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Asian Theological Seminary

1st Sem SY 2011-2012

**Master of Arts in Transformational Urban Leadership**

**THEOLOGY AND THEORY OF URBAN REALITY**

Lorenzo C. Bautista and Fermin P. Manalo, Jr.

Mondays 4:00-7:00 pm **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Course Description**

This course structures a dialogue between two processes, urban theologising and social analysis (urban studies in economics, developmental studies, anthropology, sociology, history) in a mutually enriching interaction that generates perspectives and analytic methods for transformative urban mission (including urban research methods if not covered elsewhere).

**Expanded Course Description**

This course introduces the students to perspectives and tools being offered by social sciences in understanding urban poverty and theological reflection process. On the whole, the course seeks to put in motion a continuing dialogue between two processes- theology and social science, in a mutually enriching interaction.

The over-all goal is to prepare students for proposing a vision of urban societal/community transformation that is anchored on keen context analysis and theologically grounded.

One of the assumptions of the course is that the integration of disciplined social observation and the prophetic vision is at least as old as Amos and the 8th century Prophets. Theological wisdom does not usually come in a vacuum but in the fray. The prophetic sensibilities emerge from the tension generated by the encounter between a vision of the just God and the experience of failed justice around us.

**Course Methodology**

Specifically, the course methodology will consist of:

* Classroom discussions which include action reflection from primary and secondary sources, field exposure, own experience
* Case study of urban poverty that will demonstrate application of perspectives, tools of analysis and theology
* Dialogues with practitioners/knowledgeable persons (faith and non-faith based)

**Course Objectives**

At the end of the course, students would have:

* demonstrated sound application of certain social analytical tools/perspective and theological reflection methods for understanding urban poverty and its dimensions
* articulated a vision of urban social transformation that integrates social and biblical perspectives
* articulated the implications of the course experience to his/her spirituality and life commitments and understanding of ministry

**Course Learning Outcomes**

* Analyzed urban poor related issues in a manner that demonstrates application of basic research skills, perspectives, tools of analysis and biblical/theological reflection and provided general recommendations on how to address said issues in a more transformative manner.
* Articulated a vision of transformed urban community and how working towards it affects missions and spirituality.

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| **SESSION** | **TOPIC/ THEME** |
| 1-3 | Orientation  Appreciating the value of perspective in understanding urban reality  The role of engaged social understanding in exercising prophetic role and articulating God’s will e.g. Amos and Leviticus |
| 4 | Historical Perspective on Urbanization  *Ref. Beal and Fox, ch. 2*  Urbanization Situation (Global perspective)  *Ref: Beal* |
| 5 | Reflection on the SONA |
| 5 | **Understanding concepts of Poverty**  *Ref: Thomas, Poverty and the End of Development*  *Chapter on Analyzing Poverty - Burkey*  Philippine General Poverty Situation  Ref:  -*IBON, 2011*  *-The Philippine Poverty Situation: Beyond Poverty Measures*  *-Molino, voices from the urban setting*  *-Notes on Poverty in the Philippines (2002)* |
|  | **Perspectives on Poverty** |
| 6-7 | Capitalism, Colonialism, Globalization and Philippine Poverty  History of capitalism and colonialism (political Economy)  *Ref. Bernstein; Hewitt*  Globalization    Ref:  *McGrew*  *Tonkiss, Ch,1*  *Cohn, Ch.12*  Impact (general global)  *UNDP Human Development Report 1999*  Impact (Philippines)  *Ref:* Impact on the Philippines  *Ofreneo*  *Bello;*  Case: Privatization of basic services; oil deregulation law; structural adjustment and foreign debt |
| 8  9  10  11  12  13  14 | Class Perspective \*  *ref. Wright, 1994; 1999*  Case: Labor/job security; politics of decision making affecting urban poor –land and housing;  Structural –Conflict Perspective \*  *Ref* : *Houtart* ; *hope and Timmmel*  Case: Public resources allocation for urban mass housing, health, education and elite influence in urban development  Gender Perspective \*  *Ref. Dionisio; to be updated*  Case: Feminization of Poverty; Domestic violence, reproductive health issue, gender based discrimination, exclusion;  Human Rights Perspective \*  Ref: Ilfe  Case:social exclusion, human rights violations  Urban political ecology Perspective \*  *Ref. Urban Ecosystem- United Nations University/Inst of Advanced Studies; Magnaghi, pp 1- 21; Sachs*  *Cases:*  Ondoy and Public Policy Decision (find Palafox’s article); Climate change and urban poverty ; urban policies, environment and urban poverty  Culture and knowledge building as sites of domination and struggle\*  *Ref. Constantino*  Case: media portrayal of urban poor/poverty; marginalization of the poor  Structural and cultural violence and deriving concepts : power relations, inequality, exploitation, exclusion/discrimination  *Ref: Galtung*  Cases: exclusion and stigmatization of urban poor (EDSA 3 uprising)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **\*Two students will select a topic and corresponding case to be presented. References may be sought by the students themselves and in consultation with the instructors. Topic and outline must be approved before being further developed. No approval, no presentation.** |
|  | Field Visit (preferably Saturday whole day) |
| 15 | SYNTHESIS :   * Reflection on the application of perspectives * Issues – church traditions that hinder social engagements (eschatology, ecclesiology, etc) and how to help transform them –*Ref Sabanal* * Generating social and theological insights on urban reality and spirituality * Drawing up a vision of a transformed future * Towards a theory and theology of urban reality and mission   *Ref Lausanne Documents* |
| 16 | Final Examination/Integration Paper due |

