



STUDENTS ENGAGING
THE CITY
DENVER URBAN SEMESTER

NORTHWESTERN
COLLEGE

Live. Learn. Engage.

Spring 2016 Student Guide



Mile High Ministries



Mile High Ministries is an organization that works with marginalized populations in Denver. It began in 1988 as a collaborative effort of 10 denominationally, culturally and economically diverse churches. It brought together urban churches who sought partners to assist in addressing the needs of the poor in their neighborhoods, with suburban churches who sought to share in the work of helping the urban poor. From this beginning a wide variety of outreach efforts emerged, many of them spinning off into independent operations in the inner city. These include such things as alternative education for high school drop-outs, outreach to homeless youth, a thrift store, and renovation of inner-city homes. MHM has also been active in training ventures, holding forums on neighborhood issues like housing, gentrification and youth violence. MHM has subsequently established relationships with over thirty ministry and non-profit organizations in Denver focused on meeting the needs of marginalized urban populations.

Program Director and Staff

Greg Fuchs - Site Director – Fuchs has a Master’s degree from Denver Seminary and has worked as a youth pastor, Young Life director, high school chaplain, vocational coach, and urban semester director for over 20 years.

Dr. Jeff Johnsen - Executive Director of Mile High Ministries – Jeff has been the director of Mile High Ministries since 1987. He has a D.M. Transformational Urban Leadership from Bakke Graduate University, Seattle. He is an influential leader in the city of Denver.

Millie Cline – Associate Director – Millie grew up in Texas and is a graduate of Denver Seminary where she received her MA in counseling. Millie has been certified as a spiritual director through The Vincentian Center for Spirituality and Work in Denver.

Penny Salazar-Phillips – Social Work Intern Supervisor – Penny directed the transitional housing program Joshua Station and now oversees and trains social work interns not only for DUS, but also the Schools of Social Work at the University of Denver and the University of Colorado Denver.

Here's what our students are saying...

"I walked into the summer trying to hide the broken pieces of my life. I was exhausted, sick of being criticized, and tired of spiritual to-do lists. Greg (Director of DUS) taught a class called 'Leading from Within'. He enabled us to take care of our souls, so we could serve and not get burned out. I learned how to become a human-being again instead of a busy, impatient human-doer. I interned at Treasure House, a transitional housing facility for single moms. I rubbed shoulders with women who were heroine addicts, drug dealers, prostitutes, homeless, mentally ill, and suffering from nasty relationships. As I heard the stories of these broken women, my heart cried out for them. Yet as they heard my story, they hurt for me also. As I was serving, I was being served."

-Hannah Watters, Northwestern College

"My experience in a multi-cultural inner-city Denver school has opened my eyes to the beauty of diversity, the heartache of poverty, and the passion to make a change in the heart of a city and teach kids to follow their passions. I have learned that the most important thing is to show each child how much you care about them, and they are much more willing to learn from someone they can trust and respect. I have loved my time working in Denver and feel that experience has strengthened me as a follower of Christ as well how to be a great teacher."

-Kippen Larsno-Gulsvig, Northwestern College

"DUS was a transformational experience that allowed me to connect with a variety of community leaders and urban issues. Through the classes and my internship at JAMLAC, I was able to get clearer direction about my interests and future career choices. The strength of the DUS program lies in its experiential model and relational approach; instead of being told what to believe about myself or society, I learned through my relationships with mentors and my experiences in the city."

-Alexis Cook, Vanderbilt



Program Highlights and Details

Students will be placed in **internships** that will stretch them as individuals. The DUS staff will be available to process and help students as they begin integrating their faith into work.

Classes each week are designed to help the students become reflective leaders who lead from a place of confidence. DUS staff strives to provide a place where young people can grow into their individual unique giftedness.

Denver is a unique and culturally diverse **city**. DUS provides students with the opportunity to engage the city and cross paths with those from various socioeconomic, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds.

Our hope is that students leave the program with a better understanding of themselves, the world around them, and their place in it. We hope to see students go on to become leaders on their college campuses and beyond.

