NOTE: This is a required course for the Graduate Certificate in Urban Ministry.

HOSTS: 

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course is intended to familiarize students with social research methods, and especially ethnographic and sociological methodologies useful to academic and practical assessments of ministry settings. The readings, lectures, field research, and written assignments are designed to assist students in reading and interpreting interpersonal, cultural, organizational, and situational dynamics operative within institutional and neighborhood ministry contexts, including within the context of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and its immediate neighborhood environs. (NOTE: This course satisfies the Urban Ministry Practicum required for the Graduate Certificate in Urban Ministry.)

CLASS OBJECTIVES:
- To strengthen student capacities for observing and interpreting ministry contexts;
- To expand and deepen student cross-cultural awareness and analysis;
- To immerse students in literatures and academic dialogue that cut across disciplinary boundaries;
- To increase student familiarity and engagement with the Seminary’s surrounding neighborhoods.

PREREQUISITES: None

REQUIRED TEXTS:

WRITTEN AND ORAL ASSIGNMENTS/GRADING PROCEDURE
- Social autobiography exercise (10%)
- Four field observation exercises (40%)
- Final 10 page research paper (50%)

ATTENDANCE: Required