



**A MINISTRY OF AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF INDIANA AND KENTUCKY  
IN COOPERATION WITH ABC-GI ALONG WITH SPONSORING  
AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES & ASSOCIATIONS**

## **C201 Christian Education & Nurture**

July 13, August 3, August 24 & September 14, 2019

**Rev. Dr. Jim Walter, Instructor**

jimwalter@abc-indiana.org

765.720.2313 Cell

### **Description and Purpose**

Christian Education and Christian Nurture will explore the purpose and practice of Christian Education in the congregational context and explore emerging issues Christian educators need to consider as they plan and implement educational ministry within and outside their congregation.

### **Focus of this Experience**

By participating in class and other course work, each student will:

- Explore the importance of Christian Education in and outside church congregations
- Explore the concepts and purpose of Christian Education
- Consider the variety of contexts in which Christian Education occurs
- Learn how to research and critique several types of curriculum
- Evaluate the Christian Education system of each student's congregation
- Explore how culture influences methods of educating and the importance of the church

### **Format of the course:**

The class topic will consist of mini-lectures, hands on learning, interaction with other class members, video "guest educators", reading and written homework assignments. Students will need the required text books, a Bible, and a notebook or laptop/tablet for notes.

## **Required Texts**

1. Basics of Christian Education by Karen B. Tye
2. Christian Education in the small Membership Church by Karen B. Tye
3. Traveling Together: a guide for disciple-forming congregations by Jeffrey D. Jones

\*\*Most of these books are available *used* on Amazon.com for a small fraction of the cost of new ones.

Other resources you may want to have for further exploration:

Teaching Like Jesus by La Verne Tolbert

Practicing Christian Education: An Introduction for Ministry by Mark A. Maddix (Author), James Riley Jr. Estep (Author).

## **Student Expectations**

1. Attend all sessions whenever possible.
2. Contact the instructor in advance, if you will be absent.
3. Be prepared for each class session.
4. Participate in class discussions and exercises.
5. Support and encourage other students in the class.
6. Communicate with the instructor, if you have any questions or concerns.

Please bring the following to each class session:

- Textbooks
- Good English Translation of the Bible
- Notebook (for handouts, assignments and taking notes)
- 2 pens/pencils (electronic device to take notes, if preferred)
- Syllabus, handouts & assignments

## **Requirements to Earn Credit**

1. Completion of reading and written assignments.
2. Participation in class discussions and exercises.
3. Read additional articles or blogs as may be assigned.
4. Bring textbooks and completed assignments to each class session.
5. Attend at least 15 of the 20 hours of classroom time.
6. If absent one class session, earn an excused absence by doing the following:
  - a. contact the instructor about your absence (preferably before the absence, but at least within 72 hours of the absence);
  - b. obtain notes from two students who did participate in any class session you missed;
  - c. request a copy of the PowerPoint presentation(s) for the class session you missed in note format (3 slides per page); of course, this only applies if the instructor uses PowerPoint in the class session you missed;
  - d. complete a special assignment given by your instructor in addition to regular assignments; this is usually an enriching experience that will most likely pertain to the class session the student missed in some way.

## Class Sessions

### July 13, 2019 (Session 1)

#### Assignment prior to Session 1:

- Read chapters 1-3 of the Basics of Christian Education book
- Write a 2-page description of your home church's Christian Education program, including your experiences in Christian Education (due at beginning of class).

#### Session One Focus:

- What is effective Christian Education?
- Why do we educate?
- Where do we educate?

### August 3, 2019 (Session 2)

#### Assignments prior to Session 2:

- Read chapters 4-8 of the Basics of Christian Education book.
- Turn in any assigned homework from session one (due at beginning of class).

#### Session Two Focus:

- What do we need to know?
- Whom do we educate?
- How do we educate?
- The life of a disciple

### August 24, 2019 (Session 3)

#### Assignments prior to Session 3:

- Read chapters 1-4 of Traveling Together book.
- Turn in any assigned homework from session two (due at beginning of class).

#### Session Three Focus:

- The elements of discipleship?
- Disciple-forming practices.
- Disciple-forming qualities.

### September 14, 2019 (Session 4)

#### Assignments prior to Session 4:

- Read chapters 5-8 of Traveling Together book.
- Read chapters 1-4 of Christian Education in the Small Membership Church book.
- Turn in assigned homework from session three (due at beginning of class).

***\*\*Final project paper due on or before two weeks after final class.***

#### Session Four Focus:

- What is so different about small churches?
- Who are the millennials and how do we reach them?
- Resources and tools for Christian Education.

**Tentative Daily Class Schedule**

Arrive 8:45am

9:00am	–	10:15am	Session A
10:15am	–	10:30am	BREAK
10:30am	–	11:45am	Session B
11:45am	–	12:30pm	LUNCH
12:30pm	–	1:45pm	Session C
1:45pm	–	2:00pm	BREAK
2:00pm	–	3:15pm	Session D

**Class Location**

ABC-IN/KY Region Office  
Conference Room  
65 Airport Parkway, Suite 120  
Greenwood, In 46143