemporary urban mission

4. Present [Research-Aware](#) evidence-based perspectives on contemporary urban mission

C. Be in a position to

Apply perspectives and skills from 'Mission in the Urban Context' to ministry practice as a reflective practitioner

Participation Requirements

Contact and intensive students will be expected to attend no less than 80% of all lectures; while no less than 80% of non-assessed forum posts are the distance student's equivalent of classroom interaction. Contact and intensive students who are unable to attend lectures are required to submit an explanation of absence to the College, using the required form found on Moodle. Just as class attendance is compulsory for contact and intensive, forum participation is compulsory for distance students.

Participation requirements, though not assessed, are compulsory to the successful completion of all units of study

Workload Requirement

A unit will generally require about 10 hours per week for lectures for contact students or home study for distance students, preparation and revision, and assignment work over thirteen weeks. In addition, two study weeks are worked into each semester. Excluding the study weeks, this generally averages out as follows:

1. Contact students:
 - a. Lectures – 3 hours per week;
 - b. Preparation – 2 hours per week;
 - c. Assessments – 5 hours per week.
2. Distance students:
 - a. Home study; including forums and revisions – 5 hours per week;
 - b. Assessments – 5 hours per week.

Assessment Requirements – EM011-612

Students will be required to complete the following assessment requirements:

1. Requirement 1: Foundational Essay (20%, 1250 words)
2. Requirement 2: Field Report (30% 1750 words)
3. Requirement 3: Research Assignment (50%, 2000 words)

Assessment Requirements – EM011-712

Students will be required to complete the following assessment requirements:

1. Requirement 1: Foundational Essay (20%, 1500 words)
2. Requirement 2: Interview Report (30% 2000 words)
3. Requirement 3: Research Assignment (50%, 2500 words)

Assessment Requirements – EM011-812

Students will be required to complete the following assessment requirements:

1. Requirement 1: Foundational Essay (20%, 1750 words)
2. Requirement 2: Interview Report (30% 2300 words)
3. Requirement 3: Research Assignment (50%, 3000 words)

Learning Guides

Students should access the Learning Guides on the unit Moodle page for guidance through their studies.

Required Resources

In order to complete the unit, the student will be required to have access all the resources may be made available on Moodle, our Online Learning Centre.

Policies and Procedures

ACT Documents

All ACT Handbooks and policy documents are available on the ACT's home page, www.actheology.edu.au.

As, and when necessary, students should access these; however, special note should be taken of the following key policy documents:

1. Unit Moderation Policy.
2. Academic Misconduct Policy.
3. Academic Appeals Policy.

ACT Moderation Policy and Procedure

The ACT requires that all students familiarize themselves with the ACT Moderation Policy and Procedure, especially those studying at AQF levels 7 to 9.

To access the documents, click on the following hyperlinks:

[Moderation Policy](#)

[Moderation Procedure](#)

If that does not work, then do a search on the ACT homepage, www.actheology.edu.au, using the search phrase 'moderation policy,' then accessing the documents listed as 'Moderation Policy' and 'Moderation Procedure.'

Malyon Documents

All students are to ensure that they access and familiarize themselves with the latest version of the 'Student Assignment Guide,' available on Malyon's Moodle site.

Returning students need to check for any additions or changes at the commencement of the first semester of each calendar year.

UNIT LECTURER

Rev Dr Peter Francis DipT, BEd, MDiv, Grad Theol, MA (Theol), DMin

Peter Francis is Principal of Malyon Theological College, and lectures in the fields of Missions and Old Testament. Peter is married to Wendy who is the Queensland Director of the Australian Christian Lobby. Together they have three married children and ten grandchildren. After a 10-year career as a high school teacher, Peter entered into Pastoral ministry at Cleveland Baptist, having earned his Master of Divinity through Trinity Theological College (USA). Over the past 32 years Peter has pastored at Cleveland Baptist, Beenleigh Baptist and the City Tabernacle Baptist Church, as well as being involved in numerous short-term missions in places such as PNG, Bangladesh, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Belarus, Solomon Islands and South America. He has also given two years' service as a Regional Consultant with Queensland Baptists and has served on various mission boards such as the Far East Broadcasting Company and Global Interaction. Peter's theological studies include a Master of Divinity, a Graduate in Theology, a Master of Arts in Theology and a Doctor of Ministry. Contact details:



