Northern Seminary at Lawndale
CT 308 Exploring Christian Community Development
Summer 2015
Sunday June 14 through Wednesday June 17
Dr. Wayne “Coach” Gordon
Dr. John Perkins
(773)762-6389 ext. 113
gocoach@aol.com

Note: Dr. John Perkins will be with us Monday and be the primary professor for the day. Sunday class will begin with worship at Lawndale Community Church 11:00 a.m.

Class Schedule

Sunday 11:00am-5:00 pm
Monday – Tuesday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Wednesday 10:00 am -8:00 pm

Course Description

This course will explore the means and methodologies to do Christian community development. Christian community development is a philosophy of ministry to reach under resourced communities. The purpose of this course will be to study some of the key issues that have kept poor communities poor and individual people trapped in poverty. There will be special emphasis on the meaning of Biblical justice and how to live out a just life in America. One focus will be obeying the Great Command of scripture, Loving God and Loving our neighbor as ourselves.

This course is uniquely designed to learn from others in ministry facing the same tensions and pressures. By discussion and oral presentations of fellow students each person will learn the principles of longevity first hand.

Course Objectives

- The clear objective of this class is to help students be able to understand the complexities of poverty, racism, injustice and other factors that have contributed to the under resourced communities in America. We will then learn how the philosophy of ministry know as Christian Community Development addresses these issues and brings hope to these situations.
- Understand the philosophy of Christian Community Development.
- To articulate and embrace a Biblical response to poverty, racism and injustice.
- Learn from personal and practical interaction with current practitioners of Christian Community Development and apply that learning in their own context of ministry.
- Help students learn to recognize the Biblical mandate to care for the poor and live out justice on an ongoing basis.
**Required Readings**


**Course Requirements**

1. Write a one page reflection paper on each book read for this class. (10%)

2. Pick one of the 8 key components of Christian Community Development and write a 3-5 page paper detailing the importance of this aspect of Christian Community Development. (25%)

3. Class discussion is very important and will be necessary to have intelligent dialogue with other classmates regarding the topics assigned. (35%)

4. Do a study of scripture regarding Justice and loving our neighbor as a priority of the Christian life. 3-5 pages. (20%)

5. Lead a discussion with the class on one of the books assigned for class. This can be done with one or two other students. (10%)

**All work due to the professor in hard copy by September 15th**


**Course Grading**

See percentage next to course requirements.

**Grading Scale**

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Class Sessions
Each class session will present a combination of lecture, discussion and practical experience.
All books are to be read before the class discussion each day

Sunday June 14
-Understanding the Church in Christian Community Development
-Worship and ministry
- The Biblical Plan of God
-The Great Commandment

Monday June 15
-Racism
-Understanding Justice
- John Perkins Story
- Book Discussion: With Justice For All (DMin)

-Injustices
-Biblical justice
-Applying Christian Community Development in Difficult Situations
- Book discussion: More Than Just Race (DMin)

Tuesday June 16
-Prisons and incarceration
-Book discussion: The New Jim Crow

-Changing the system
- Book discussion: Brainwashed

Wednesday June 17
-Poverty
- Book discussion: Family Properties

--How to get out of poverty
-Book discussion: Bridges Out of Poverty (DMin)

-Class will participate in Pray Chicago event in Garfield Park

POLICIES FOR ALL MASTERS CLASSES
NOTE: All communications from the seminary will go to your seminary email account. Contact ithelpdesk@seminary.edu if you need help forwarding your seminary email address to your personal email address.

As a seminary community we hold integrity/hospitality as core values. Individuals are able to do their best work and thinking when their peers are fully present and engaged. We expect each person to both participate in class and carefully listen to others with the belief that everyone’s contribution is equally important. Therefore, the following policies have been established in order to provide clarity in regard to attendance expectations and relationships in the classroom.
**Class Attendance Policy**
It is expected that students will attend and participate in all class sessions. Failure to attend at least 80% of class sessions is grounds for automatic failure. A professor may set other attendance expectations. Students are always expected to communicate with a professor in advance if they will be absent. Attendance expectations are higher for online and intensive courses (see syllabus for specific requirements).

**Class Tardiness Policy**
The third time a student is late to the start of class, it will be counted as a class absence. It is also expected that students will return from a break by the time specified by the professor.

**Late Work Policy**
If a student cannot complete the work for a course by the due date listed on the syllabus, they must submit a “Request for a Grade of Incomplete” form to the Registrar by 4:30 of the last day of the term. The form must be signed by the instructor and Dean of Students. The professor may set stipulations and grade reductions. In the absence of a formal request form, the student will receive a grade based upon work completed by the last day of the term.

**Turabian Format**
All papers, including footnotes and bibliography, must be submitted in the correct format according to Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th ed., 2013

**Plagiarism**
Plagiarism is the act of passing off as one’s own the words or ideas of someone else without providing proper acknowledgement or documentation. See the “Academic Honesty Policy” in the Seminary Catalog for more information on plagiarism and how to avoid it.

**Electronic Format**
Unless otherwise specified by the professor, all work submitted electronically must be in a Word document format (.doc, .docx).

**Technology Use in the Classroom**
Unless it is directly tied to note-taking or research for the class, students are expected to refrain from using cell phones, laptops, or other electronic devices during class.

**Course Evaluation in Moodle**
Students must complete an online course evaluation using the seminary Moodle system at http://moodle.seminary.edu. The evaluation will be open starting the last day of the class. If you need assistance connecting to Moodle or accessing the evaluation, please send an email to ithelpdesk@seminary.edu.