THE EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH (“PARISH TRACK”)
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3CE514
Spring 2007
Two Credits
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Course Description

A study of the pastor’s and elder’s role as teacher and administrator within the educational program of the church. Careful attention is given to philosophy, history, organization, curriculum, recruiting and training teachers and the special needs of each age group.

Resources

This is the short summary of the teaching of an RTS professor who was dean of Christian Education here emphasizes the key term: discipleship. *(For mentor)*

Here is an introduction to planning and using technology in the church.

Enjoy the thinking of these two Reformed giants on matters of Christian education.

We reach to church history for this work by Vincent. The catechism is intended to be a method of Christian education for children and adults. Here we have a contemporary of the Westminster divines and his catechism for catechism.
Projects and Feedback

Reading all texts (10%)
Document completion of a careful reading of the four textbooks. Keep a personal journal of pertinent insights into education in the church and your goals as a Christian educator. Submit a two-page summary of the journal. Due at final seminar.

Meetings with mentor (10%)
Document meetings, insights and questions from scheduled meetings with church-based mentor. Please include your Learning Covenant. Due at final seminar.

Ministry Project #1 (for mentor, 20%)
Work under the direction of your mentor on an important CE project for him and your church. Project report and related media due at midterm seminar, April 3, 2004.

Ministry Project #2 (with professor and for mentor, 40%)
Design, develop and evaluate a CE project for your church according to the steps of instructional design presented in class. “Front-end analysis” will be due and presented at the mid-term seminar in April. Paper and and/or media will be presented at the final seminar.

Review Paper (with professor, draft reviewed by mentor, 20%)
PAPER: One paper of not less than twenty or more than thirty pages will be required. The paper must cover at least four different aspects of education in the church. Everyone must write at least five pages on foundations of Christian Education and five pages on the role of the pastors and elders in education. The remainder of the paper can cover any other two aspects of CE addressed in this course or in your readings. This paper is not to be a traditional term paper. You are to set forth your understanding of what the foundation for educational ministry in the church should be, what you believe the role of the pastor to be, and how you envision the other two aspects of CE to unfold in a given setting.

You need to use footnotes only when you get material from another source. If you take something from someone else, be honest and give them credit. Otherwise, there is no expectation that you must use other sources of information beyond the textbooks or lectures. The emphasis in this assignment is to think and reflect rather than to engage in research. Your paper will be judged on the basis of clarity and consistency, how well you addressed issues of importance in a comprehensive, albeit no exhaustive, way, the degree to which it is your personal work rather than from published sources, and how well you relate the issues you address to the practice of education in the church. The paper is due on at the final seminar.
Calendar

Feb 12      M   Orientation Seminar (9:00 am – noon)

Regular Meetings with Mentor

Apr ?      Mid-Term Seminar (9:00 am – noon)

Read Harper, I, II, III, and V
Read Jewell, Introduction, Chapter One – Five, Part Four
Read Johnson (Ed.), Part One
Read Vincent, Q.I – XLII, p. iii – 115
Complete and present Project 1 and five-page summary
Complete and present “front-end analysis” (needs assessment, situation analysis, team organization, objectives specification) for Project 2, including a five-page summary

Regular Meetings with Mentor

May?      Final Seminar (2 hours)

Read Harper, IV, VI, VII
Read Jewell, Introduction, Part Three, Appendix
Read Johnson (Ed.), Part Two
Read Vincent, Q.XLIII - CVII, p. 116 – 282
Complete and present Paper
Complete and present media selection and prototype construction for Project 2

Instructional Design for Project 2

The instructional project for the Project 2 is to make a plan for doing the instructional design of an educational product or typical teaching series for the student's local church. A finished product is not necessary, just two or three paragraphs per step below on the plan to do this instructional design. If you choose, complete a simple PowerPoint series of ten slides or so for this exercise. The steps for instructional design and development are as follows:
1. Needs Assessment
What are the benefits to be sought for your learner? Find the gap between the ideal and the status quo. What is the “job” that your learner will choose you or your educational product to do? Surveys, interviews, records, etc. are sources of data for a needs assessment. You do not have to complete the study, but write a plan of how you might do the data collection and analysis and what you expect to find in your study.

2. Situation Analysis
This phase leads to knowing the features of the education needed for your learner to reach the learning outcomes and for your company to earn positive net revenue (income minus expenses)? What are the constraints and opportunities with your time, money, resources, people, etc.? What is revealed by a “SWOT analysis” of the setting (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats)?

3. Team Organization
What are the roles and goals for each member of the team responsible for design, development and evaluation of education delivery? What professional skills and disciplines will be needed on the team for delivery? List abilities and interests necessary for project success. What is the character and competence needed to be observed for trust in each member of the team?

4. Objectives Specification
What will the learner know, feel and do upon completion of the instruction? How is this set of outcomes consistent with the Purpose, Vision, Mission and important Directions of the church?

5. Media and Software Selection
Given the above “front-end analysis”, what are the recommended formats or medium/media for the project? Oral, text, … and/or audio, video, animation, etc.?

6. Evaluation
What is the match of the objectives and needs to the learner outcomes observed by both internal and external reviewers? How would you set up formative and summative evaluation processes? How would your findings be recycled for future improvements in this example of Christian education?