

# ETHNIC LOCAL CHURCH GRANTS FOR THE UNITED METHODIST SEMINAR PROGRAM

GENERAL BOARD OF CHURCH AND SOCIETY

United Methodist Church



Would you like to come to Washington, D.C. to visit the General Board of Church and Society and participate in our Seminar Program?! Great!!! We would love to have you. As a part of the program, there are grants of up to \$5,000 to assist racial ethnic groups within the United Methodist Church with transportation and housing during their stay in D.C. For the best experience, we ask that you choose at least one legislative issue that is of particular significance to your group. Please take a look at our Social Principles and Social Creed, which can be found in paragraphs 160-166 of our *United Methodist 2008 Book of Discipline*. Complete the following application, secure the appropriate signatures, and send the application packet to the United Methodist Seminar program at [seminars@umc-gbcs.org](mailto:seminars@umc-gbcs.org) or GBCS, UM Seminar Program, 100 Maryland Ave, NE, WDC 20002. We will contact you at least one week from the time of receiving your application packet to confirm your application.

We look forward to seeing you in D.C.!

Please include the following attachments for the application packet: (See page 3 for guiding questions)

- ✓ Statement from group leader describing current involvement in social justice ministries and reason for visit
  - ✓ Demographics of group and the communities from which group members come
  - ✓ Statement addressing why the particular legislative interest is of significance to the group
  - ✓ Responses to materials read or viewed by two to three participants in the group
  - ✓ Statement describing the desired outcomes of participating in the Seminar Program and plan for sustained involvement in justice ministry upon returning home
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## United Methodist Seminar Program Ethnic Local Church Grant Application

### Group Information

Group Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Group \_\_\_\_\_

Racial Ethnic Group \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS	EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER (S)
Street:	1.	1.
City, State, Zip:	2.	2.

What type of group(s) do you represent? (Check one or more if multiple groups applying.)

- Local Church       Annual Conference       Other affiliated ethnic group/organization
- District       Racial/Ethnic Caucus       Ecumenical group/organization working with and through a United Methodist agency (agencies) or organization

Annual Conference Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Jurisdictional Conference Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

## Guiding Questions

Please feel free to use additional sheets if necessary. These questions are to be used to guide your responses to the attachments requested on page 1 of the application.

### Preparation

What scriptures have been used by the group as a guide for their social justice and advocacy work?

How have you talked about these issues in your group?

### Action

What plans do you currently have to seek, implement, and/or plan social justice ministries?

Beyond your focus in the UM Seminar Program, how will you continue the conversation of how the UM Social Principles can be lived out in daily life?

### Reflection

In what ways do you plan to build on the seminar experience?

# UNITED METHODIST SEMINAR BUDGET

THIS IS AN EXAMPLE FOR A GROUP OF TWELVE (12) PEOPLE STAYING IN A HOTEL WITH TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED.

HOUSING	Hotel	Hostel/Church
Day One: Six rooms, 2 ppl per room	\$780	\$350
Day Two: Six rooms, 2 ppl per room	\$780	\$350

Dining Out	w/ Hotel breakfast	Daily - Catered
Day One: Lunch and Dinner	\$320	\$350
Day Two: Lunch and Dinner	\$450	\$450
Day Three: Breakfast	\$165	\$165
Other (there is a refrigerator where lunches can be stored during the seminar)		
<b>Subtotals</b>	\$935	\$955

Experience Washington, D.C.	Projected Cost	With Discount
Night tour of monuments	\$150	\$150
Ride the Duck	\$180	\$180
D.C. All-Day Pass	\$240	\$200
Other (most places of interest are free in DC)		

TRANSPORTATION	Projected Cost	With Discount	Difference
Van Rental	\$800		\$800
Air Fare: special \$79 one-way rate	\$1,896	\$1,500	\$396
Bus/taxi fare: Greyhound	\$792	\$600	\$192
Insurance: Rental	\$125		\$125
Fuel	\$300		\$300
D.C. Metro/Subway for Three Days	\$150	\$125	\$25

FOOD	Projected Cost	Actual Cost	Difference
Groceries	\$120	\$120	\$0
Snacks	\$60	\$60	\$0
Other: Snacks for Seminar	\$60	\$60	\$0
<b>Subtotals</b>	\$240	\$240	\$0

