

PROGRAM AREAS AND STUDENT-CENTERED LEARNING

Seminarians in the City requires that students identify areas of interest in Urban Ministry topics including:

- Sexism, Heterosexism, and Gender
- Urban Economics and Politics
- Classism, Race and Racism
- HIV/AIDS
- Urban Violence & Conflict
- Ecology
- Youth and Family
- Immigration and Citizenship
- Religious Peacebuilding
- Housing and Homelessness
- Food Security
- Spirituality

Above all, *Seminarians in the City* hopes for **mutual transformation** of the seminarian and the city in this endeavor. To this end, the program will incorporate student-centered learning and match classroom work with service work.



SERVICE & CREDIT

Seminarians in the City participants will receive academic credit through Andover Newton Theological School, an associated school of the Boston Theological Institute.

Founded in 1816, **The City Mission Society of Boston** is an urban, social justice agency serving over 4,500 people each year. We are the oldest multi-service agency in New England, meeting the educational, economic and social needs of impoverished area residents.

Mission:

Through service, education and advocacy, CMS helps youths and adults reach their full potential while providing opportunities for congregations and communities to engage in social action and work for change.

Rev. June R. Davis Cooper,
Executive Director



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CITY MISSION SOCIETY OF BOSTON

SEMINARIANS IN THE CITY



2009 – 2010 STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

A BOSTON PARTNERSHIP FOR URBAN MINISTRY

WHAT IS SEMINARIANS IN THE CITY?

City Mission Society's *Seminarians in the City* equips our future church leaders by creating a space for Boston Theological Institute students to actively engage the issues of faith and social justice as they pertain to urban ministry, while also meeting their educational demands and supporting their ordination process. *Seminarians in the City* provides seminarians a unique opportunity to address faith, justice, and theological issues in an urban environment by way of community partnerships, mentorship, and a structured educational program.

Community Partnership: Each seminarian will partner with a community-based organization or an urban congregation with which they will engage in hands-on ministry or social justice projects

Urban Ministry Mentorship: Seminarians will also be paired with an urban ministry mentor, drawn from clergy, active lay people, the CMS board, and other agencies in CMS's network, to help guide the student through their experience of integrating faith and justice in an urban context.

Educational Forum: Seminarians will take part in structured educational programming with weekly meetings, readings, and community projects, focused on reflecting theologically. Weekly written reflections and a final paper or project will allow seminarians to integrate the entire experience.

Faith Formation: During the school year, CMS will facilitate program-wide quarterly meetings where seminarians and their mentors will come together for presentations, worship, and sharing. These meetings will provide seminarians the opportunity to preach, create unique worship experiences, and engage with local people carrying out urban ministries.



INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING?

Ideal candidates for the Urban Ministry Program will be **second and third-year seminary students** (those having completed at least **30 credits** in the standard course structure), who are either engaged in their ordination process or involved with their judicatory in a significant way. Candidates should have an interest in working in cross-cultural settings, value experiential learning, and be passionate about the integration of faith and social justice in either the urban or suburban context.

INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED:

The Boston Theological Institute and
Associated Schools
Andover Newton Theological School
Boston College
Boston University
Episcopal Divinity School
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary
Harvard Divinity School
Holy Cross
Saint John's Seminary

RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

Important Dates & Deadlines

- Application Due: September 7, 2009
- Start Date: September 14, 2009
- End Date: April 30, 2010

Class work and ministry requirements:

- Participants are required to work 15 hours/week
- Participants are required to commit 5 hours/week for weekly meetings and theological reflection.
- Weekly assignments and theological reflection (2-3 pgs)

