

# **EM5101L History and Philosophy of Education**

**Instructor: Stan Hamm, Ph.D. Associate Professor of  
Education and Student Development**

## **SYLLABUS**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course includes a study of the major religious and secular developments in history and education along with a comparison of those developments with biblical principles. The goal is to develop an understanding of the church's role in education and to develop a personal philosophy of Christian education.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

As a result of this course:

1. Students will have the ability to describe, compare, analyze, and evaluate various philosophies of education and their impact on modern education.
2. Students will understand and analyze trends in the history of education.
3. Student will be able to critique major problem areas in education.
4. Students will develop a biblical and personal philosophy of education.
5. Students will value the role of effective Christian educators.

### **COURSE TEXTS**

*All texts can be orderd at the [Bookstore](#) or [on-line](#).*

Anthony, Michael J., and Warren S. Benson. *Exploring The History and Philosophy of Christian Education: Principles for the 21st Century*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Kregal Publications, 2003.

Knight, George R. *Philosophy and Education: An Introduction in Christian Perspective*. 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Berrien Springs, Michigan: Andrews University Press, 2006.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

*Active participation* is a major requirement of this course. Christian education is an interpersonal discipline. Leadership in Christian education requires effective communication skills as well as the ability to model advanced competency in communication and small group interaction. This class is an opportunity to develop and to demonstrate these capabilities. All readings and assignments should be completed by the assigned dates. Late assignments will be penalized.

### **1. Readings:**

Students will read the texts, and submit two 3-4 page critical reviews of a portion of the material in each texts.

Due: February 13

### **2. Written:**

a. Biblical Education – the student will write a 10 – 12 page paper presenting their understanding of biblical education. The paper should demonstrate a thorough understanding of the biblical (O.T. and N.T.) concept of education as well as adequate research (4-5 sources) on contemporary views of biblical education.

Due: March 13

b. Philosophy – the student will write a 12 – 15 page paper presenting their philosophy of education. This paper will include the student’s presuppositions (as in philosophy – metaphysics, epistemology and axiology), principles, and practices of Christian education.

Due: April 10

### **3. Practice:**

Course Presentation – students will write a 6-8 page paper in which they will review and critique their own education experience (school and church). Students will then distribute these reviews to fellow classmates for discussion.

Due: March 27

## **COURSE GRADING**

Readings/Participation	15%
Education Paper	30%
Philosophy Paper	30%
Course Presentation	25%

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

- Lesson 1 Philosophy of Education
- Lesson 2 Philosophies of Education (Idealism, Realism, Thomism)
- Lesson 3 Philosophies of Education (Pragmatism, Existentialism, Philosophies in the Church)
- Lesson 4 History - Ancient - Early Church
- Lesson 5 Early Church - Early Middle Ages
- Lesson 6 Later Middle Ages – Reformation
- Lesson 7 Enlightenment - Colonial Period
- Lesson 8 Modern Period
- Lesson 9 A Biblical Philosophy of Education
- Lesson 10 Toward a Philosophy of Christian Education

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Anthony, Michael J. *Foundations of Ministry*. Wheaton, IL: Bridgepoint Books, 1992.
- \_\_\_\_\_. (editor) *Introducing Christian Education: Foundations for the Twenty-first Century*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2001.
- Barclay, William. *Educational Ideals in the Ancient World*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1974.
- Barlow, Daniel Lenox. *Educational Psychology*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1985.
- Beechick, Ruth. *A Biblical Psychology of Learning*. Denver: Accent Books, 1982.
- Blamares Harry. *Recovering the Christian Mind*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1988.
- Bloom, Allan. *The Closing of the American Mind*. Simon and Schuster, 1987.
- Brown, Marion E., and Majorie G. Prentice. *Christian Education in the Year 2000*. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 1984.
- Clark, Gordon H. *A Christian Philosophy of Education*. (2nd. edition revised). Jefferson, MD: Trinity Foundation, 1987.
- Daniel, Eleanor, John Wade, and Charles Gresham. *Introduction to Christian Education*. Cincinnati: Standard Publishing, 1980.
- Dilworth, David. *Philosophy in World Perspective*. Yale University Press, 1989.

