

ADVANCE Ministry Preparation
Sponsored by Gateway Seminary
CLE 2613 Ministry to Children – 3 hours
Jan to March, 2021
Wednesday 7:30 to 10:00 pm

Crosspoint Institute of Ministry Leadership in Milpitas
Pastor Timothy Chan
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This class ordinarily meets for fifteen weeks for periods of two hours and fifty minutes including two 10-minute breaks. However, centers can choose to schedule this classes and times that work best for your ministry context as long as you meet the 45 hours of seat time required for this course

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of child development with implications for religious instruction. Organizations for children in grades 1-6 will be studied.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate an understanding of children in grades 1-6
2. Demonstrate the ability to create, maintain, and grow a developmentally appropriate Christian children's program.
3. Assess and develop the vision and mission of the church for the Children's Ministry.
4. Evaluate the children's program in a church based on the criteria learned in the course.
5. Build consensus and ongoing support for the church's Ministry to Children.

REQUIRED COURSE COMPONENTS

The student will be exposed to the following basic subject areas:

- Developmentally Appropriate Practices
- Family/Church Ministry
- Vision for Children's Ministry
- Learning Styles
- Multiple Intelligences
- Cultural and Ethnic Factors
- Safe and Nurturing Environment
- Role of the Children's Ministry Leader
- Inter-Generational Inclusion

- Curriculum Selection/Development
- Barriers/Solutions to a Quality Program
- Program Assessment

The student will be expected to understand and apply the following content and process skills within the course content:

- Developmentally appropriate practices and environment for Children's Ministry
- Strategies to assess, create, and extend the quality of the church's vision/mission for the Children's Program.
- Role(s) of the Children's Ministry Directory (volunteer or paid)
- The value of Inter-Generational Contexts
- Evaluate the Children's Ministry Program provided in a church.

The student will be expected to develop a conceptual framework for:

- Children's Family/Church Ministry
- Developmentally Appropriate Environments and Practices
- Curriculum Development/Selection
- Teaching/Learning Styles and Strategies

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. Haywood, Janice. *Enduring Connections: Creating a Preschool and Children's Ministry*. St.Louis, Missouri: Chalice Press, 2007 **prior** to the first class.
2. May, Scottie, Postereski, Beth, Stonehouse, Catherine & Cannell, Linda. *Children Matter: Celebrating Their Place in the Church, Family, and Community*. Grand Rapids, Michigan, William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2005 **during** class and as a future resource.

REQUIRED CLASS PRODUCTS

1. Students will research and compile the characteristics of children, the needs that arise from these characteristics, and the implications these characteristics and needs have for the Children's Ministry Program. Characteristics will include: physical, developmental, mental, social, emotional, stylistic, and spiritual. Students will complete this assignment in teams to focus on a particular age group (1-2, 3-4, 5-6). Information will be presented in class to enable each student to receive information for each grade level group. More details on this project will be given in class.
2. Critique a church's yearly schedule for the Children's Ministry – curriculum plans and special programs, parties, inter-generational activities, retreats, etc. that are promoted throughout the year. More details will be given in class.
3. Evaluate the Children's Ministry in a specific church and write implications for ministry based on their findings. More details will be given in class

Rubric for grading will be developed/articulated during the first class session.

GRADING SCALE

A 94-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D 65-69
A- 90-93	B 83-86	C 73-76	F 0-64
	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	

Class Processes will include some or all of the following:

- Discussion of required readings
- Lectures with Power Point
- Small group research presentation
- Case studies
- Individual/group feedback
- Reflection
- Simulation
- Instrumentation
- Research
- Visitation and/or guest lecture
- Video for critique and identification of salient learnings

OTHER INFORMATION

All assignments should be typed (12-point font Times New Roman) and double spaced. Appropriate spelling, grammar, and sentence structure are required. Assignments are due at the designated time.

CLASS SCHEDULE*

Week	Topic	Reading (CM – Children Matter / EC – Enduring Connections)	Assignments
1	Developmentally Appropriate Practices	CM (Ch. 4) EC (Ch. 11)	Introduction to the class Class expectation Class assignments
2	Family/Church Ministry	CM (Ch. 5)	Class Short Quiz
3	Vision for Children’s Ministry	EC (Ch. 1 & 2)	Class Short Quiz
4	Learning Styles	EC (Ch. 8)	Class Short Quiz
5	Multiple Intelligences	EC (Ch. 8)	Class Short Quiz
6	Cultural & Ethnic Factors	CM (Ch. 6)	Mid-Term Exam

7	Safe & Nurturing Environment	CM (Ch. 8 & 9) EC (Ch. 10)	Class Short Quiz
8	Role of the Children's Ministry Leader	CM (Ch. 6 & 15) EC (Ch. 13, 14, 15, 16, 17)	Class Short Quiz
9	Inter-Generational Inclusion	CM (Ch. 7 & 11)	Class Short Quiz
10	Curriculum Selection/Development	CM (Ch. 10) EC (Ch. 11)	Class Short Quiz
11	Barriers/Solutions to a Quality Program Program Assessment	CM (Ch. 11, 12, 13) CM (Ch. 14) EC (Ch. 2)	Team Presentations (This is a Sat class)
12	Final Exam		Final Exam

* This course will be offered on Wed evening from 7:30 to 10:00 pm for 12 weeks (Jan 6, 2021 to March 24, 2021) plus a Saturday class to meet the required 45 hours seat time.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Alley, Steve, & Becker, Paula. *Growing a Healthy Children's Ministry: Step-by-Step Handbook to Cultivating Christian Kids in Any Environment*. Cincinnati, Ohio: Standard Publishing Company, 2002.

Barna, George. *Transforming Children Into Spiritual Champions*. Ventura, California: Regal Books, 2003

Beckwith, Ivy. *Postmodern Children's Ministry: Ministry to Children in the 21st Century Church*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 200

Bowdon, Boyce A. *The Friendly Church: 150 Models of Ministry with Children*. Nashville, Tennessee. Abingdon Press. 1999

Carey, Sharon, Downs, Lisa, & Dunn, Heather. *Group's Emergency Response Handbook for Children's Ministry*. Loveland, Colorado: Group Publishing, 2007

Chapman, Gary & Campbell, Ross. *The Five Love Languages of Children*. Nashville, Tennessee: Life Way Church Resources, 1998

Chroney, Rick. *Energizing Children's Ministry in a Smaller Church*. Cincinnati, Ohio: Standard Publishing Company, 2008

Fowler, Larry. *Rock Solid Kids*. Ventura, California: Gospel Light Publication, 2005

Francis, David. *Great Expectations: Planting Seeds for Sunday School Growth*. Nashville, Tennessee: Life Way Church Resources, 2009

Francis, David. *5-Steps Formula for Sunday School*. Nashville, Tennessee; Life Way Church

Resources, 2009

Jutila, Craig. *Leadership Essentials for Children's Ministry: Passion, Attitude, Teamwork, Honor.* Flagship Church Resources, 2001

Jutila, Craig. *Children's Ministry in the 21st Century.* Loveland, Colorado: Group Publishing 2006

Miller, Sue & Staal, David. *Making Your Children's Ministry the Best Hour of Every Week.* Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 2004

Stonehouse, Catherine. *Joining Children on the Spiritual Journey: Nurturing a Life.* Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academics, 1998

Webcourse: Discovering My Potential Series --- *Teaching Children (Grades 1-6) in Sunday School.* Nashville, Tennessee: Life Way Church Resources, 2007