

# CARIBBEAN SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

*Educating and training ministerial leadership*



## MIN312 Church Education

### Mission Statement

CST is committed to connect, serve, and train for Pentecostal ministry, leadership, and missions throughout the world.

### Professor

### Course Description

This course is designed for pastors or those who are responsible for the educational program in the local church. It provides a biblical foundation for Christian education as well as numerous guidelines for effective teaching. Attention is given to matters such as lesson planning and ministering to specific age levels in the church. The latter part of the course deals with administering the educational program, training leaders and teachers, and relating the educational task to the total ministry of the church.

### Resources

You will use *The Church's Educational Task*, an Independent-Study Textbook by Bill Kuert as both the textbook and study guide for the course. The Holy Bible is also required. Bible quotations in the Independent-Study Textbook are from the New International Version (NIV), 1978 Edition. Most assignments require you to access the Global University Library Web site or other academic resources. Instructions for accessing the Web site are provided in the Undergraduate Writing Assignment Guidelines (UWAG) in the Student Packet. If you are enrolled in this course for three credits, the third credit will be earned by completing a collateral reading assignment (CRA). This assignment is based on the textbook *Creative Bible Teaching: Revised and Expanded* by Lawrence O. Richards and Gary J. Bredfeldt. The instructions for completing the CRA are in the Student Packet.

### Objectives

The key concepts presented in the lesson are derived from the objectives. Study each objective carefully as you begin each lesson. First, identify the key concepts presented in the objective, and second, identify what each objective is asking you to do with the key concepts. For example, in the objective, Assess the positive and negative ways that colonialism affected the spread of Christianity, the key concept is colonialism affected Christianity. In this objective you are asked to assess positive and negative ways—or show the good and bad effects colonialism had on the spread of Christianity.

### Course Procedures

Classroom lectures, group discussion, audio-visual presentations, handouts, and case studies constitute some of the various methods that will be utilized in order to attain the course objectives.

## Table of Contents

Course Introduction .....	7
UNIT ONE: Foundations Of Christian Education	
1 Biblical Backgrounds .....	16
2 Theological Foundations of Church Education .....	30
3 Jesus the Master Teacher .....	46
UNIT TWO: Preparing to Teach	
4 The Bible's Place in the Church's Curriculum .....	64
5 The Lesson Plan .....	80
6 The Teaching/Learning Process .....	92
UNIT THREE: Ministry Related to Need	
7 Ministry to Children .....	108
8 Ministry to Youth .....	124
9 Ministry to Adults.....	140
UNIT FOUR: The Local Church	
10 Developing Administrative Structure .....	158
11 Developing Lay Leadership: Training Programs for Leaders and Teachers .....	174
12 Developing the Congregation: Christian Education in Relationship to a Growing Church.....	192
Glossary .....	208
Bibliography .....	212

## Course Introduction

Jesus gave His church this task: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:19–20). The focus in this course is on the word “teaching.” Both the Old and New Testaments provide valuable insights into the concept and practice of teaching. From this background we can discover several principles of Christian education that will help shape our approach to fulfilling the educational task of the Great Commission.

Teaching of all kinds requires preparation. Public school teachers, for example, receive several years of education and training before entering their own classrooms to begin teaching others. Of primary concern to Christian education teachers is the matter of the Bible’s place in the church’s curriculum. It must be the focus of all teaching. Other concerns include the matter of lesson planning. The teacher must prepare the content of each lesson in an organized way. Furthermore, the teacher needs to understand elements of the teaching/ learning process.

The church’s educational task includes teaching people of all ages. Often our efforts are directed toward children. Jesus certainly took notice of children during His ministry days. We must teach them in ways that will meet their particular needs. Likewise, in teaching youth we must be aware of their unique needs and minister to them effectively. They are at the age of making several life-changing decisions. Teaching adults also requires some knowledge of the various stages of life that they go through. Therefore, we must try to teach people in each stage of life in ways that will minister to them individually.

The overall administrative structure of the local church will greatly affect the outcome of the church’s efforts to teach its people. The pastor’s role, the organizational structure of the agencies of teaching, and administrative principles are all important factors to consider. Ongoing lay leadership to equip teachers and other leaders in the church is essential. Finally, the church’s educational task must be related to the total ministry of the church. To the degree that teachers understand the nature and mission of the church, they will accomplish the church’s educational task which results in church growth.