



CE 531 – History of Christian Education ***Online Syllabus***

Instructor: Dr. John Goetsch

I. Course Description

It has been said that without a knowledge of our history, we cannot hope to understand our present or change our future. This course, History of Christian Education, is designed to study the men and philosophies that changed the world in their time. It is a course that will help the Christian see both “Christian” and “Education” in the view of educators throughout history. Along the way, each student will define his or her own philosophy of Christian Education in a clear way so that convictions of true Christian Education will be established.

II. Course Objectives

- A. To provide a background in Christian Education for the student by studying it’s history.
- B. To become familiar with the educators of the past and see how their lives and philosophies shaped Christian Education today.
- C. To compare the philosophies of the past and present with the Word of God.
- D. To develop in the heart of each student a Biblically based philosophy for Christian Education today.
- E. To help the student take the principles of the Word of God and the knowledge from the past and present of Christian Education and formulate a vision for the future.

III. Course Requirements

The textbook “Christian Education: Its History and Philosophy” by Kenneth O. Gangel and Warren S. Benson must be read in its entirety. Essay questions must be answered from the book and be turned in prior to the Final Examination. Questions must be typed out in bold and then answered with a space left between the question and the answer. Students should strive to re-write the question into their answer.



Most questions will take at least a paragraph to answer. Your name, the course number, and the date should appear in the upper right hand corner of the first page.

A 2,000 word paper will be due prior to the Final Examination. In this paper, the student must choose a Christian Educator from the past and write a summary of his life and ministry. Be sure to include his philosophy and also any significant contributions made to Christian Education.

A second 2,000 word paper is also due prior to the Final Examination. In this paper you will discuss your own philosophy for Christian Education. Examples of educators from the past may be cited, but the student should be sure to include the Scriptural basis for their convictions and views.

There will be a total of fourteen lectures based on the outline and information in the book "A History of Christian Education" by James E. Reed and Ronnie Prevost. Tests are given after every two lectures in the notes. Students are not allowed to go on to the next lecture without taking the test. A Final Examination is given at the end of the course.

IV. Grading

Your grade will consist of the tests, three projects, and the final examination.

Remember, you will get out of this course what you put into the study. If you have any questions or difficulty with any of the assignments, please call 888-694-9222, extension 126 or e-mail me at john.goetsch@westcoastbaptist.edu

