

## Module specification

<b>Title</b>	Urban Theology, Communities and Praxis				
<b>Code</b>	UM4	<b>Faculty</b>	Education & Theology	<b>Cost Centre</b>	
<b>Level</b>	FHEQ 7 YSJU M	<b>Credits</b>	30	<b>Total Learning Hours</b>	300
<b>Pre-requisites</b>	None			<b>Barred Combinations</b>	ML4, CM4, MS4

### Learning and Teaching

Type of Learning Activity	comprises	hours	weeks
Timetabled Contact:	Block learning (+ regional networks)	30	16
Independent Study:	Reading primary and secondary sources, accessing and completing verbatim, researching and preparing assignments	270	16
Total:		300	16

### Rationale and Aims

The rapid rise of global urbanisation and the urban poverty this engenders is creating new challenges for faith communities. This module explores frameworks for the formation and sustenance of faith communities engaging on the alleviation of urban deprivation. Ways in which community can be developed in the urban context are explored.

#### Aims:

1. To critically evaluate definitions of community and formulate appropriate Christian definitions of the concept
2. To explore the nature of the Triune God and critique the implications for urban community-building
3. To critically evaluate the nature, causes and effects of urban poverty
4. To critically evaluate various frameworks, principles and approaches to urban poverty alleviation and the transformation of urban places

### Learning Outcomes

*Upon successful completion of the module students will be able to:*

1. Reflect theologically to an advanced level on the formation of community in an urban setting
2. Critically evaluate contemporary models seeking to understand the nature of urban poverty
3. Critically evaluate contemporary Christian approaches to engaging issues such as urban poverty

### Assessment *(please include expected word length (for text-based assessment))*

#	description	weighting	learning outcomes
1	5000 word essay	80%	1, 2, 3
2	Personal development task	20%	2, 3

**Qualified Failures:** in order to pass the module, students must achieve at least:  
*(for modules with more than one summative assessment component please delete as applicable)*

A mark of 20 in each component and an overall pass mark

### Indicative Content

## Module specification

Students will:

1. Critically engage with the challenges of theodicy and poverty in urban contexts
2. Reflect to an advanced level on the nature of a Triune God and evaluate various approaches to urban community-building
3. Critique urban poverty and apply Christian faith-based community approaches to urban community development, organisation, social entrepreneurship, empowerment and relief
4. Critically evaluate an urban neighbourhood

### Library Resources

*Indicative essential book provision (5 examples):*

1. Barker, A., *Slum Life Rising: How to Enflesh Hope within a New Urban World* (Melbourne: UNOH Publications, 2012)
2. Myers, B., *Walking with the Poor: Principles and Practices of Transformational Development* (Maryknoll: Orbis, 2011)
3. Pohl, C., *Living Into Community: Cultivating Practices That Sustain Us* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2012)
4. Salvatierra, A., & Heitzel, P., *Faith-Rooted Organizing: Mobilizing the Church in Service to the World* (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2013)
5. McKnight, J. and Block, P. *The Abundant Community: Awakening the Power of Families and Neighborhoods* (San Francisco, CA: Berrett-Koehler, 2010)

*Indicative journals / periodicals (3 examples from current subscriptions):*

1. New Urban World: Journal of Urban Mission (International Society for Urban Mission)
2. Transformation (Oxford Centre for Missions Studies)
3. Missiology - An International Review (American Society of Missiology)

*Audio-visual / non-printed material:*

None

### ICT Resources

*Hardware*

N/A

*Specialist software*

Moodle (online VLE)  
ATLA database and e-library

### Media Resources

*AV equipment*

Data projectors, DVD player

### Title(s) of award bearing programmes to which the module contributes

MA Urban Mission  
PG Dip Urban Mission  
PG Cert Urban Mission  
MA Missional Practice  
PG Dip Missional Practice

Version	In use from	To
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External Examiner Code:	
Fee Profile:	
Date Approved:	

## Notes