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LECTURE SCHEDULE

Mod	Date	Lecture Topic/s
1	14 July	Overview of history of urbanisation around the world & Urbanisation as a cultural phenomenon.
2	21 July	Biblical views of creation, the city; aspects of the prophetic message; corporate sin and structural evil.
3	28 July	Jesus – engagement with poverty, wealth, justice & power; theology of the cross; early church ministry in urban context.
4	4 Aug	Theological perspectives on ‘Kingdom of God’ in urban context & ‘incarnational ministry’.
S/W	11 Aug	Study Week 1
5	18 Aug	The impact of pluralism, mobility and anonymity on church structures in the urban context
6	25 Aug	Approaches to mission in the urban context past and present
	3 Sept	Friday Field Trip (full day) Approaches to mission being applied
	8 Sept	Visiting Lectures from Urban Mission Practitioners
7	15 Sept	Evaluating the necessity of, and approaches to the reformation of church structures; urban church models.
8	22 Sept	Proclaiming the gospel in culturally appropriate ways.
S/W	29 Sept	Study Week 2
	6 Oct	
	13 Oct	
	20 Oct	

Please Note: A full **Friday Field Trip** in the centre of Brisbane is scheduled for **Friday 3 September**.

This may require some rescheduling of your personal timetable. If so, please make arrangements early.

N.B. If you are doing this unit On-Demand and are not living *in* or *close* to Brisbane, meaning that you will be unable to attend the Friday Field Trip, please get in touch with your lecturer as soon as possible to negotiate other appropriate activities in leu of this planned Field Trip.

EM011-562 ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

EM011-612 Requirement 1: Foundational Essay

Write a 1250 word essay that reflects on the biblical significance of urban centres within the missional purposes of God, commenting particularly upon the significance of theological constructs such as ‘the kingdom of God’ and ‘incarnational ministry’. Your essay should also discuss Jesus’s embodiment of the missional purposes of God.

The **key assessment criteria** for this requirement are as follows:

1. Demonstration of a developing knowledge and understanding of the biblical significance of urban centres within the missional purposes of God.
2. Discussion of the significance of theological constructs such as ‘the kingdom of God’ and ‘incarnational ministry.’
3. Discussion of Jesus’s embodiment of the missional purposes of God
4. Well-written and presented.
5. Formatting aligned with the College’s ‘Student Assignment Guide’.

Learning outcomes assessed: A, B1, B2

Length: 1250 words

Bibliography: as required

Due date: Friday 13 August by 5:00 pm

Mark allocation: 20%

EM011-712 Requirement 1: Historical Essay

Write a 1500 word essay that reflects on the biblical significance of urban centres within the missional purposes of God, commenting particularly upon the significance of theological constructs such as ‘the kingdom of God’ and ‘incarnational ministry’. Your essay should also demonstrate Jesus’s embodiment of the missional purposes of God, along with the implications of this analysis for contemporary missional servants.

The **key assessment criteria** for this requirement are as follows:

1. Demonstration of a functional knowledge and understanding of the biblical significance of urban centres within the missional purposes of God.
2. Critical reflection on the significance of theological constructs such as ‘the kingdom of God’ and ‘incarnational ministry’.
3. Demonstration of Jesus’s embodiment of the missional purposes of God and the implications of this embodiment.
4. Well-written and presented.
5. Formatting aligned with the College’s ‘Student Assignment Guide’

Learning outcomes assessed: A, B1, B2
Length: 1500 words
Bibliography: as required
Due date: Friday 13 August by 5:00 pm
Mark allocation: 20%

EM011-812 Requirement 1: Foundational Essay

Write a 1700 word essay that reflects on the biblical significance of urban centres within the missional purposes of God, commenting particularly upon the significance of theological constructs such as 'the kingdom of God' and 'incarnational ministry'. Your essay should also provide researched analysis of Jesus's embodiment of the missional purposes of God along with a clear interpretation of the implications of this analysis for contemporary missional servants.

The **key assessment criteria** for this requirement are as follows:

1. Demonstration of an advanced knowledge and understanding of the biblical significance of urban centres within the missional purposes of God.
2. Critical reflection on the significance of theological constructs such as 'the kingdom of God' and 'incarnational ministry'.
3. Critical analysis and implication of Jesus's embodiment of the missional purposes of God and the implications of this embodiment for us today.
4. Well-written and presented.
5. Formatting aligned with the College's 'Student Assignment Guide'.

