Course Syllabus

SPRING SUMMER 2019
LEARNING TO TEACH; TEACHING TO DISCIPLE
CHED 0552W

MAY 6 – JULY 26, 2019
ONLINE INTERACTIVE COURSE

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Office Hours: By appointment (hours posted on door)

Access course material at http://classes.tyndale.ca/
Course emails will be sent to your @MyTyndale.ca e-mail account only.
Learn how to access and forward emails to your personal account.

The mission of Tyndale Seminary is to provide Christ-centred graduate theological education for leaders in the church and society whose lives are marked by intellectual maturity, spiritual vigour and moral integrity, and whose witness will faithfully engage culture with the Gospel.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a vision for Christian education (CE) in the life and mission of the church. Drawing from key passages in the Bible and the wider field of education, learners will develop a biblical theology of CE and discipleship, be familiar with some learning theories (especially Jesus’ model), reflect on one’s growth as disciple and teacher, and develop a working framework for teaching. The major goal is to build strong theological and educational foundations for effective teaching and discipleship in personal life, church and mission.

Jesus’ great commission is to “make disciples of all nations, baptizing … and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded….” (Mt. 28:18-20, NRSV). Affirming this, Graham Cray stated that, “Churches have to realize that the core of their calling is to be disciple-making communities, whatever else they do; the primary purpose of Christian community is
However, many pastors and ministry leaders do not fully grasp the nature or role of CE, and often lack basic understanding in teaching and curriculum theory. This course seeks to address this important issue.

This course seeks to meet the Master of Divinity learning outcome #4: “To develop & hone skills for theologically reflective ministry practice in its various forms.”

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Outline a biblical theology of Christian education, see its role in teaching and discipleship in the church, and understand some of its challenges today.
2. Develop greater self-awareness as “disciple” and “teacher” through reflections on a biblical understanding of “discipleship,” readings in Christian education, and review of the impact of past mentors (and their teaching values) in one’s life.
3. Acquire a working knowledge of some important educational theorists (especially Jesus’ model) for one’s practice and development as pastor (shepherd-teacher) and ministry leader.

This course seeks to meet the Master of Divinity learning outcome #4: “To develop & hone skills for theologically reflective ministry practice in its various forms.”

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED TEXTS


Selected articles and book chapters for class discussion (about 200 pages; uploaded on Moodle)

B. SUPPLEMENTARY READING AND TOOLS


1 Graham Cray, *Making Disciples in Fresh Expressions of Church* (Fresh Expression, 2013).
Smith’s description of powerful cultural liturgies that shape our loves is timely, in light of our too common “schooling model” to teaching and discipleship. We will read a chapter from this book.


Two-thirds of sub-Saharan Africa are Christian; yet the gospel has had little impact on the biblical worldview of contemporary African culture. Chalk’s analysis, conclusions and recommendations are meant to help the African church deal with the syncretism and its impact on the beliefs and practices of its members.


We will study Groome’s “shared Christian praxis” approach to teaching, which first appeared in his *Christian Religious Education* (CRE), (Harper SanFrancisco/Jossey-Bass, 1980/1999). We will read a chapter from CRE.


A study of catechesis as a way of teaching and faith formation, co-authored by a world-renowned theologian and an excellent professor of CE.


While this course is more philosophical and theological, Galindo and Canaday deal with the practical implications of organization and administration for effective CE at a congregational level.


"I’m lost in admiration for Lamin Sanneh’s magnificent study of world Christianity, for the work’s geographical scope and historical sweep, and for the breadth of the author’s learning. Throughout, Sanneh asks the critical question: how can we reconceive Christianity in a way that frees it from its European and imperial contexts, permitting the faith to adapt to the kaleidoscopic realities of different societies around the globe. This is a splendid achievement."

Philip Jenkins, author of *The Next Christendom* and *The New Faces of Christianity*

Tyndale recommends [www.stepbible.org](http://www.stepbible.org) – a free and reputable online resource developed by Tyndale House (Cambridge, England) – for word searches of original-language texts, as well as for topical searches, interlinear texts, dictionaries, etc. Refer to the library for other online resources for Biblical Studies.

C. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

1. Forum Discussions

Educational research and student feedback suggest that maximum benefit in online learning
results when students take a personal responsibility to complete readings, engage actively and on time in forum discussions, and consciously contribute to a virtual learning community (collaboration, openness, mutual support). “Attendance” in this course is demonstrated by regular log-ins and up-to-date participation in forums. I will be reading your posts and responses regularly, with intermittent comments, but my main response would be to your “group conclusions” each week.

**Individual Posts (5 X 6 = 30 %)**

Students will engage in biweekly forum discussions in weeks #3, 5, 7, 9, 11 (total of 5 forums). Two questions would be posted each week of the forum. Students will post their response by 11:55 PM on Wednesday evening of the week in question, and then respond to the posts of other students in their group by 11:55 PM on Thursday of that same week. Your post for each question should be about 20-25 lines (200-250 words; can exceed by 10%, but marks deducted thereafter). Each post should be concise, with a clear understanding of issues referenced in readings/lectures, demonstrate critical thinking (questions or issues raised), and with 1-2 applications to your context. Your response to fellow students would be briefer, with affirmation (perhaps from your experience or readings) and 1-2 thoughtful questions for further reflection. You are not required to respond to “late post” of any member.

**Group Conclusion (one, 5 %)**

After the individual posts and responses, one member of the group will write a group conclusion. This conclusion will provide the following summary: (1) major points important to CE and discipleship; (2) questions/issues sparked by them; (3) practical applications. This conclusion is due by 11:55 PM on Friday evening of the week in question. The conclusion should be about 30-35 lines (300-350 words; marks deducted if you exceed limit). Your group is responsible for establishing a schedule for conclusion writers. Each student will only write one conclusion through the course. You do not need to include “late post” of any member.

Penalty for late work:
“Late posts” and “conclusions” will be noted, and the penalty is one mark deduction for every day late (inclusive of Saturdays and Sundays). The total number of “late days” will be recorded at the end of the course and your grade for the “forum assignment” would be reduced accordingly. If there is “no post” after Sunday of the week of the forum, the student will receive a “zero” for that forum. If there are specific reasons for late posts (as stated in “Late Papers and Extension Policy,” Seminary Academic Calendar 2018-19, p. 147), the student is to email the instructor directly.

**2. Reflection Papers on Tye & Palmer (2 X 15 = 30 % of final grade)**

Write a personal reflection paper on what you judge to be the THREE most important (major) ideas in Tye and Palmer (one major idea in each chapter), with implications for your particular teaching/church context.
For Tye

(a) Outline clearly, what you discern to be the three most important (major) ideas, with relevant referenced citations (quotations) and personal comments.
(b) Explain why these ideas are important to the teaching ministry and mission of the Church.
(c) What insights, applications and questions do these major ideas spark for you, as pastor (shepherd-teacher) and ministry leader at your church?

For Palmer

(a) Outline clearly, what you discern as the three most important (major) ideas, with relevant referenced citations (quotations) and personal comments.
(b) Explain why these ideas are important for your development as a person who teach, mentor or influence others in church or other settings.
(c) What insights, applications and questions about “teacher” and “teaching” do these ideas spark for you?

Due Date:
June 10, 2019 for Tye (2-3 pages, single-spaced)
July 8, 2019 for Palmer (2-3 pages, single-spaced)

Evaluation criteria: as above.
Note: I use the “review and track changes” feature in MS Word to grade all papers and find it easier with single-spaced documents.

3. Major Project (35 %)

Option A: Gifted Teacher

You will interview a “gifted teacher” with substantial teaching experience in church or public setting (if you select a pastor, the emphasis is on “teaching” and not “preaching.”) You will ask this person to outline core values and practice in his/her teaching and how these were nurtured over the years. A selection of questions for this exercise would be provided by the instructor.

