

The Urban Ministry Institute: Equipping Leaders for the Church

Leadership Training For *Your* Leaders At *Your* Ministry

- For most in ministry, attending seminary is virtually impossible because it is too expensive, the content is unrelated to practical ministry contexts, the admission requirements are too restrictive, the campus is often located far from their community, and the training is geared to cultures who learn individualistically (primarily from what they *read*).
- In 1995 World Impact established The Urban Ministry Institute to overcome these barriers by providing affordable and culturally-relevant training, right in the communities where leaders serve; delivered to oral-learning cultures in a group setting.
- This quality seminary-level material (Capstone Curriculum) is comprised of 16 modules, covering everything a pastor or elder needs to lead a local church.
- In 2000, World Impact began establishing satellite campuses of the Institute and has since approved sites in churches, prisons, and parachurch ministries around the world.
- Using the Institute's curriculum and guidelines, satellites develop their own leaders, who continue ministering in their local church.
- The coursework is based on the Nicene Creed, so it pre-dates all denominational traditions. Each site can add its own polity to the courses, to make it consistent with a specific tradition or emphasis, and is easily contextualized to culture.
- At the satisfactory completion of all 16 modules, students will receive a *Certificate of Christian Leadership Studies* from The Urban Ministry Institute. Other flexible certificate programs can be designed, upon approval by the Institute.
- Students typically take four years to finish their certificate since they often have full-time jobs and serve as bi-vocational pastors.
- To begin a satellite, a person must commit to coordinating the program and have a functional office and classroom. The satellite coordinator can mentor the classroom learning experience with the students, or a volunteer mentor can be recruited.
- Because of a grant, World Impact can help with most of the start-up costs. On-going costs (about \$60/per course) can be passed on to the student or scholarship funds can be raised.
- The first step is to contact the satellite director for The Urban Ministry Institute:

Satellite Director, The Urban Ministry Institute

satellites@tumi.org

323-735-1137 x315

2001 S. Vermont Ave.

Los Angeles, CA 90007

The Capstone Curriculum

Excellent, affordable, flexible, culturally-relevant training for church leaders

Excellent

- After completion of all 16 modules a student earns a *Certificate of Christian Leadership Studies* from The Urban Ministry Institute. Students desiring credit toward an accredited degree program may do so through admission to one of our partnering colleges.
- Covers four subject areas: Biblical studies, Urban Mission, Christian Ministry, Theology and Ethics.
- Each module includes DVD content, scripture memorization, group discussion, three quizzes, a final exam, supplementary textbook reading, an exegetical paper, and a practical ministry project.
- Each module is made of up four lessons, with two, 25-minute DVD segments. So each module has eight DVD segments.
- The amount of outside work depends on the student, but generally each module will require 60 hours of study outside class time. This includes reading, scripture memorization, study for quizzes and final, and the exegetical and ministry projects.
- Each module is based on three components: Contact (why is this important); Content (the material); Connection (how does this become practically important to the student).

Affordable

- Each module costs the student about \$60, which includes a student workbook and supplementary textbooks. A student can complete the curriculum for about \$1000.
- Approved sites outside of the U.S. can print downloadable copies of student workbooks, which can reduce the cost.

Flexible

- Each module can be scheduled in different ways, but most sites teach over eight weeks, meeting once a week for two hours. The schedule can be compressed up to a weekend workshop if needed.
- The learning experience is guided by a mentor who leads discussion, grades each assignment, and personally invests in the students' lives.
- A typical two-hour session might be as follows:

8:00-8:20	Attendance, quiz, devotion or worship
8:20-8:30	Mentor-led Contact
8:30-8:55	DVD Segment (Content)
8:55-9:15	Mentor-led discussion
9:15-9:30	Break
9:30-9:50	Mentor-led Connection discussion
9:50-10:00	Counseling and Prayer

Culturally-relevant

- Students learn best by going through each module as a group. Their leadership is developed not only through content, but interaction with one another.
- In order to equip leaders from oral-learning cultures, students are graded only by what they *hear in the teaching*. All reading material is supplementary and is not included in exams.