Learning outcomes assessed: A, B1, B2
Length: 1700 words
Bibliography: as required
Due date: Friday 13 August by 5:00 pm
Mark allocation: 20%

EM011-612 Requirement 2: Field Report

Submit a Field Report based on your observations and the input provided by practitioners in two of the urban ministries settings which you observed during your field trip.

The Field Report should include a description of the ministries encountered together with a critical reflection on missiological underpinnings and activities for each of these ministries. The field report should also make meaningful connections to both the Scriptures and the literature which is focused on urban missional engagement.

The **key assessment criteria** for this requirement are as follows:

1. Description of the ministries encountered.
2. Reflection on the missiological underpinnings of each ministry observed.

3. Analysis of each ministry in the light of the Scriptures and the literature and that you have studied in this course.
4. Well-written and presented.
5. Formatting aligned with the College's 'Student Assignment Guide'

Learning outcomes assessed: A, B2, B4
Length: 1750 words
Bibliography: as required
Due date: Friday 17 September by 5:00 pm
Mark allocation: 30%

EM011-712 Requirement 2: Field Report

Submit a Field Report based on your observations and the input provided by practitioners in two of the urban ministries settings which you observed during your field trip.

The Field Report should include a description of the ministries encountered together with a critical reflection on missiological underpinnings and activities for each of these ministries.

The reflection should also draw meaningful comparisons with other missional approaches that have been used. The field report should also make meaningful connections to both the Scriptures and the literature which is focused on urban missional engagement.

The **key assessment criteria** for this requirement are as follows:

1. Description of the ministries encountered.
2. Critical reflection on the missiological underpinnings of each ministry observed.
3. Analysis of each ministry in the light of the Scriptures and the literature and that you have studied in this course.
4. Meaningful comparisons with other missional approaches which have been used in the past.
5. Well-written and presented.
6. Formatting aligned with the College's 'Student Assignment Guide'.

Learning outcomes assessed: A, B2, B4
Length: 2000 words
Bibliography: as required
Due date: Friday 17 September by 5:00 pm
Mark allocation: 30%

EM011-812 Requirement 2: Field Report

Submit a Field Report based on your observations and the input provided by practitioners in two of the urban ministries settings which you observed during your field trip.

The Field Report should include a description of the ministries encountered together with advanced critical reflections on missiological underpinnings and activities for each of these ministries.

The reflection should also draw meaningful comparisons with other missional approaches that have been used, and make constructive recommendations based upon research, for how each of these ministries may be improved. The field report should also make meaningful connections to both the Scriptures and the literature which is focused on urban missional engagement.

The **key assessment criteria** for this requirement are as follows:

1. Description of the ministries encountered
2. Critical reflection on the missiological underpinnings of each ministry observed
3. Analysis of each ministry in the light of the Scriptures and the literature and that you have studied in this course
4. Meaningful comparisons with other missional approaches which have been used in the past
5. Constructive recommendations for how ministries may be improved
5. Well-written and presented
6. Formatting aligned with the College's 'Student Assignment Guide'

Learning outcomes assessed: A, B2, B4

Length: 2300 words

Bibliography: as required

Due date: Friday 17 September by 5:00 pm

Mark allocation: 30%

EM011-612 Requirement 3: Research Assignment

Develop a proposal for a culturally appropriate missional approach to be implemented within an urban context with which you are familiar.

Your proposal should clearly describe the urban context and analyse the unique sociological challenges associated within this context. Your proposal should also demonstrate a thoughtful engagement with both Scripture and , literature in providing a justification for the missional model being posited. Your proposal should also contain detailed descriptions on how your proposal could be implemented.

The **key assessment criteria** for this requirement are as follows:

1. Identification and description of the urban context for which the proposal has been developed.
2. Critical reflection on the sociological challenges associated with the chosen urban context.
3. Description of the proposal along with a clear articulation of the underpinning rationale.
4. Demonstration of a well thought out approach to the implementation of the proposed ministry.
5. Well-written and presented.
6. Formatting aligned with the College's 'Student Assignment Guide'.