Housing: You have the opportunity to live in a beautiful old Victorian home in the heart of downtown. Please respect the living area. Always clean up after yourself. Keep in mind the spirit of community living and extend grace.

- Lock doors always!
- Please don't allow members of the opposite sex to come to sleeping floors. Never be alone in the house with the opposite sex.
- There is only 1 washer and 1 dryer-plan accordingly.
- There is street parking and two spots on property.

- House is alcohol and drug free. Use of legal or illegal substances will lead to your dismissal.
- Students will be expected to adhere to NWC policies and code of conduct as described in the student handbook found at www.nwciowa.edu/student-handbook

City Safety: Follow the guidelines given during orientation. If traveling after 10pm, take Lyft or Uber. Never show others your valuables and always be aware of your surroundings.

RTD: Plan your route ahead and don't hesitate to ask for help. If someone is suspicious or dangerous report to bus driver and call 911. Never travel alone at night, be in groups of 3.

Internships: Please be professional. Limit use on your phone during internship. Treat your internship with respect and as if it is your "dream job."

Missing Class Time: Contact Millie one week prior to class. We understand that sometimes you might be late, but do your best to be there at least 10 minutes before class start time. Your voice and thoughts are important and matter to us.

Conflict Communication: Address issues as they come up and don't hesitate to bring Greg or Millie into the conversation if needed. Don't make a mountain out of a molehill.

Key Denver Contacts

Director: Greg Fuchs	303-928-9526
Associate Staff: Millie Cline	303-884-9940
Social Work Supervisor: Penny Salazar-Phillips	303-525-8815
Resident Director: Kara Prachar	712-332-1108

Mailing Address

Denver Urban Semester
 Student Name
 1453 Downing St.
 Denver, CO 80218

Northwestern Contacts

John Hubers, Global Education Director	712-707-7306 /712-395-7300
Nancy Landhuis, Program Coordinator	712-707-7223/712-360-0273

Trash/Recycling

Trash is picked up every Friday- set it outside the back gate in white trash bags
Recycling is picked up every other Friday-it goes in purple bin

Grocery Stores

Sprouts: 3525 E. Colfax

Natural Foods: 1455 Washington St.

King Soopers: 1155 E. 9th Ave.

Other Points of Interest

Hospitals: Denver Health, St. Josephs, St. Luke Pres., St Anthony's

Police: 911, local precincts (hidden in neighborhood)

Post Office: Colfax and Marion or 20th Ave and Champa

Libraries: Ford Warren: High and 28th, Main branch, Broadway & 13th, Issachar: Blair Caldwell
Welton and 25 St. in Five points, free internet

Parks: (City, Chessmen, Congress, Washington, Confluence, ETC) Confluence (REI & Starbucks
coffee shop by the river)

Shopping: Cherry Creek, 16 St. Mall, Belmar, Pearl St (Boulder), ETC, Farmers Markets- East
High on Sundays, Park Meadows, Northfield/ Stapleton

Coffee shops: Thunp. 1201 E 13th Ave, Purple Door 2962 Welton, Coffee at the Point (26th and
Welton), St. Marks (17th and Race), Weathervane 17th and Williams, Dazbog (17th and
Downing), Starbucks (18th and Franklin) also a Einsteins next door

Churches

Incarnational/Sacramental

The Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception

6:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

12:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.

401 E. Colfax Ave.

Denver, CO 80203

House for All Sinners & Saints

5:00 p.m.

2201 Dexter St.

Denver, CO 80207

Holy Ghost Catholic Church

7:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. – Latin Choral Mass
12:00 p.m. & 5:10 p.m. – Contemporary Choir
1900 California St.
Denver, CO 80202

St. Ignatius Loyola

7:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
2301 York St.
Denver, CO 80205

Charismatic

The Potter's House of Denver

9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
9495 E. Florida Ave.
Denver, CO 80247

River of Life Church

10:30 a.m.
8690 W. Jewell Ave.
Lakewood, CO 80232

Contemplative

The Wilderness

6:00 p.m.
1350 Washington St.
Denver, CO 80203

First Denver Friends

4595 Eliot Street,
9:30 a.m. and 6 pm (prayer service)
Denver, CO 80211

Highlands Church (ONLY Wednesday evenings are contemplative) Other times - evangelical

