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# CD 651 Professional Foundations of Christian Education

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CD 651 "Professional Foundations of Christian Education  
Harold W. Burgess #2304  
Fall 2001

Beginning with a survey of 16 important thinkers from the first 19 centuries of the church, the course gives major attention to the writings of more than 35 19<sup>th</sup> century contributors to Christian education as a field of study.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To provide an historical, theological, and philosophical base for a professional understanding of Christian education and youth ministry.
2. To foster the development of a conscious attention to the linkage between theory and practice.
3. To enable an integration of the major streams of thought into a conscious and consistent philosophy of C.E. and Youth Ministry.
4. By focusing on the theory/practice relationship, to provide a reasonable basis for evaluating and improving a range of pastoral ministries.

TEXTS:

*Models of Religious Education: Theory and Practice in Historical and Contemporary Perspective*, Harold W. Burgess (Evangel Press, 2001).

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Regular attendance and participation.
2. Completion of all readings, projects, reports, seminars, tests, etc. by the date assigned in the course calendar.
3. Complete reading of Burgess text and 1000 pages of collateral reading. Two collateral reports are due: October 18 and December 13. Report about 1/2 of reading for each report. Collateral reading should support and enrich your seminar assignments and contribute to your probable focus of ministry.
4. Two seminar-type reports will be assigned. Report #1 will focus on a figure, or figures, from the first 19 centuries of the church. Report #2 will be the major seminar project of the semester. It will focus on the contributions of a major 20th century thinker in the field of Christian religious education.

## GRADES:

"C" assumes timely fulfillment of basic requirements. "B" assumes strong contributions to the class process with oral and written work demonstrating a professional level of performance. Students working at the "B" level may earn a grade of "A" by submitting a high quality research paper (12-15 pages) that makes a meaningful application of some aspect of the course to either local church C. E. or Youth Ministry. Plus-and-minus (+ / - ) signs may be employed to reflect the judgment of the professor in assigning final grades.

## CALENDAR:

A Calendar for the course including dates of seminar presentations will be developed with classmembers on September 13.

Collateral readings are an essential part of this course. Students will be expected to submit a personal reading plan supportive of their professional goals on September 27

The outline of the course will follow Burgess, *Models*.

Reed and Prevost, *A History of Christian Education* (two copies on reserve) is an excellent reading investment). It largely covers the history of Christian education in early centuries. Also recommended reading is Robert Wood Lynn's *The Big Little School*. The Burgess text is to be read along with assignments, with specific days set aside for discussion and application.

## CALENDAR

September 6

A film on the life of John Comenius will be shown. Amy Beasley will lead the class.

September 13

Course Introduction by Prof. Burgess.  
Seminar assignments will be made for the semester.  
Readings will be reviewed.

September 20

Christian Education as a Professional Field of Study (Burgess)

### **First 19 Centuries (Historical Model)**

September 27 (seminar presentations)

Jesus as a Model Teacher

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The Catechumenate and Catechetical Schools \_\_\_\_\_

Cyril of Jerusalem and Early Church Education (to 400) \_\_\_\_\_

Augustine's Contributions to Education \_\_\_\_\_

October 4 (seminar presentations)

Martin Luther \_\_\_\_\_

John Calvin \_\_\_\_\_

Ignatius of Loyola \_\_\_\_\_

The Impact of the Enlightenment on C. E. \_\_\_\_\_

October 11 (seminar presentations)

John Wesley's Legacy in C. E. \_\_\_\_\_

Robert Raikes and The Rise of the Sunday School \_\_\_\_\_

Stephen Paxon (American S.S. Pioneer) \_\_\_\_\_

Influence of Women Prior to 20<sup>th</sup> Century \_\_\_\_\_

Horace Bushnell \_\_\_\_\_

October 18

Catch-up if needed

Historical wrap-up (Burgess)

World-View Issues at Beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Educational Shape of 20<sup>th</sup> Century

Textbook and Collateral Reading Report: due this date.

October 25

Preparation for Major Seminar Presentations

**Liberal Theological Model of C. E.**

November 1

Characteristics of Liberal Theology

Prof Burgess

George Coe

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Sophia Fahs or William Clayton Bower

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### **Mainline Theological Model of C. E.**

November 8

Randolph Crump Miller

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James Smart

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Iris Cully (or Sara Little)

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### **Social-Science Model**

November 15

“The Social Science Approach to Religious Education” a film by James Michael Lee with Harold Burgess.

### **The Evangelical Theological Model**

November 29

Frank Gaebelein

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Lois LeBar

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Henrietta Mears

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Larry Richards

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### **Examples of Current Writers in C. E.**

December 6

Richard Osmer

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Robert Pasmino

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Mary Boys

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December 13

Wap-up, Final Collateral Reading Report

Final Paper due exam date