**Learning and Grading Basis**

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| Class Participation and Attendance (max of 3 absences only) | 20 |
| Reflections/other assignments | 20 |
| Study of major issue with case demonstrating it (To be orally presented, demonstrating application of tools of analysis and biblical insights and submitted in a final paper form incorporating the comments. Pls see note at the end of the section on Perspectives on on Poverty) | 30 |
| Final integration paper/Exam | 30 |

**Class Project:**

The class will sponsor or co-sponsor public forum on a choice topic such as : *urban planning and urban poverty; climate change;*

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

**REFERENCES**:

Africa, Sonny.From a Weak Republic: Challenges for the Next Administration. Ibon Features, May 13, 2010. Quezon

City: Ibon Foundation. <http://www.ibon.org/ibon_features.php?id=75>

Allen Tim and Alan Thomas (eds). 2000. Poverty and Development into the 21st Century. Oxford: Oxford University Press

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Ferrer, Oscar P. 2005. Tools of Analysis and Analytical Framework. In Emmanuel M. Luna, Oscar P. Ferrer, Maria Corazon J. Tan, Lenore P. dela Cruz, Aleli B. Bawagan, Thelma B. Magcuro and Amaryllis T. Torres*. Community Development: Praxis in Philippine Setting.* Quezon City: College of Social Work and Community Development, Office of Vice Chancellor for Research and Development, Office of the Vice President for Community Affairs, University of the Philippines.

Galtung, Johan. 1996. Peace by Peaceful Means: Peace and Conflict, Development and Civilization. London: SAGE Publications Ltd. (F)

Hess, Beth B.; Peter J. Stein, Elizabeth Markson. 1996. Sociology. New York:. Macmillan (have to acquire a latter edition) (not available in the lib)

Hewitt, Tom. 2000. Half a Century Development. *In Allen and Thomas eds*

Hirst, Paul, Grahame Thompson and Simon Bromley. 2009. Globalization in Question 3rd ed. Camrbidge and Maryland: Polity

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Human Development Network and United Nations Development Programme-Philippines. Philippine Human Development Report 2005. Peace, Human Security and Human Development in the Philippines. Quezon City <http://hdn.org.ph/2005-philippine-human-development-report-peace-human-security-and-human-development/>

Ibon Features. RP Under New Gov't: *Is There Hope for Our Backward Economy?* Quezon City: Ibon Foundation. http://ibon.org/ibon\_features.php?id=80

IBON Foundation, Inc. Yearend 2010: Real Change, or More of the Same?. Birdtalk Economic and Political Briefing, January 13,2011.

Ilfe, Jim. 2010.Human Rights from Below: Achieving Rights Through Community Development. Melbourne: Cambridge University Press.

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Karaos, Ana Marie. 1996. Manila's Urban Poor Movement : The Social Construction of Collective Identities. Ann Arbor, Mich. : UMI Dissertation Services.

Magnaghi, Alberto. 2005. The Urban Village: A Charter for Democracy and Local Self Sustainable Development (translated by David Kerr). London and New York: Zed Books.

McGrew, Anthony. Sustainable Globalization? The Global Politics of Development and Exclusion in the New World Order. *In Allen and Thomas*

Molino, Benito E. 2006. Voices from the Urban Setting: Urbanization and the Formation of Slums.-Health and Economic Development in Urban Settings. <http://www.who.or.jp/knusd/docs/11_01/PlenaryB/009Benito%20Molino_ZOTO_WHO%20Presentation.pdf>

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Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in the Rural Areas (PhilDHRRA). 1993. Some Practical Tools and Guidelines in Gender and Development,. Quezon City: PhilDHRRA.

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Tadem, Teresa S. and Noel M. Morada. 2006. Philippine Politics and Governance: Challenge to Democratization and Development. Quezon City: Political Science Department, University of the Philippines.

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United Nations University/Institute of Advanced Studies. 2003. Urban Ecosystem Analysis: Identifying Tools and Methods. Tokyo.(folder)

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**Lausanne Documents** http://www.lausanne.org/lausanne-occasional-papers-lops.html

Christian Witness to the Urban Poor. Lausanne Occasional Paper 22. Report of the Consultation of World Evangelization Mini-Consultation on Reaching the Urban Poor held in Pattaya, Thailand from 16-27 June 1980 Sponsored by the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization. (Folder)

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Rice, Chris. 2004. Reconciliation As the Mission Of God: Faithful Christian Witness in a World of Destructive Conflicts and Divisions. Lausanne Occasional Paper No. 51 ,Forum for World Evangelization, Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization, Pattaya, Thailand, September 29 to October 5, 2004 (Folder)

For other sources of data/insights on Philippine poverty-related issues –may refer to IBON publications, Phil Daily Inquirer column of Randy David etc.