2644 W. 32nd Ave
Denver, Co 80211
Wednesdays 6-8 pm (contemplative prayer)
highlandschurchdenver.org

Mountain View Friends Meeting

9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
2280 S. Columbine St.
Denver, CO 80210

Evangelical

Denver Community Church
8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.
1101 S. Washington St.
Denver, CO 80210

Denver United
Sunday 9 and 11
660 S Broadway
www.denverunited.com

The Embassy Church
10:00 a.m.
3240 Humboldt St.
Denver, CO 80205

Bloom
Logan and Colorado Ave
Denver, CO; 4 & 6pm Sunday
<http://www.bloomchurchdenver.com>

Park Church
10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
3025 W. 37th Ave.
Denver, CO 80211

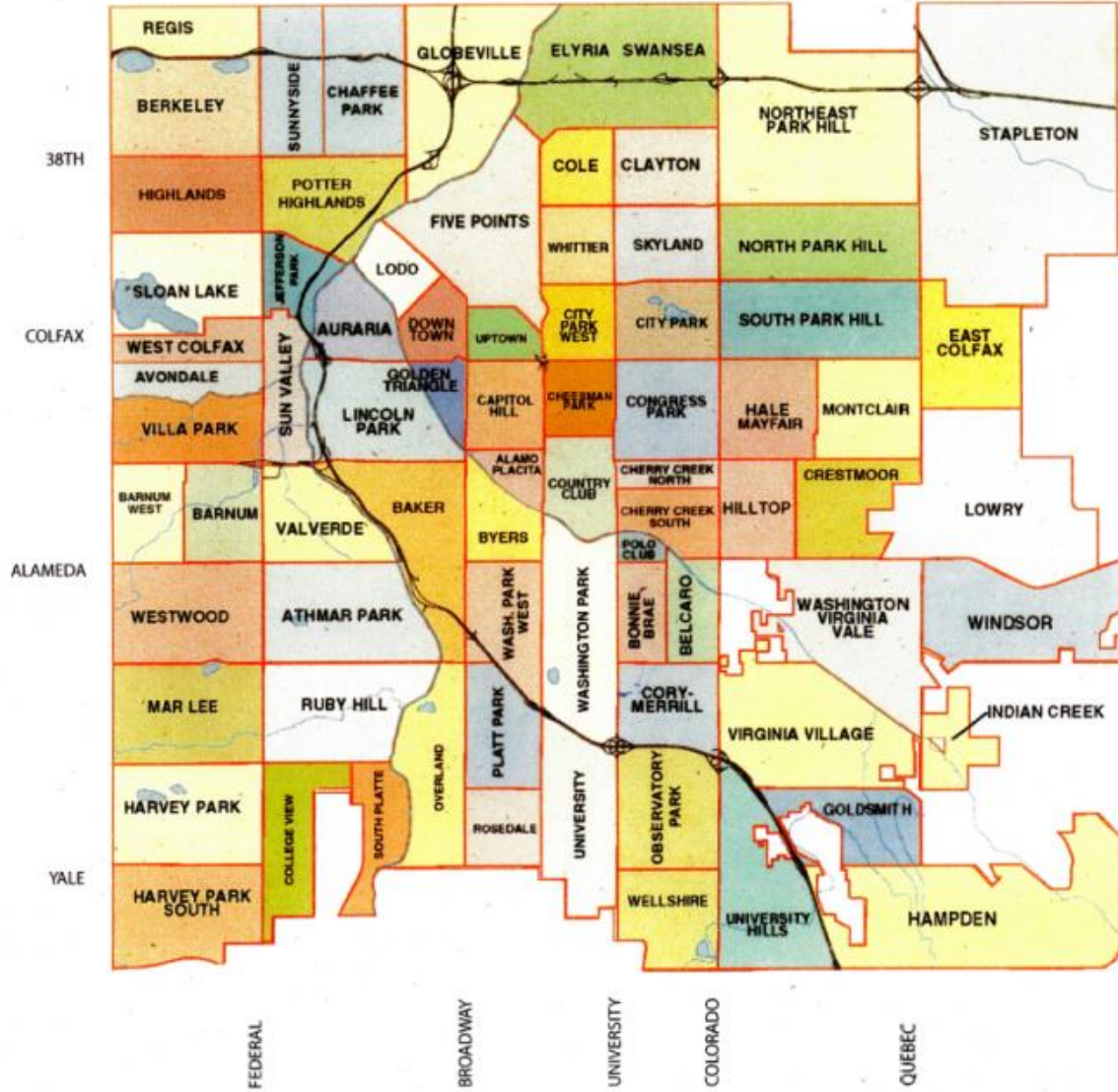
Colorado Community Church
9:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
2220 S. Chambers Rd.
Aurora, CO 80014