Relate what you discover in this interview-research with insights from lectures and readings. Engage with your interviewee’s comments, affirming insights shared with relevant quotations from readings (Tye, Morgan, Palmer, articles discussed), as well as raising issues/questions that were not discussed by your interviewee. Conclude with implications for your development and growth as pastor (shepherd-teacher) or teacher in your faith community.

Note: Select the person you interview very carefully. S/he should be experienced and recognized for his/her teaching gift, so that you get some good data. If you interview a pastor, the focus of your conversation should be on “teaching” (interactive) and not “preaching” (proclamation).

Length: 7-8 pages, single-spaced.
Due date: August 9, 2019
Evaluation criteria: posted on Moodle.

Option B: My Growth as Disciple and Teacher-Mentor

This assignment is an attempt to help you develop greater self-awareness of your growth as “disciple” and as “shepherd-teacher / teacher-mentor.”

To prepare, draw a time line of your life and highlight critical moments where your discipleship to Jesus deepened significantly. What happened? What aspects of your life were challenged? How do these aspects relate to what you learned about discipleship in Morgan? What other aspects of discipleship has Morgan raised for deeper self-reflection and growth (include quotations from Morgan)?

In another section of the time line, highlight important teacher-mentors who impacted you. What struck you about the way they taught or mentored you? What values did they pass to you that were important for your development as shepherd-teacher /teacher-mentor? How do these “teaching values” relate to what you learned about effective teachers and teaching in lectures and readings (include referenced quotations from Tye, Palmer, articles discussed)?

Length: 7-8 pages, single-spaced
Due: August 9, 2019
Evaluation criteria: clear description of your development and growth as disciple and as teacher-mentor, with good engagement and interaction with Morgan, Tye & Palmer (include referenced quotations).

D. EQUITY OF ACCESS

Students with permanent or temporary disabilities who need academic accommodations must contact the Accessibility Services at the Centre for Academic Excellence to register and discuss their specific needs. New students must self-identify and register with the Accessibility Office at the beginning of the semester or as early as possible to access appropriate services. Current students must renew their plans as early as possible to have active accommodations in place.

E. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discussion forums:</th>
<th>35 %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual posts &amp; responses (5 X 6 = 30 %)</td>
<td>30 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group conclusion (1 X 5 %)</td>
<td>35 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflection papers Tye and Palmer (2 X 15 %)</td>
<td>30 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Project</td>
<td>35 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Grade</td>
<td>100 %</td>
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F. GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WORK & PENALTY FOR LATE WORK

All assignments are to be submitted via Moodle by 11:55PM on the due dates. Late assignments will be penalized, with the reduction of 1 mark for each day late, inclusive of Saturdays and Sundays. Late work will be graded but will not receive any comments from the instructor. Your major project will adopt the Turabian or APA style (footnotes preferred).

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism. Tyndale University College & Seminary takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty.

Students should consult the current Academic Calendar for academic polices on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System.

Students are encouraged to consult writing resources.

For proper citation style, consult the Chicago-Style Quick Guide (Tyndale e-resource) or the full edition of the Chicago Manual of Style Online, especially ch. 14. For citing scripture texts, refer to sections 10.44 to 10.48 and 14.238 to 14.241.

Research Ethics

All course-based assignments involving human participants requires ethical review and approval by the Tyndale Research Ethics Board (REB). Check with the Seminary Office (Room B302; aau@tyndale.ca) before proceeding.

G. COURSE EVALUATION

Tyndale Seminary values quality in the courses it offers its students. End-of-course evaluations provide valuable student feedback and are one of the ways that Tyndale Seminary works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the student’s learning experience. Student involvement in this process is critical to enhance the general quality of teaching and learning.

Before the end of the course, students will receive a MyTyndale email with a link to the online course evaluation. The link can also be found in the left column on the course page. The evaluation period is 2 weeks; after the evaluation period has ended, it cannot be reopened.