- Dupuis, Adrian. *Philosophy of Education in Historical Perspective*. University Press of America, 1985.
- Gangel, Kenneth O., and Warren S. Benson. *Christian Education: Its History and Philosophy*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1983.
- Getz, Gene. *Sharpening the Focus of the Church*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1987.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Building Up One Another*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1976.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Measure of a Church*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1976.
- Graendorf, Werner. *Introduction to Biblical Christian Education*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1981.
- Griffiths, Michael. *God's Forgetful Pilgrims*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmanns, 1978.
- Gutek, Gerald Lee. *Philosophical Alternatives in Education*. Columbus, OH: Charles E. Merrill Publishing Company, 1974.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Historical and Philosophical Foundations of Education*. (Third Edition) Columbus, Ohio: Merrill Prentice Hall, 2001.
- Jones, David C., Nancy M. Sheehan, and Robert M. Stamp. *Shaping the Schools of the Canadian West*. Calgary: Detselig Enterprises Limited, 1979.
- Kelsey, David. *Between Athens and Berlin: The Theological Education Debate*. William B. Eerdmanns, 1993.
- Knight, George. *Philosophy and Education*. Berrien Springs, MI: Andrews University Press, 1980.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Issues and Alternatives in Educational Philosophy*. (2nd Edition) Berrion Springs, Michigan: Andrews University Press, 1989.
- Kreffft, Peter. *Knowing the Truth of God's Love*. Ann Arbor, MI: Servant Books, 1988.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Best Things in Life are Free*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1984.
- Lewis, Terry. *Schools on Trial*. Winnipeg: Christian School Consultants, 1985.
- Mallone, George. *Furnace of Renewal*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1981.
- Milne, Bruce. *We Belong Together*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1978.

Moore, W. Edgar. *Creative and Critical Thinking*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1986.

Nouwen, Henri J.M. *Reaching Out*. Garden City, NY: Image Books, 1986.

Palmer, Parker. *To Know as We are Known: A Spirituality of Education*. Harper and Row, 1983.

Pazmino, Robert W. *Principles and Practices of Christian Education: An Evangelical Perspective*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1992.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Foundational Issues in Christian Education: An Introduction in Evangelical Perspective*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1988.

\_\_\_\_\_. *God Our Teacher: Theological Basics in Christian Education*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2001.

Postman, Neil. *Teaching as a Conserving Activity*. Delacorte Press, 1979.

Peterson, Michael L. *Philosophy of Education*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1986.

Reed, James E., and Ronnie Prevost. *A History of Christian Education*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1993.

Richards, Lawrence O., and Gib Martin. *A Theology of Personal Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1981.

Rood, Wayne. *Understanding Christian Education*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1970.

\_\_\_\_\_. *On Nurturing Christians*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1972.

Rusk, Robert. *Doctrines of the Great Educators*. (5th ed.) London: MacMillan Press, 1979.

Sanner, A. Elwood. *Exploring Christian Education*. Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 1978.

Schwehn, Mark. *Exiles from Eden: Religion and the Academic Vocation in America*. Oxford University Press, 1993.

Snydor, Howard. *The Problem of Wineskins*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1975.

Taylor, Charles A. *Educational Ministry of a Church*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1982.

Towns, Elmer. *A History of Religious Educators*. Grand Rapids, Baker Book House, 1975.

Tozer, A.W. *Tragedy in the Church*. Harrisburg, PA: Christian Publications, 1978.

Webber, Robert. *The Secular Saint*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1979.

Wilhoit, Jim. *Christian Education and the Search for Meaning*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1986.

\_\_\_\_\_, and John M. Dettoni (Editors). *Nurture That Is Christian: Developmental Perspectives on Christian Education*. Wheaton, IL: Bridgepoint Books, 1995.

Zuck, Roy. *The Holy Spirit in Your Teaching*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1984.