

Christian Philosophy of Education Required Components

An approved Christian Philosophy of Education course will include:

A. Content (Lecture/Readings):

ACSI provides a [Christian Philosophy of Education Checklist](#) with resources listed. Most of those resources are available through [Purposeful Design](#). Alternate lecture material or videos may be selected as part of a course or in-service for teachers preparing to fulfill the requirement of the Christian Philosophy of Education. Teaching methods may include readings, discussion, lecture, video, or other strategies. The content must include the following:

1. **Purposes of education** from a biblical perspective (theology of education)
 - a. Biblical mandate to share our understanding of God and His purposes
 - b. Equips the next generation to be able to gain an understanding of God through his word and creation
 - c. Prepares students with skills and understanding to live out God’s call on their lives within a faith community
2. Christian responses to the questions of **philosophy and education**. This study will result in the educator’s ability to articulate Christian perspectives in the following six areas:
 - a. Of what does reality consist? (metaphysics)
 - b. What is true and how do we know it is true? (epistemology)
 - c. What is of value? What is good, beautiful, and ethical? (axiology)
 - d. What is the nature of the learner and the goal of Christian education?
 - e. What is the role of the teacher?
 - f. What are curricular and methodological implications of a Christian philosophy of education?
3. Instructional strategies that promote Christian perspectives through **biblical integration**.
Examples include:
 - a. God’s overarching story throughout history.
 - b. Themes of creation, the fall, redemption, and the Christian’s role in restoration may be examined.
 - c. Developing habits of analysis and reflection like “How would Jesus want us to respond?”

B. Educator Responses:

Below are two examples of responses that the educator must produce to demonstrate their learning. There could be alternate assignments accepted as long as they also show deep personal reflection and application of both the Christian Philosophy components and biblical integration.

1. Part 1 - Produce a personal philosophy of education, as informed by a biblical worldview, which addresses the six educational philosophy components (#2 above). The paper should be four to six pages in length.
2. Part 2 - Demonstrate an understanding of biblical integration in the individual’s content area.

- a. Write two lesson plans that promote Christian perspectives through biblical integration and have an administrator/supervisor observe you teaching them. OR
- b. Develop a unit plan that incorporates elements from *Understanding by Design* and aligns with your school's Expected Student Outcomes in the areas of spiritual formation. An administrator/supervisor must observe you teaching a lesson from the unit plan.

C. Recommended Resources for Christian Philosophy of Education: (no specific resource is required as long as the resource chosen covers applicable content)

VIEW *Philosophy of Christian Education* series by Dr. Derek Keenan (available on ConNEXUS Premium or through Purposeful Design at www.acsi.org). 3 hours (SKU# 6252DVD Purposeful Design)

READ one of the following:

- *By Design: Developing a Philosophy of Education Informed by a Christian Worldview*. Dr. Martha E. MacCullough, 2013
- *Philosophy & Education: an introduction in Christian perspective*. George R. Knight, 2006 (4th ed.)
- *Teaching Redemptively*. Donovan Graham, 2009 (2nd ed.)

D. Recommended Resources for Biblical Integration: (no specific resource is required as long as the resource chosen covers applicable content)

VIEW one of the following:

- *Making the Connections: How to Put Biblical Worldview Integration into Practice (Sessions 1-9)* by Don Johnson and Dr. Christian Overman (available on ConNEXUS Premium – www.acsi.org). 3.5 hours
- *Your Christian School: A Culture of Grace?* by Paul David Tripp 4 hours
- *Kingdom Education for the 21st Century: Sessions 1-13* by Dr. Glen Schultz (available on ConNEXUS Premium – www.acsi.org). 6 hours

READ one of the following books:

- *The Whole Truth: Classroom Strategies for Biblical Integration*. Mark Eckel, 2003
- *Virtuous Minds*. Philip Dow, 2013
- *Truth Weaving: Biblical Integration for God's Glory and Their Abundant Living*. D.P. Johnson, 2015
- *Undivided: Developing a Worldview Approach to Biblical Integration*. Martha E. MacCullough, 2016

Please note: As with the ACSI Christian Philosophy of Education, educators who complete an approved alternative model Christian Philosophy of Education will be granted 1 Bible CEU. If a proposed alternative model provides significantly more direct instruction in biblical studies than would be included in ACSI's checklist, we will consider granting more Bible CEUs for completion of that approved model.