

## ICS 510 URBAN MINISTRY

### 2 Credits

**Lecturer: Dr. Kwa Kiem Kiok**

#### About Lecturer

Dr. Kwa Kiem Kiok spent six years with Graduates' Christian Fellowship, an affiliate of Fellowship of Evangelical Students, equipping graduates for witness and ministry in the marketplace. From 1999 to 2003 at her home church Trinity Methodist Church she was involved in training, curriculum development, discipleship and mentoring. While pursuing her doctoral studies she also worked at the International Office at Asbury Theological Seminary. After a brief time to set up a research centre for the National Council of Churches in Singapore, she now joins the EAST faculty. She and her husband Ivan Tan enjoy walking and listening to classical music.

Academic Year : 2009/10, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter (Jan 25 – Apr 30, 2010)  
 Day & Time : Thursdays, 9.00 – 10.50 am  
 Dates : Jan 28  
 (dates could be Feb 4, 11, 25  
 subject to change) Mar 4, 11, 25  
 Apr 1, 8, 15, 22  
 Venue : EAST ASIA SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY  
 1, Dorset Road, Singapore 219486. Tel: 6291-9744

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## CLASS SYLLABUS

#### Class Description

This course examines the biblical understanding of cities, the phenomenal growth of cities through the centuries, and issues in urbanisation. It also deals with the analysis of urban people groups and their needs, and how we can develop practical principles and strategies to evangelise and minister to these city dwellers, especially in Asia.

#### Class Pre-requisites:

None

#### Objectives

At the end of the course students will

1. Understand what makes a city, and some urban issues such as urbanism, migration and poverty.
2. Develop a theology of cities and strategies for urban ministries.
3. Be exposed to an example of urban ministry in Singapore

#### Class Schedule (January 25-April 30, 2010)

Week	Date	Topic	Reading Reflection Papers*
1	28 Jan	Introduction, Syllabus, Readings, Course requirements.	

		What is a city?	
2	4 Feb	Understanding cities	Greenway, Chaps 4, 14
3	11 Feb	Urban issues	Milgram (handout) Greenway Chap 2*, 5 <b>Reflection Paper Due</b>
4	18 Feb	Chinese New Year Break	
5	25 Feb	Urban issues	Greenway Chaps 12, 15
6	4 Mar	Urban theology	Greenway, Chaps 1, 2, 18 <b>Urban Strategies Reflection Paper</b>
7	11 Mar	Urban ministries	Greenway, Chaps 8, 10
8	18 Mar	Semester Break	
9	25 Mar	Urban ministries	Greenway Chaps 6, 13, 11
10	1 Apr	Visit Yong-En Family Service Centre#	Greenway <b>Chap 17*</b> <b>Reflection Paper Due</b>
11	8 Apr	Visit Yong-En Family Service Centre#  # A 4-hour visit to this Centre, outside class time, is to be scheduled	
12	15 Apr	Student Presentations	
13	22 Apr	Make up class (if necessary)	
14	29 Apr	Exam Week – no class	<b>5pm, 30 Apr Final Papers due</b>

### **Course Requirements**

1. Punctual attendance and participation in class and class activities.
2. Read the text book for the class, *Discipling the City* and additional readings and write reflection papers, in the required format, on selected chapters (2\* and 17\*) which are indicated in the class schedule. These are due on 11 February and 1 April respectively.
3. Urban Strategies Reflection: Choose 3 cities mentioned in the Book of Acts. Using a Bible dictionary or encyclopaedia, describe the city – its size, characteristics, importance in the Roman Empire, people, etc. Then note how God, through the Holy Spirit, circumstances and people establishes a community of believers in that city. Finally list 5 to 8 strategies of urban missions you glean from this study (maximum 5 pages, due 4 March).

4. Final Paper and presentation: study a city in Asia. Study all aspects of the city and describe it. Make suggestions of some necessary and viable ministries for the church. (10 pages, due 30 April)
- a. Describe the history, geography, economics and politics of the city, its layout and the facilities and amenities.
  - b. Describe the population: age, ethnicity, religious belief and livelihood. What are the spaces and places are there for the different groups to celebrate festivals or practice their religious beliefs? What common spaces are there? What churches and Christian ministries are present in the city?
  - c. Suggest some areas of meaningful and significant Christian ministry for the city.

### **Late Papers**

All papers are due by 5pm on the date specified, and handed in class or put into my pigeon hole in the office. Late papers, that is by 5pm the next day will automatically receive a half grade reduction. The acceptance and grading of papers after that date will be at the discretion of the lecturer.

### **Grading**

Attendance, participation and reading	10%
Reflection Papers	30%
Theological Reflection	20%
Final Paper	40% (of which 10% is presentation)