CE 7484
Introduction to Christian Education

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Department of Christian Education

Spring 2011-12
Introduction to Christian Education

Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary
Bradley C. Thompson, Ph.D.
Department of Christian Education

CE 7484

Fall 2012 –13
Tuesday - Thursday, 9:00 – 9:50 A.M.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
An integrated study of the development of Christian education. Consideration is given to the foundations of Christian education, the outstanding patterns of education, the teaching/learning process, and the philosophy and methodology of Christian education praxis within the context of a local church. Three hours.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND COURSE FORMAT
The course is designed to be highly interactive in the exploration of the philosophy, administrative principles, and practical implementation of a Christian Education ministry. The student involved in this discovery learning process should be able to:

A. Identify biblical, theological, and philosophical concepts for Christian education, and critique educational practices from a Biblical worldview.

B. Understand and apply principles and practices of basic Christian Education ministry.

C. Understand the basic structure of a Sunday School organization, including the basic competencies of teaching, recruiting, motivating, and training workers in a Christian Education ministry.

D. Understand the needs of age groups within a Christian Education ministry.

E. Develop biblical, theological, and philosophical ideas from which a Christian Education ministry.

F. Identify different learning styles within age groups of a Christian Education ministry.

G. Fully understand the teaching – learning process within a Christian Education ministry.

The course is designed as a series of learning modules. Instructional modules will include simulations, case studies, discussion groups, group projects and papers. The course will be highly interactive, and necessitates that ALL participants engage in dialogue with the issues and concerns under discussion.

COURSE READING
The following texts are required reading for class discussion and are to be read in their entirety unless otherwise indicated.

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**LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND EVALUATION**

The following assignments totaling 1000 points are to be completed as described below by the dates outlined in the Course Schedule.

**Assignment Formatting**

- Unless otherwise noted, type all assignments double-spaced with 1 inch margins
- Use Times New Roman 12 point font
- Unless otherwise noted, a cover page and/or report cover is not necessary
- Staple assignment pages together as necessary or as required
- Refer to the MABTS Department of Christian Education Style Manual

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

A. *Class attendance.* Attendance is a necessity in the learning process. In addition, the classroom learning experience is enhanced by attendance and participation. According to seminary policy, students are not allowed to accumulate more than 9 excused absences and still receive credit for a course. An excused absence is defined in the MABTS catalog as “a personal or family illness, death in the family, or death or emergency on the church field which requires the student’s presence.” It is the responsibility of students to submit a written excuse to the professor on the day they return to class. Otherwise, the absence will be counted as unexcused. In addition to full absences, being tardy (entering the room after the bell has rung) counts as 1/3 of an absence; leaving class early without permission likewise counts as 1/3 of an absence; studying for other classes during the class period will be counted as a full absence. Obviously, students are responsible for all class notes, handouts, or assignments given during any absence. YOU WILL EARN A FINAL GRADE OF “F” IF YOU MISS MORE THAN 9 CLASS SESSIONS OR ANY PORTION THEREOF.

B. *Reading* (250 points total). Read all text as assigned. 10 daily reading quizzes worth 25 points each will be given during the term.

C. *Examinations* (500 points total). There will be two major tests: a mid-term examination worth 250 points and a final examination worth 250 points. The tests will cover all material discussed in class and the assigned reading in the text.
D. Group Project (250 points total). Develop a portfolio on a Christian Education Ministry that includes:

- Christian Education Planning Calendar 50 points
- Christian Education Budget Spreadsheet 50 points
- Christian Education Staffing Chart 50 points
- Educational Assessment 100 points

This project is due at the beginning of class on the day of the final exam. Late submissions (or any portion thereof) will be assessed 10 points per day, including weekends.

GRADING SCALE

Your final grade for this course will be determined by adding up the total number of points on all exams and the research paper and basing them on the following scale:

985-1,000 points = A+  
925-944 points = B+  
835-864 points = C+  
745-764 points = D+  
Below 700 points = F

965-984 points = A  
895-924 points = B  
805-834 points = C  
715-744 points = D  
700-714 points = D-  
945-964 points = A-  
865-894 points = B-  
765-804 points = C-  
600-634 points = C  
500-524 points = C-  
400-424 points = D  
300-324 points = D-  
245-264 points = F

The professor for this class will be available to speak to students immediately before or after class. Students should make an appointment for a conference at any other time through the Vice President of Institutional Assessment office (751-3032). The professor reserves the right to make modifications in the class syllabus or schedule as necessary.