Course Evaluation results will not be disclosed to the instructor before final grades in the course have been submitted and processed. Student names will be kept confidential and the instructor will only see the aggregated results of the class.
IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

My intention in this course is to expose you to a selection of important topics and issues in CE. Readings and class lectures sometimes do not overlap in order to broaden learning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings/Due Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1 (May 6)</td>
<td>Covenant, community &amp; culture of learning</td>
<td>Siew (2006)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Self-introduction, “Our Learning Community”</td>
<td>Tye Intro., 1-2; Morgan 1</td>
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<td>Called by Jesus (Morgan 1)</td>
<td>Complete “Our Learning Community” (Moodle)</td>
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<td>#3 (May 20)</td>
<td>A Vision for CE &amp; Discipleship</td>
<td>Robinson (2006); Morgan 2; Siew (2013); Tye 3-4</td>
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<td></td>
<td>What is a Disciple (Morgan 2)</td>
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<td>#4 (May 27)</td>
<td>Person of Teacher and Teaching as Creative, Spiritual Act</td>
<td>Martin (2006), 2-3; Nouwen (1971); Morgan 3; Tye 5-6; Palmer, Intro. &amp; 1</td>
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<td>Following Jesus Today (Morgan 3)</td>
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<td>#5 (June 3)</td>
<td>Jesus, Master Teacher I</td>
<td>Tye 7-8; Morgan 4; Groome (1980; 2011)</td>
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<td>Thomas Groome, Shared Christian Praxis</td>
<td>Smst (2016), 1</td>
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<td>Learning on the Hoof (Morgan 4)</td>
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<td>#6 (June 10)</td>
<td>David Kolb, Experiential learning &amp; learning styles</td>
<td>Tye 4; Morgan 5; Palmer 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jesus, Master Teacher II</td>
<td>Due: Tye (assignment #2)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Plural of Disciple is Church (Morgan 5)</td>
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<td>#7 (June 17)</td>
<td>Movie on teaching (title provided later)</td>
<td>Morgan 6; Palmer 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Community with a Purpose (Morgan 6)</td>
<td>Forum #3</td>
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<tr>
<td>#8 (June 24)</td>
<td>Jean Piaget, Theory of Cognitive Development</td>
<td>Woolfolk et al. (2012), p31-41; Palmer 4; Morgan 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Take Up Your Cross (Morgan 7)

#9 (July 1)  
Erik Erikson, Theory of Psychosocial Development  
Living in God’s Story (Morgan 8)  
Woolfolk et al. (2012), p86-91; Going (2009); Morgan 8 Palmer 5  
Forum #4

#10 (July 8)  
Understanding the Adult Learner  
Growing Together (Morgan 9)  
Summary of Vella (2000); Palmer 6-7; Morgan 9  
Due: Palmer (assignment #2)

#11 (July 15)  
Preaching & Teaching  
Rowe (1999); Krish Kandiah on preaching (2005)  
Forum #5

#12 (July 22)  
Wrap up  
Due: Major project (Aug. 9)

V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

(Tyndale Library supports this course with e-journals, e-books, and the mail delivery of books and circulating materials. See the Library FAQ page.)

I have included some “older” texts as their themes remain influential in the field.

Children


Youth and Adult


**Inter-Generational Learning**


**Cross-Cultural Learning**


**Christian Higher Education**

2018. Miller, John P. *Love and Compassion: Exploring Their Role in Education* (University of Toronto Press).


**Discipleship**


**Christian Education & Faith Formation in the Church**


2004. Burgess, Harold W. *The Role of Teaching in Sustaining the Church* (Bristol House, Ltd.)


Jesus as Teacher


Nonformal Education/Critical Pedagogy


TYNDALE SEMINARY
CHED 0522W LEARNING TO TEACH; TEACHING TO DISCIPLE
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STATEMENT OF CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH INTERVIEW
AS PART OF THE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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I/We, _________________________________________ hereby give my/our consent to participate in the research interview carried out by _________________________ as part of the course requirements for skill development purposes only.

I/we recognize that anonymity and confidentiality will be respected and that any and all answered information will solely be used for the intended purpose of the assignment.

Signature(s): _________________________________________

Date: ___________________