Social Justice

Open Door Fellowship
8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. & 4:30 p.m.
1567 Marion St.
Denver, CO 80218

Scum of the Earth
10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
935 W 11th Ave.
Denver, CO 80204

Denver Neighborhoods



Arrival & Orientation Dates

January 2, 2016:	Student Teacher Arrival
January 4-5:	Student Teacher School Orientation
January 4	Other Student Arrival
January 6-8	DUS Full Orientation (All Students)
January 10	All Other Students start placement

Spring 2016 Seminar Dates

Seminar Class Schedule: Schedule is broken up into three categories listed as:

Urban Perspective (UP), *Cross-Cultural (CC)*, *Christian Student Development (CSD)*

Session 1: Who am I called to be? *Vocare*, connecting one's passions to God's purpose, DISC & SG inventory **CC**

Session 2: Tale of two Cities, reading a City from an Asset Based Community Development lens, from the eyes of Jerusalem vs. Babylon perspective **UP**

Session 3: Turf Tour: Discover and understanding the life of a homeless teens **UP**

Session 4: Enneagram #1: unique look at the divine way God created each of us **CSD**

Session 5: Under the Bridge, discover practical ways of living, interacting and promoting Dignity with the overlooked homeless population **UP**

Session 6: Stations of the Cross, reflective time to spiritually connect the personal to the passion week of Jesus, learning a historical Catholic spiritual practices **CC**

Session 7: Enneagram #2, Disintegration and Integration (growing) **CSD**

Session 8: Seeing as God sees, engage in a Poverty Walk in Capital Hill, understanding the daily lives of those who each day struggle to make enough money to live. **UP**

Session 9: Labyrinth & *Aft Peregrinatio*, finding the sacred in our everyday lives, learning a new way of hearing God from the Christian Contemplative faith stream. **CC**

Session 10: Forgotten Neighborhoods, a look at how Asset Based Community Development brought healthy resurgence to the historical poor Latino Globeville neighborhood **UP**

Session 11: God outside the gate #1, Street Life, digging deep into gang life, graffiti and tagging. **UP**

Session 12: Streams of Faith #1, examine the historical values of the contemplative, sacramental and social justice traditions. **CC, CSD**

Spring Break: no Cross-Cultural Urban Seminar

Session 13: Spiritual Autobiography retreat, held up in the mountains **CSD**

Session 14: Streams of Faith #2, examine the historical values of the holiness, evangelical and charismatic traditions **CSD, CC**

Session 15: Hipster & Urbanite Cultural, South Broadway Thrift Stores and RHINO art district walk, conversation on how "gentrification" has changed many urban neighborhood across America **UP**

Session 16: God Outside the Gate #2, class held at Riverside Cemetery, reflection on how the poor die nameless and the invitation and challenge God is leading us to as we close up on our DUS semester **CC, UP, CSD**

2016 Spring Semester Community Engagements: pick 14

Big Wonderful (Hipster)

Slam Nuba (Africa America spoken word)

Botanic Gardens (sacred space in a city)

Uncle Jed's Barbershop (performance sharing African America cultural)

Art Museum, Colorado History Museum (history of mining exhibit)

Starz Art Independent Film Festival

Jewish Community Center

Greek Festival, McFarland (discussion w Jude about migrant life)

Ghost of Mississippi-Selma (discussion with Bill: racism, segregation and civil rights)