## UNITED METHODIST SEMINAR BUDGET

HOUSING	Hotel	Hostel/Church	Notes
Miscellaneous			
Seminar fee: # of participants x \$12			
<b>Subtotals</b>			

TRANSPORTATION	Projected Cost	With Discount	Notes
Van Rental			
Air Fare			
Bus/taxi far			
Insurance			
Fuel			
D.C. Metro/Subway for Three Days			
Other			
<b>Subtotals</b>			

Dining Out	Projected Cost	Actual Cost	Notes
Day One			
Day Two			
Day Three			
Other			
<b>Subtotals</b>			

\* Please check for a wide variety of discounts, including student discounts

Miscellaneous Expenses	Projected Cost	Actual Cost	Notes
Other			
<b>Subtotals</b>			

Experience Washington, D.C.	Projected Cost	With Discount	Notes
Miscellaneous			
Other			
<b>Subtotals</b>			

FOOD	Projected Cost	Actual Cost	Notes
Groceries			
Snacks			
Other: Snacks for Seminar			
<b>Subtotals</b>			

E-VERIFICATIONS/SIGNATURES

\* Please contact the following persons to make them aware of your project and seminar application.

Title	Address	Phone Number (s)	Email Address (es)
Group Coordinator			
Local Pastor or Campus Minister			
District Superintendent			
Annual Conference Connectional Ministries Director or Social Justice Coordinator			

\* Three of four of these are required. Please call or email if you need additional instructions or assistance locating these persons within your conference.

### United Methodist Seminar Program – Applied Learning Credit

The opportunity to study and travel to our Nation’s Capitol in Washington, D.C. is a wonderful experience, one that many have not received. In order to prepare for this remarkable experience, we ask that you find creative ways to begin discussing social justice and advocacy with your group. As an applicant for this grant, we ask that you choose two or three books and read and discuss a chapter from each and watch one of these movies with your group before coming to D.C. Responses to songs that speak about social injustice are also appropriate. Feel free to use and find creative means to discuss these issues with your group: an original poetry slam, music competition, collage, etc. Please attach three group responses to the items listed below.

Please keep in mind resources that are age appropriate for your group. There are many songs, poetry, art, blogs, and other forms of creative arts that would be an excellent source for groups. If you find a source that especially works for your group, or need help finding additional sources for your context, please do not hesitate contacting the Seminar Program. HBO and Showtime also have great documentaries that may assist in the planning process. There are excellent articles and activities for all age groups focusing on many social justice issues at [www.teachingtolerance.org](http://www.teachingtolerance.org). We encourage seminar leaders to visit this website when planning a seminar trip to Washington, D.C.

*Other groups have used:*

- “Where is the love” by the Black Eye Peas (song)
- “Hands and Feet” by Audio Adrenaline (song)
- John Q (movie), Whale Rider (movie), Rabbit Proof Fences (movie), Forged by Fire (movie available through GBCS), Joy Luck Club (movie)
- “Poverty is Poison” (a New York Times article)
- Bill Moyers interview with Rev. Dr. James Cone, “The Cross and They Lynching Tree”.  
<http://www.pbs.org/moyers/journal/11232007/profile.html>

*\* Credit may be given to Laity and Clergy for Continuing Education Units please contact your Annual Conference for additional details.*

*\* Please read and view for age appropriateness before showing and sharing with groups.*

### Book Resources

Renita Weems, *Just a Sister Away*, 2005.

James H. Cone:

Black Theology and Black Power, 1997.

A Black Theology of Liberation, 1990.

God of the Oppressed, 1997.

Gustavo Gutierrez. *A Theology of Liberation: History, Politics, and Salvation*. 1988.

Oscar Romero, *The Violence of Love*, 2004.

Paulo Friere, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*, 2000.

Katie G. Cannon:

Katie's Canon: Womanism and the Soul of the Black Community, 1997.

Black Womanist Ethics, 1988.

Howard Thurman:

Meditations of the Heart, 1999.

Jesus and the Disinherited, 1996.

The Search for Common Ground, 1986.