Learning outcomes assessed: A, B1, B2, B4, C1
Length: 2000 words
Bibliography: at least eight meaningful references
Due date: Friday 15 October by 5:00 pm
Mark allocation: 50%

EM011-712 Requirement 3: Research Assignment

Develop a proposal for a culturally appropriate missional approach to be implemented within an urban context with which you are familiar.

Your proposal should clearly describe the urban context and analyses the unique sociological challenges associated within this context. Your proposal should also demonstrate a thoughtful engagement with both Scripture and urban mission literature in providing a justification for the missional model being posited. Your proposal should also contain detailed descriptions on how your proposal should be implemented, demonstrating the skills of a reflective ministry practitioner.

The **key assessment criteria** for this requirement are as follows:

1. Identification and description of the urban context for which the proposal has been developed.
2. Critical reflection on the sociological challenges associated with the chosen urban context.
3. Description of the proposal along with a clear articulation of the underpinning rationale.
4. Demonstration of reflective ministry practitioner skills in setting out how the proposed ministry would be implemented.
5. Well-written and presented.
6. Formatting aligned with the College's 'Student Assignment Guide'.

Learning outcomes assessed: A, B1, B2, B4, C1
Length: 2500 words
Bibliography: at least ten meaningful references
Due date: Friday 15 October by 5:00 pm
Mark allocation: 50%

EM011-712 Requirement 3: Research Assignment

Design a proposal for a culturally appropriate missional approach to be implemented within an urban context with which you are familiar.

Your proposal should clearly describe the urban context and analyses the unique sociological challenges associated within this context. Your proposal should also integrate a thoughtful engagement with both Scripture and current urban mission literature in providing a justification for the missional model being posited. Your proposal should also contain detailed descriptions on how your proposal should be implemented and reviewed, demonstrating the skills of a reflective ministry practitioner.

The **key assessment criteria** for this requirement are as follows:

1. Identification and description of the urban context for which the proposal has been developed
2. Critical reflection on the sociological challenges associated with the chosen urban context
3. Sets out the design of the proposal along with a clear articulation of the underpinning rationale
4. Demonstration of reflective ministry practitioner skills in setting out how the proposed ministry would be implemented
5. Review process clearly developed
6. Well-written and presented
7. Formatting aligned with the College's 'Student Assignment Guide'

Learning outcomes assessed: A, B1, B2, B4, C1

Length: 3000 words

Bibliography: at least twelve meaningful references

Due date: Friday 15 October by 5:00 pm

Mark allocation: 50%

ACT GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

Primarily ACT graduates will be:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Christian people who:</p> | <p>1.1 Are committed representatives of the Christian faith
 1.2 'Value the life of faith and the service of others'
 1.3 'Engage with human experience intellectually and emotionally'
 1.4 Act on the basis of an informed Christian world view
 1.5 Contribute to society as members of the Church and local, national and global communities</p> |
| <p>2. Christian scholars who:</p> | <p>2.1 Study and think to the glory of God
 2.2 Understand the discipline of theology in its various aspects
 2.3 Appreciate the main Christian traditions and how they have developed
 2.4 Faithfully present the Christian tradition of belief and practice to the contemporary world
 2.5 Are capable of independent and collaborative inquiry
 2.6 Contribute theological perspectives to the questions of human understanding</p> |
| <p>3. Christian professionals who:</p> | <p>3.1 Are capable of both self-directed practice and also working with others and in teams
 3.2 Apply the disciplines of theology to Christian ministry and service and other professional practice
 3.3 Bring a Christian perspective to bear on social and cultural engagement
 3.4 Communicate effectively in a range of contexts
 3.5 Reflect critically on Christian knowledge and experience as the basis for lifelong learning and practice</p> |
| <p>4. Christian leaders who:</p> | <p>4.1 Provide purpose, direction, influence and enablement to others as individuals and in communities
 4.2 Minister to others
 4.3 Manage churches and other Christian communities
 4.4 Apply their outlook and skills to local, national and international settings</p> |

MALYON VISION AND GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

Malyon's Vision is to form faithful image-bearers of Christ, who love God, listen to His Word, serve the church, engage their culture, and are committed to the mission of God in this world.