Hike in Rocky Mountain National Park

Mercury Café (Slam Poetry)

Eat a meal with a Kenyon family

Light of Nation Church visit and lunch (refugee)

First Friday Latino art festival

Urban farming-food desert

NWC/DUS: Cross-Cultural Urban Integration Seminar

Spring 2016

Course credit: 4 credits

Class: Fri 3:30-5:30pm *and attend a 2 hours a week community engagement event*

Location

Denver Urban Semester
913 Wyandot St.
Denver, Co. 80204
303-928-9526

Instructors:

Dr. Jeff Johnsen
Greg Fuchs, MA
Millie Cline, MA
gfuchs@milehighmin.org

“Cities are a mirror of our societies, a part of our economy, and an element of our environment. But above all else they are a measure of our ability to live with each other. When we examine our cities we examine ourselves.”

J.R.Short, The Urban Order, An Introduction to Cities, Culture and Power

“The difference between what we do and what we are capable of doing would suffice to solve most of the world’s problems.”

Mahatma Gandhi

Seminar Overview:

In 1900, 20% of the world’s population lived in cities. By 2000, that number had surpassed 50%! Urbanization represents a spectacular challenge to leadership – civic, social and spiritual – in our day. This Seminar is designed to offer student’s tools for understanding the cross-cultural diverse make up of an urban environment, its local expression in Denver, and analytical tools to help leaders develop healthy, reflective, and effective responses.

In addition, since urban culture prioritizes busy and productive lifestyles, this course will help students establish a different approach to the challenges of a diverse cross-cultural city. Students will be invited to develop a new holistic sense of self through reflective practices as well as exercises helping to bring self-understanding and self-awareness and the ultimate invitation to transformative grace. Our hope is that through this seminar, DUS will develop young adults who have a true sense of self, become aware of God’s transformative invitation, and become impactful leaders in a changing global world.

Seminar Objectives

- Learn new perspectives in reading cities, neighborhoods, diverse people groups and social systems that comprise the city.
- Begin to discern the “soul” of a city – the symbols and stories that provide meaning and encourage community.
- Understand the importance of the city in scripture and Christian theology.
- Explore causes and consequences of America’s unique urban challenge and develop Christian Community Development principles as they do their internships in underserved and under resourced neighborhoods
- Engage in diverse cultural events and develop and understand the value and gift learning from other voices throughout the city.
- Broaden one’s worldview by participating in cross-cultural churches, organizations and activities. Practice principles developed in Margaret Wheatly book by intentionally engaging in weekly casual conversations with others.
- Research one neighborhood that has historical poverty and struggles and from a new lens developed from Dr. Mindy Fullilove reading and our classes develop a neighborhood improvement plan that considers the needs and desires of the diverse interests of that community.
- Spend time in a neighborhood that has gentrified and through interviewing at least a dozen leaders in that community report the pros and cons of the changes in this neighborhood.
- Have the opportunity to learn from practicing dignifying dialogue with urban leaders who come from different faith, political and ethnic vantage points.
- Understand the importance of how honest inner work directly influences ones ability to work and learn in cross-cultural settings.
- Recognize important elements in one’s life that develop a balanced life.
- Review, process and present key events that shaped our lives spiritual journey.
- Study the six historical Christian faith traditions and how understanding the similarities and differences can break down barriers.

Required Reading:

- Lupton, Robert D., Compassion, Justice, and the Christian life: Rethinking ministry to the poor. (San Francisco: Harper-Collins 2007).
- Fullilove, Mindy T., Urban Alchemy: Restoring Joy in America’s Sorted-out cities. (New York: New Village Press 2013).
- Perkins, John M., With Justice for All. (Ventura, CA: Regal Books 2011)
- Wheatly, Margaret J., Turning to One Another: Simple conversations to restore hope to the future. (San Francisco: Barrett-Koehler 2002).

Shared Books:

- Muller W., Sabbath: Restoring the Sacred Rhythm of Rest. (New York: Bantam Books 2000).
- Rohr & Ebert. The Enneagram, a Christian Perspective. (New York: Crossroads Pub., 2004).
- Smith J. A Spiritual Formation “Renovare” Workbook. (New York: HarperCollins, 1993).