Please turn off or silence all cell phones before entering class.
## READING SCHEDULE

### Week 1
- **Monday, August 20**
  - Founders’ Days
- **Tuesday, August 21**
  - *Anthony*, 1 – 20
  - Founders’ Days
- **Wednesday, August 22**
  - *Anthony*, 21 – 40
  - Founders’ Days
- **Thursday, August 23**
  - *Anthony*, 41 – 60
  - Reading Quiz Sample

### Week 2
- **Tuesday, August 28**
  - *Anthony*, 61 – 80
- **Wednesday, August 29**
  - *Anthony*, 81 – 100
- **Thursday, August 30**
  - *Anthony*, 101 – 120
  - Reading Quiz 1

### Week 3
- **Tuesday, September 4**
  - *Anthony*, 120 – 140
- **Wednesday, September 5**
  - *Anthony*, 141 – 160
- **Thursday, September 6**
  - *Anthony*, 161 – 180
  - Reading Quiz 2

### Week 4
- **Tuesday, September 11**
  - *Anthony*, 181 – 200
- **Wednesday, September 12**
  - *Anthony*, 201 – 220
- **Thursday, September 13**
  - *Anthony*, 221 – 240
  - Reading Quiz 3

### Week 5
- **Tuesday, September 18**
  - *Anthony*, 241 – 260
- **Wednesday, September 19**
  - *Anthony*, 261 – 289
- **Thursday, September 20**
  - *Powers*, 1 – 20
  - Reading Quiz 4

### Week 6
- **Monday, September 24**
  - Adrian Rogers Center for Biblical Preaching Conference (ARC)
- **Tuesday, September 25**
  - *Powers*, 21 – 40
  - ARC
- **Wednesday, September 26**
  - *Powers*, 41 – 60
  - ARC
- **Thursday, September 27**
  - *Powers*, 61 – 80
  - Reading Quiz 5

### Week 7
- **Tuesday, October 2**
  - *Powers*, 81 – 100
- **Wednesday, October 3**
  - *Powers*, 101 – 120
- **Thursday, October 4**
  - *Powers*, 121 – 140
  - Reading Quiz 6

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Week 8
Tuesday, October 9  Powers, 141 – 160
Wednesday, October 10  Powers, 161 – 180
Thursday, October 11  Powers, 181 – 200  Reading Quiz 7

Week 9
Tuesday, October 16  Powers, 201 – 220
Wednesday, October 17  Powers, 221 – 240
Thursday, October 18  Powers, 241 – 260  Reading Quiz 8

Week 10
Tuesday, October 23  Powers, 261 – 280
Wednesday, October 24  Powers, 281 – 311
Thursday, October 25  Pazmiño, 1 – 20  Reading Quiz 9

Week 11
Tuesday, October 30  Pazmiño, 1 – 20
Wednesday, October 31  Pazmiño, 21 – 40
Thursday, November 1  Pazmiño, 41 – 60  Reading Quiz 10

Week 12
Tuesday, November 6  Pazmiño, 61 – 80
Wednesday, November 7  Pazmiño, 81 – 100
Thursday, November 8  Pazmiño, 101 – 120

Week 13
Tuesday, November 13  Pazmiño, 121 – 140
Wednesday, November 14  Pazmiño, 141 – 160
Thursday, November 15  Pazmiño, 161 – 180

NOVEMBER 16 – 26 THANKSGIVNG TO GOD HOLIDAY

Week 14
Tuesday, November 27  Pazmiño, 181 – 200
Wednesday, November 28  Pazmiño, 201 – 220
Thursday, November 29  Pazmiño, 221 – 240
Week 15

Tuesday, December 4        Pazmiño, 241 – 251
Wednesday, December 5
Thursday, December 6

Week 16

Tuesday, December 11
Wednesday, December 12
Thursday, December 13

Tuesday, December 18        Final Examinations
Wednesday, December 19     Final Examinations

*The final examination will be on Wednesday, December 19 from 8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.*
## CLASS SCHEDULE

### Week 1
- **Monday, August 20**: Founders’ Days
- **Tuesday, August 21**: Founders’ Days
- **Wednesday, August 22**: Founders’ Days
- **Thursday, August 23**: Syllabus Overview, Class Norms

### Week 2
- **Tuesday, August 28**: Historical Foundations, Part 1
- **Wednesday, August 29**: Historical Foundations, Part 2
- **Thursday, August 30**: Philosophical Foundations

### Week 3
- **Tuesday, September 4**: Theological Foundations
- **Wednesday, September 5**: Life Span Development: Erik Erikson, Daniel Levinson
- **Thursday, September 6**: Moral Development: Lawrence Kohlberg