R. S. Sugirtharajah (editor) *Voices from the Margins*.

### Movie Resources

**"Alcatraz Is Not An Island."** (2005 -- 69 minutes -- not rated) This program offers a record of the events of the occupation of Alcatraz Island by Native American activists from 1969 to 1971. For perhaps the first time, Native Americans from a variety of tribes came together to protest together and draw attention to the mistreatment of their people by the Federal government. In the shadow of the civil rights movement, this action drew much attention both from the media and government authorities. ~ Rob Ferrier, All Movie Guide

**"Boys Don't Cry"** (1999 -- 118 minutes -- R) Teena Brandon (Hilary Swank) moves to a small Nebraska town in search of a new life. Preferring to cross-dress and taking the name Brandon Teena, she passes herself off as a boy, begins dating Lana (Chloe Sevigny) and makes friends among the town's redneck men ... until the truth is revealed. Swank's Oscar-winning portrayal of this real-life character illuminates one woman's voyage of self-discovery -- and the events that cut it short.

**"Crash"** (2005 -- 113 minutes -- R) A 36-hour period in the diverse metropolis of post-Sept. 11 Los Angeles is the theme of this unflinching drama that challenges viewers to confront their prejudices. Lives combust when a Brentwood housewife and her D.A. husband, a Persian shopkeeper, two cops, a pair of carjackers and a Korean couple all converge. Director Paul Haggis's Best Picture Oscar winner stars Sandra Bullock, Brendan Fraser, Don Cheadle, Matt Dillon and Jennifer Esposito.

**"Dirty Pretty Things"** (2002 -- 97 minutes -- R) Okwe (Chiwetel Ejiofor), an illegal immigrant working as a night porter at a posh London hotel, stumbles across evidence of a bizarre murder. He and Senay (Audrey Tautou), a Turkish chambermaid -- and fellow undocumented worker -- venture into the city's seedy underworld to find out what happened. Stephen Frears directs this gritty urban thriller.



***Movie Resources, Continued***

**"Freedom Song"** (2000 – 117 minutes -- not rated) In this made-for-cable drama about the Civil Rights movement, unsung citizens risk their lives to bring change at the grassroots level. Set in a fictional Mississippi hamlet, the movie is based on eyewitness accounts of veteran activists who stood on history's frontlines and responded with passion and commitment to the challenge of equal rights for all Americans. The sterling cast includes Danny Glover, Glynn Turman and David Strathairn.

**"Ghosts of Mississippi"** (1996 – 130 minutes – PG-13) In 1963, civil-rights activist Medgar Evers was shot to death by white supremacist Byron De La Beckwith (James Woods). He was captured, but after two trials ended in hung juries, De La Beckwith went free. Thirty years later, Assistant District Attorney Bobby DeLaughter (Alec Baldwin) reopened the case. Ghosts of Mississippi tells the true story of his struggle to bring De La Beckwith to justice.

**"Glory"** (1989 – 118 minutes – R) Loosely based on the letters of Col. Robert G. Shaw (Matthew Broderick), this Academy Award-winning war film follows the first group of African-Americans to serve in combat during the Civil War. The heroics of Shaw's Union Army regiment of black volunteers -- including fugitive slave Pvt. Trip (Denzel Washington, in an Oscar-winning performance) and grave digger Sgt. Maj. John Rawlins (Morgan Freeman) -- helps turn the tide of the war.

**"Hotel Rwanda."** (2005 -- 122 minutes -- PG13). Amid the holocaust of internecine tribal fighting in Rwanda that sees the wanton and savage butchering of hundreds of thousands of men, women and children, one ordinary man (Don Cheadle) musters the courage to save more than 1,000 helpless refugees by sheltering them in the hotel he manages. Sophie Okonedo, Nick Nolte and Joaquin Phoenix co-star in this powerful film (sort of an African version of Schindler's List) directed by Terry George.

**"Iron Jawed Angels."** (2004 -- 124 minutes -- unrated). From 1912 to 1920, a group of fiery young suffragettes led by Alice Paul (Hilary Swank) and Lucy Burns (Frances O'Connor) band together to wheedle the United States into adapting a Constitutional amendment guaranteeing women the right to vote. Along the way, they incur the wrath of President Woodrow Wilson (Bob Gunton) and anger other suffragette leaders (Anjelica Huston and Lois Smith). Directed by Katja von Garnier.

**"Maria Full of Grace"** (2004 – 101 minutes -- R) Maria Full of Grace is the harrowing story of an atypical drug-running "mule." Maria Alvarez (Catalina Sandino Moreno, whose portrayal earned her an Independent Spirit Award for Best Female Lead) is a smart, independent 17-year-old girl from Colombia who agrees to smuggle a half-kilo of heroin into the United States for a shot at a normal existence in the magical land of "El Norte" -- where she imagines the city streets must be paved with gold.