Films:

- Mother Teresa, 2006 Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment
- Les Miserable 1998 Columbia Pictures
- Luther, 2003 Universal Pictures

Web Resources:

- Enneagram www.enneagraminstitute.com
- Spiritual Gifts, www.christianet.com/bible/spiritualgiftstest.htm

Methods and Procedures:

- Students will be encouraged to participate in class discussions each week as they encounter neighborhood social issues.
- Students will keep a journal, writing one entry per week reflecting on their weekly reading assignments, class content and experiences living and working in the city.
- Students will be learning the historical Christian six streams of faith and the value of dignity as they learn how other ethnicities and cultural practice their faith.
- Students will be taught new ways to share their spiritual autobiography “story” during their mid-semester mountain retreat.
- Students will choose one of the neighborhoods in downtown Denver and learn the history, understand its culture, meet the people that bring leadership, spend time asset mapping, inventory its strengths, and come up with some possible strategies to provide hope to an underserved neighborhood.
- Students will keep a journal, writing one entry per week reflecting on their weekly *community engagement*, personal experiences of working in their cross-cultural internships and thoughts on their experiences living and working in a diverse city.
- Students will broaden their worldview through practicing dignifying dialogue by setting up a meeting with an urban leader to discuss an ideological issue with whom they disagree with.
- Students will develop their intercommunication skills by interviewing and listening to the values of a cross-cultural leader in inner city Denver.

Course Assignments

Class attendance and discussion	10 pts.
Course integration journals (14 pages)	20 pts.
Urban Asset Mapping presentation and paper (8-10)	25 pts.
Streams of Faith paper (8-10 pages)	10 pts.
Urban Gentrification “pro and con” paper (10-12 pages)	25 pts.
Community Engagement autobiography journals (14 pages)	20 pts.
Dignifying Dialogue interview and presentation	10 pts.
Course Final on class content and course reading	20 pts.
Total Course points	130pts.

2016 Participating Students & Placements

Miguel	Alvarado	miguel.alvarado@nwcsiowa.edu	
Brianna	Darling	brianna.darling@nwcsiowa.edu	507-329-3897
Abigail	Gardiner	abigail.gardiner@nwcsiowa.edu	515-975-8092
Elle	Helmkamp	elle.helmkamp@nwcsiowa.edu	712-210-7242
Dakotah	Jordan	dakotah.jordan@nwcsiowa.edu	402-238-5467
Sarah	Morren	sarah.morren@nwcsiowa.edu	256-230-5086
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Kelcie	Scarlett	kelcie.scarlett@nwcsiowa.edu	641-203-8589
Hannah	Twedt	hannah.twedt@nwcsiowa.edu	507-525-4716
Anthony	Wubben	anthony.wubben@nwcsiowa.edu	
Kayla	Kowalski	kayla.kowalski@hope.edu	
Jillian	Gassen	jillian.gassen@hope.edu	

Anthony Wubben:	Brent’s Place	www.brentsplace.org
Hannah Twedt:	Soar Academy	http://soar.ssd2.org
Kayla Kowalski:	Jamlac and Streets Hope	http://www.milehighmin.org/#!/jamlac/c1cvo http://streetshope.org
Jillian Gassen:	Clayton Early Learning Center	www.claytonearlylearning.org
Dakota Jordan:	Metro Caring	www.metrocaring.org
Elle Helmkamp:	Denver Center of International Studies Fairmont	http://dcisfairmont.dpsk12.org
Miguel Alvarado:	Third Way Treatment Center	http://www.thirdwaycenter.org/
Kelcie Scarlett:	Women’s Bean Project	www.womensbeanproject.com
Tasha Pierce:	Place Bridge Academy	http://place.dpsk12.org/
Abigail Gardiner:	Place Bridge Academy	http://place.dpsk12.org/
Briana Darling:	DSST Stapleton MS	http://www.dsstpublicschools.org/stapleton-middle-school
Sarah Morren:	DSST Cole HS	http://www.dsstpublicschools.org/cole-high-school