Instructor: Russell Dalton

Prerequisites: None

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Description of Content:
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to a broad understanding of Educational Ministry in the church. How are disciples being formed in the faith community in intentional and unintentional ways? What are and what should be our methods? Students will survey the ways in which churches engage in Christian education, explore the variety of learning needs and learning styles, be introduced to theories of Christian education, and reflect on a religious education experience that they will lead or facilitate.

Class Procedures:
Lectures, small group discussion, classroom activities, and outside of class teaching

Requirements:
Attendance and informed, prepared participation in class. Failure to complete both assignments and the final exam will result in failure of the course.

Assignments:

1. Provide a 12-16 page evaluation of one church’s overall educational program. Describe and evaluate the programs based on course content including a) the church’s primary approach to Christian education, b) its purpose (implied or explicit), c) explicit, implicit, or null curriculum, d) context, e) the five curricular forms/tasks of the church, making reference to assigned texts and other course content.

2. Teach or facilitate a religious education event (such as teaching a class.) and reflect on it with reference to the course content in a 12 to 16 page paper. Schedule this as soon as possible. Analyze the educational event in terms of it’s a) content, b) the participants (theological worlds, multiple intelligences, etc.) and c) your process and method making reference to texts and other course content.

3. One take-home comprehensive final exam.
Required Texts:

Recommended Texts:

Grading procedures:
Analysis of Congregation’s over all Educational Ministry paper 33.3 %
Teaching experience and reflection paper 33.3 %  
Take Home Exam 33.3 %

Positive consideration is given for attendance and prepared, informed participation.

Note: This is a tentative course plan. Some details of this course design may be changed.