



LEAVELL COLLEGE

NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

CECM1302-30: Principles of Teaching and Learning Spring 2016

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The mission of Leavell College of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Core Value

Each academic year, a core value is emphasized. This academic year, the core value is *Mission Focus* – “Our Seminary does not exist merely to get an education or to give an education. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.”

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to introduce a study of learning theory and principles. A variety of concepts will be covered including learning styles, multiple intelligences, the circle of learning, learning environments, and learning readiness. Effective teaching methods for preschoolers and children will be emphasized.

Student Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will:

1. Understand instructional theory and practice as related to preschoolers and children.
 2. Value the different ways by which preschoolers and children learn.
 3. Develop developmentally appropriate learning experiences for preschoolers and children.
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Course Texts

LifeWay Press. *Wholly Kids: Guiding Kids to Life in Christ*. Nashville: LifeWay, 2012.

Sanders, Thomas, and Mary Ann Bradberry. *Teaching Preschoolers: First Steps Toward Faith*. Nashville: Lifeway Press, 2000.

Tobias, Cynthia Ulrich. *The Way They Learn: How to Discover and Teach to Your Child's Strengths*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1994.

Additional Resources

Biblical Levels of Learning:

http://www.lifeway.com/lwc/files/lwcF_kids_levels_biblical_learning.pdf

Levels of Bible Skills: <http://www.lifeway.com/n/product-family/levels-of-biblical-learning?intcmp=LifewayKids-MTX-Text-TeachingAids-20121119>

North Carolina Baptist: Preschool Learning Centers:

<http://www.ncbaptist.org/fileadmin/ministries/church-weekday-education/resources/2013/pdfs/files/preschool-learning-centers.pdf>

North Carolina Baptist: Children Space at Church:

<http://www.ncbaptist.org/fileadmin/ministries/children/resources/2013/pdfs/files/childrens-space-church.pdf>

Course Requirements and Grading

1. **Reflective Evaluation of Texts** (50 points each, 150 total): For each of the textbooks complete a 2-page (double-spaced) evaluation addressing the following:

- How does the book relate to the content of this course?
- Was the book well written? Support your response with examples from the text.
- Was the information credible? Support your response with examples from the text.
- Would you recommend this book to someone else? Why?
- How has or will this book impact your teaching ministry to preschoolers and children?

2. **Evaluation of Preschool and Children's Education Space** (Observation 150 points, Assessment 150 points - for a total of 300 points): Conduct an evaluation of one classroom in each of the following areas in a local church: - Younger Preschool - Older Preschool - School Age. We will develop an evaluation tool together, in class, and you will present an oral report of your observations along with the completed evaluation tool.

3. **Curriculum Evaluation** (150 points): Evaluate one preschool and one children's curriculum utilizing the *Curriculum Evaluation Form* and *Levels of Biblical Learning* (provided by the professor). Write a two-page (double-spaced) report for each curriculum (two total reports) for the

minister of education (or pastor) regarding your recommendations for the use of this particular curriculum. Include in your report the following: - Do you recommend this curriculum? If so, why? If not, why not? - Does this curriculum address learning in the concept areas? – What is the cost of the curriculum? Is it cost effective? Why or why not? – What teaching skills are needed for implementation? Do the teachers (either hypothetical or teachers from your current ministry context) have the skills necessary to implement this curriculum effectively?

4. **Lesson Plan Development and Presentation** (Lesson Plans 150 points, Presentation 100 points - for a total of 400 points): Write two lesson plans – one for either younger or older preschool and the other for children - utilizing the *Lesson Plan Format* (provided by the professor). You may choose from the following: - Zacchaeus - Jesus is Born - Last Supper - Ruth and Naomi - Feeding of the 5,000 - Queen Esther - Jonathan and David - David and Goliath A 15-20 minute presentation on a selected component of the lesson plan will be presented in class. Classmates will participate as if they are the age group for whom the lesson plan has been written.

