

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.

The City Mission Society of Boston is the oldest multi-service agency in New England, meeting the educational, economic and social needs of impoverished area residents since 1816.

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



A BOSTON PARTNERSHIP FOR THE STUDY OF URBAN MINISTRY

Uniting Communities ∞ Transforming Individuals

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?

All students in the Boston Theological Institute are eligible to cross-register through **Andover Newton Theological School**, course # **BCIM 605Y** for this program, either for the summer or the whole school year.

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
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

Hours:

- Participants in the summer program will work 25 hours per week for 13 weeks.
- Participants in the school-year program will work 15 hours per week for 30 weeks.

Class work and ministry requirements:

- Weekly assignments and theological reflection (2-3 pgs)
- Weekly group meetings (discussion, guest speakers, presentations, etc.)
- 10-15 pp. paper on theology of urban ministry (1 for summer; 2 for school-year)
- “Border Crossing” experiences serving urban ministry sites for 15 hrs/week

Sessions available:

SUMMER (June 1 to Sept. 2, 2011) or
SCHOOLYEAR (Sept. 2011 to May 2012)