***Movie Resources, Continued***

**"Milk"** (2008 – 128 minutes -- R) Sean Penn (in a Golden Globe-nominated role) stars in this fact-based drama about Harvey Milk, the openly gay activist and San Francisco politician who was murdered along with mayor George Moscone (Victor Garber) by disgruntled city employee Dan White (Josh Brolin) in 1978. Director Gus Van Sant's compelling biopic (nominated for three Independent Spirit Awards) co-stars Emile Hirsch, James Franco and Diego Luna.

**"North Country"** (2005 -- 126 minutes -- R) Based on an inspiring real-life event that took place in the 1970s, North Country stars Charlize Theron in another low-glamour but high-impact role as Josey Aimes, one of only a handful of women working in the Minnesota iron mines. Forced to labor under sexist conditions, she and her female colleagues decide to stand up against the unrelenting harassment from their male counterparts. Frances McDormand, Sissy Spacek and Woody Harrelson co-star.

**"Philadelphia"** (1993 – 125 minutes – PG-13) When attorney Andrew Beckett (Tom Hanks) reveals his HIV-positive status -- and his homosexuality -- to his co-workers, he soon finds himself unemployed. Seeking to sue for wrongful termination, Hanks works with the only lawyer who'll take the case: ambulance-chasing, homophobic Joe Miller (Denzel Washington). Hanks received an Oscar for his work in this Jonathan Demme-directed film -- the first major-studio picture to tackle the topic of AIDS.

**"The Shawshank Redemption"** (1994 – 142 minutes – R) Upstanding banker Andy Dufresne (Tim Robbins) is framed for a double murder in the 1940s and begins a life sentence at the Shawshank prison, where he's befriended by an older inmate named Red (Morgan Freeman). During his long stretch in prison, Dufresne comes to be admired by the other inmates for his upstanding moral code and unquenchable sense of hope. Co-stars Gil Bellows and Bob Gunton (who's memorable as the amoral prison warden).

**"4 Little Girls."** (1997 -- 102 minutes -- not rated). Director Spike Lee uses this feature length documentary to tell the story of the 1963 bombing of an Alabama African-American church -- an event that took the lives of four young girls and became a pivotal moment in the civil rights struggle. Lee's film examines the crime and its perpetrators as well as the four young victims (as described by friends and families). It also includes interviews with noted civil rights activists and journalists.

**"Taxi to the Dark Side"** (2007—106 minutes—R) Just days after an Afghan taxi driver picked up three passengers and never returned home, he wound up dead at Bagram Air Base, killed by injuries inflicted by U.S. soldiers. Interviews, news footage and firsthand reports provide a gripping look at the case and the Bush administration's policy on torture. Alex Gibney (Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room) directs this Best Documentary winner for the 2008 Oscars.

***Movie Resources, Continued***

**“The Great Debaters”** (2007—126 minutes—PG-13) When African American poet Mel Tolson (Denzel Washington, who also directs) creates a debate team at historically black Wiley College in the 1930s, he pushes the team to a level of excellence that allows them to take on Harvard University. But despite public success, personal clashes foment as the father (Forest Whitaker) of one of Tolson's students (Denzel Whitaker) begins to resent his son's loyalty to his coach.

**“The Visitor”** (2007—104 minutes—PG-13) Widowed professor Walter Vale (Richard Jenkins) discovers an immigrant couple, Tarek (Haaz Sleiman) and Zainab (Danai Gurira), squatting in his Manhattan flat and becomes wrapped up in their lives when Tarek is thrown into a detention center. A wonderful Hiam Abbass co-stars as Tarek's mother, who forges an unlikely connection with Walter. Director Thomas McCarthy's follow-up to his indie hit *The Station Agent* was nominated for three Independent Spirit Awards.

**Notes about these movies:**

\* The majority of these reviews are from [www.netflix.com](http://www.netflix.com).

\*Please check the on-line availability and permissions needed to show to a group.

\*We are in the process of consistently updating this list, so if you would like to make recommendations or inquire about additional movies, please do not hesitate contact the UM Seminar Office at 202.488.5609.

\*Before viewing any movies, the group leader may want to utilize a permission slip and ensure that it is permissible to view the movie/show/series in order to be in discussion about social justice ministry.

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