NOBTS Grading Scale

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|---|---------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| A | 93-100 (930-1,000 points) | D | 70-76 (700-760 points) |
| B | 85-92 (850-920 points) | F | 69 or below (690 points or less) |
| C | 77-84 (770-840 points) | | |

Course Outline Schedule/exams

Assignment Due Dates:

- Reflective Evaluation (150 points) March 10, 2016
- Evaluation of Preschool and Children's Education Space (300 points) April 7, 2016
- Curriculum Evaluation (150 points) May 5, 2014
- Lesson Plan Development and Presentation (400 points) April 21, 2016

Course Schedule

Jan. 21- Introduction to the Course, Syllabus, and Assignments
Jan. 28- The Role of the Teacher and the Role of the Student
Feb. 4- Characteristics of Children I
Feb. 11- Characteristics of Children II
Feb. 18- Ways Children Learn
Feb. 25- The Learning Environment I
Mar. 3- The Learning Environment II
Mar. 10- Preschool Observation Methodologies
Mar. 17- Spring Break, No Class
Mar. 24- Developing a Lesson Plan I
Mar. 31- Developing a Lesson Plan II
Apr. 7- Presentations of Education Space Evaluation
Apr. 14- Evaluating Curriculum
Apr. 21- Lesson Plan Presentations
Apr. 28- Lesson Plan Presentations
May 5- Final

Additional Course Information

Blackboard sites
Special instructions
Plagiarism
Computer/Phone usage policy

If you have any questions about Blackboard, SelfServe, or ITC services, please access the ITC page on our website: www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

1. **Participation** Students are responsible for being in the classroom on time, reading the assigned texts, and participating in class discussions.
2. **Attendance** Per the Leavell College catalog, school policies regarding absences and tardies will be strictly enforced. During workshops, absences are not permitted. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class period. Students are responsible for contacting the professor if you are tardy and the roll has already been taken.

3. **Assignment Policies** All assignments are to be submitted as indicated in the *Course Requirements* section. Late assignments will be assessed an initial 5-point penalty and 1 point for each additional day (including weekends) after the due date. ***No assignment will be accepted two weeks past the original due date. All assignments must be successfully completed to receive a passing grade.*** Assigned are not to be e-mailed to the professor.

4. **Cell Phones** Cell phones and other communication devices are to be turned off during class. Under no circumstance is a cell phone to be answered or calls (including texts) made during instructional time.

5. **Computers** Computers may be used during class to access unit PowerPoints and/or for taking notes. If the use of a computer is abused during class, the student will be asked not to bring the computer to class again.

6. **Blackboard** The student is responsible to check Blackboard for grades, assignments, course documents, and announcements. The student is responsible for maintaining current information regarding e-mail address on the Blackboard system and SelfServe. In the online environment correct contact information is crucial.

7. **Special Needs** Any student requiring accommodation for any type of physical or learning disability is to set up a time to meet with the professor to discuss what modifications are necessary. The professor will accommodate the student's request as best as possible.

8. **Netiquette** Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times.

9. **Plagiarism** Plagiarism will be taken seriously. Any and all incidents of plagiarism will be directed to the Dean of Leavell College.

Selected Bibliography

Aldridge, Jerry. *Understanding Today's Children: Developing Tomorrow's Leaders*. Nashville: Lifeway Press, 2001.

Armstrong, Thomas. *Seven Kinds of Smart: Identifying and Developing Your Multiple Intelligences*. New York: Penguin Putnam, 1999.

Berryman, Jerome W. *Godly Play: An Imaginative Approach to Religious Education*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 1991.

- Brewer, JoAnn. *Introduction to Early Childhood*. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1998.
- Fortune, Don, and Katie Fortune. *Discover Your Children's Gifts*. Old Tappan, N.J.: Chosen Books, 1984.
- Gangel, Kenneth O., and Howard G. Hendricks. *The Christian Educator's Handbook on Teaching*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1988.
- Hendricks, Howard. *Teaching to Change Lives: Seven Proven Ways to Make Your Teaching Come Alive*. Sisters, OR: Multnomah Press, 1987.
- LifeWay Press. *Wholly Kids: Guiding Kids to Life in Christ*. Nashville: LifeWay, 2012.
- Maynard, Morlee, and Jerry Aldridge. *Understanding Today's Preschooler: Developing Tomorrow's Leaders Today*. Nashville: Lifeway Press, 2001.
- Mussen, Paul. *Child Development and Personality*. New York: Harper and Row, 1963.
- Richards, Lawrence O., and Gary Bredfeldt. *Creative Bible Teaching*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1998.
- Rogers, Cosby S., and Janet K. Sawyer. *Play in the Lives of Children*. Washington, D.C.: National Association for the Education of Young Children, 1988.
- Stringer, Paula, and James Hargrave. *Crayons, Computers, and Kids*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1996.
- Taulman, James. *Never Tell Anybody Anything You Can Get Them to Discover Themselves*. Nashville: Broadman, 1990.
- Wilkinson, Bruce. *The Seven Laws of the Learner: How to Teach Almost Anything to Practically Anyone!* Sisters, OR: Multnomah Press, 1992.