### Week 4
- **Tuesday, September 11**: Faith Development: James Fowler
- **Wednesday, September 12**: Psycho-social Development: Erik Erikson
- **Thursday, September 13**: Cognitive Development: Jean Piaget

### Week 5
- **Tuesday, September 18**: Spiritual Formation
- **Wednesday, September 19**: Anthony, 261 – 289
- **Thursday, September 20**: Learning Theory 1

### Week 6
- **Monday, September 24**: Adrian Rogers Center for Biblical Preaching Conference
- **Tuesday, September 25**: Adrian Rogers Center for Biblical Preaching Conference
- **Wednesday, September 26**: Adrian Rogers Center for Biblical Preaching Conference
- **Thursday, September 27**: Learning Theory 2

### Week 7
- **Tuesday, October 2**: Personality Theory 1: Johari Window, DISC
- **Wednesday, October 3**: Personality Theory 2: Myers – Briggs, NBI
- **Thursday, October 4**: Teaching for Results, 1
**Week 8**

Tuesday, October 9  
*Teaching for Results, 2*

Wednesday, October 10  
*Organizational Models for Christian Education, Part 1*

Thursday, October 11  
*Organizational Models for Christian Education, Part 2*

**Week 9**

Tuesday, October 16  
*Program Planning*

Wednesday, October 17  
*Recruiting, Training, Motivating Workers, Part 1*

Thursday, October 18  
*Recruiting, Training, Motivating Workers, Part 2*

**Week 10**

Tuesday, October 23  
*Conflict Management in Christian Education, Part 1*

Wednesday, October 24  
*Conflict Management in Christian Education, Part 2*

Thursday, October 25  
*Team Exercise in Conflict Management*

**Week 11**

Tuesday, October 30  
*Preschool Christian Education*

Wednesday, October 31  
*Children’s Christian Education*

Thursday, November 1  
*Youth Christian Education*

**Week 12**

Tuesday, November 6  
*Adult Christian Education*

Wednesday, November 7  
*Evangelism in Christian Education*

Thursday, November 8  
*Discipleship Training in Christian Education*

**Week 13**

Tuesday, November 13  
*Sunday School Basics: Flake’s Formula*

Wednesday, November 14  
*The Growth Spiral, Part 1*

Thursday, November 15  
*The Growth Spiral, Part 2*

**NOVEMBER 16 – 26 THANKSGIVING TO GOD HOLIDAY**

**Week 14**

Tuesday, November 27  
*New Member/Discovery Class*

Wednesday, November 28  
*Curriculum, Part 1*

Thursday, November 29  
*Curriculum, Part 2*
Week 15

Tuesday, December 4  Budgeting in Christian Education
Wednesday, December 5  Calendaring in Christian Education
Thursday, December 6  Moral, Ethical Issues in Christian Education

Week 16

Tuesday, December 11  Calling/Terminating Church Staff, 1
Wednesday, December 12  Calling/Terminating Church Staff, 2
Thursday, December 13  Course Debrief

Tuesday, December 18  Final Examinations
Wednesday, December 19  Final Examinations

*The final examination will be on Wednesday, December 19 from 8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.*
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PORTFOLIO- 250 points

Develop a Christian Education portfolio that includes:

- Christian Education Planning Calendar (50 points)
  Include 50 events on your calendar that would be included in a normal church year (High Attendance Days, training events, fellowship events, outreach events, inreach events, promotion, etc...)

- Christian Education Budget Spreadsheet (50 points)
  Include a comprehensive budget with at least ten first level line items (Training, curriculum, supplies, childcare, transportation, etc...). Larger budgets should include sub-levels.

- Christian Education Staffing Chart (50 points)
  Smaller and medium churches- include all Christian Education personnel and vocational staff.
  Large and mega churches- include age division personnel.
  Create a flow chart to identify all staff, leaders, and workers in a Christian Education organization.

- Educational Assessment (100 points)
  Complete a Growth Spiral and Space Study for your church and write a narrative to demonstrate your findings.

  Use a three-ring binder to present your portfolio. Use dividers (neatness counts!)
Final Grade/Attendance Summary

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1. Mid-term Examination (250 points possible)  
   ________/250

2. Final Examination (250 points possible)  
   ________/250

3. Portfolio (250 points possible)  
   ________/250

4. Daily Reading Quizzes (250 points possible)  
   ________/250

Total points earned  
   ________/1000

FINAL COURSE GRADE

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Quiz Sample

Kohlberg’s Stages of Moral Development

Lawrence Kohlberg is associated with the theory of _______________ development