In the context of the ACT Graduates Attributes, Malyon's vision and Graduate Attributes, this unit contributes as follows.*

	ACT GA's	*1	*2	*3	*4
Graduate Attribute 1: Personal Formation					
Is secure in God, living in the truth and freedom of the gospel	1.1; 1.2; 2.1	✓			
Pursues intimacy with God and Christlikeness, particularly through spiritual disciplines	1.2		✓		
Intentionally plans for growth, being aware of personal strengths and weaknesses	1.3		✓		
Grows spiritual, personal and relational health, especially through accountability	1.2; 1.3			✓	
Is committed to influencing and serving others in the church and the world	1.1; 1.2; 3.1; 4.1; 4.2; 4.4	✓			
Graduate Attribute 2: Theological Formation					
Understands the 'big story' of the Bible and the gospel	1.3; 1.4; 2.1	✓			
Is personally able to interpret and apply the Bible	1.4; 2.1; 2.5; 2.6; 3.2; 4.4		✓		
Is formulating a biblical, historical and contemporary theology	1.4, 2.1-2.3; 2.5; 2.6	✓			
Reflects biblically and theologically on life and practice	1.4; 2.1; 2.5; 2.6; 3.3; 3.5	✓			
Is committed to communicating and demonstrating the gospel	1.1; 2.4; 3.1; 3.2; 3.4; 4.4	✓			
Graduate Attribute 3: Ministry Formation					
Has a godly influence on others	1.1; 1.2; 1.4; 2.4; 4.1; 4.2	✓			
Possesses the knowledge and skills needed for chosen ministry path	1.2; 1.4; 2.6; 3.2; 4.1-4.4	✓			
Ministers and communicates the gospel with clarity in a range of contexts	1.4; 2.4; 3.2-3.4; 4.2	✓			
Works well in a team and intentionally does so	2.5; 3.1; 4.3		✓		
Is committed to servant leadership and the mentoring of others	1.2; 1.4; 1.5; 4.1-4.3			✓	
		<i>*1, A major contribution</i>	<i>*2, An expected contribution</i>		
		<i>*3, A possible contribution</i>	<i>*4, An unlikely contribution</i>		

RECOMMENDED READINGS

The list below provides the learner with references that relate to the unit material and topics under consideration.

Category

Ajulu, D., *Holism in Development*, (Monrovia: MARC, 2001).

Barker, A. and J. Hayes, *Submerge: Living Deep in a Shallow World* (Melbourne: GoAlliance Springvale, 2002).

Bakke, R., *A Theology as Big as the City* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 1997).

Conn, H., et al, *The Urban Face of Mission* (Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian & Reformed, 2002).

Conn, H. and M. Ortiz, *Urban Ministry: The Kingdom, the City, and the People of God* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2001).

Conn, H. (ed.), *Planting and Growing Urban Churches* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1997).

Claerbaut, D., *Urban Ministry in a New Millennium* (Milton Keynes: Authentic, 2005).

Davey, A., *Urban Christianity and the Global Order* (Peabody, MA: Hendrikson, 2002).

Fuder, J. (ed.), *A Heart for the City* (Chicago, IL: Moody, 1999).

Foster, Tim, *The suburban captivity of the church: contextualising the gospel for Post-Christian Australian* (Moreland, VIC: Acorn Press, 2014).

Green, L., *Urban Ministry and the Kingdom of God* (London: SPCK, 2003).

Gornick, M., *To Live in Peace: Biblical Faith and the Changing Inner City* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003).

Hill, Graham, *Salt, light and a city: Introducing a missional ecclesiology* (Eugene, OR: Wiph & Stock: 2012).

Hill, Graham, *Signs of hope in the city: Renewing Urban Mission, embracing radical hope* (North Epping, NSW: International Society of Urban Mission, 2015)

Keller, Timothy Center Church: *Doing Balanced, Gospel-centered ministry in your city* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012)

Kilbourn, P., *Street Children: A Guide to effective Ministry*, (Monrovia: MARC, 1997).

Linthicum, R., *Transforming Power: Biblical Strategies for Making a Difference in Your Community* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2003).

Lupton, R. D., *Renewing the City: Reflections on Community Development and Urban Renewal* (Downers Grove IL: IVP, 2005).

Murray, S., *Church Planting: Laying Foundations* (Scottsdale, PA: Herald, 2001).

Monsma, Timothy M & Greenway, Roger S, *Cities: Missions' new frontier* (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2000)

Van Engen C. and J. Tiersma, *God So Loves the City: Seeking A theology for Urban Mission*, (Monrovia: MARC, 1994).