



**BRISBANE COLLEGE OF THEOLOGY
UNIT OUTLINE**

BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY

UNIT TITLE	TEACHING MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH
UNIT CODE	E52027
UNIT STATUS	Elective
HOST FIELD	E
PREREQUISITE/S	Nil
INCOMPATIBLES	Nil
CREDIT POINTS	10cp
REQUIREMENTS	3 hours per week contact and 7 hours per week study over a 13-week semester
FREQUENCY OF OFFERING	Annually – Semester One
PREPARED BY	Rev Wendi Sargeant
UNIT COORDINATOR	Rev Dr Neil Sims
TEACHING STAFF	Rev Wendi Sargeant
DATE PREPARED	21 September 2006

Rationale

Contemporary churches are challenged by the need for theological and biblical literacy among their members. The teaching ministry has taken on a new significance in helping to meet this need. This unit provides students with an introduction to the diversity and importance of the teaching ministry in the contemporary church, giving students the opportunity to grapple with crucial issues relating to the development of an effective teaching ministry, and providing basic training in teaching skills. The development and honing of specific teaching skills is applicable to all students preparing for vocational or lay ministry.

Relation to program

It is important for those studying theology to have an understanding of the centrality of the teaching ministry in the life of the church because more and more people coming into the church do not have a solid Christian education background. Thus, the skills required for contemporary ministry include foundational teaching understandings and methods to facilitate the effective communication of theological and other ministry insights.

Aims

The unit aims to introduce students to the teaching ministry of the church and encourage them to develop an understanding of the biblical and theological foundations for such a ministry. It will also provide the opportunity for students to develop basic practical teaching skills.

Learning Outcomes	
At the end of this unit the student should be able to:	
1.	Develop a framework for the teaching ministry based on biblical, theological, educational and philosophical foundations appropriate for the 21st century;
2.	Analyse and evaluate different educational paradigms that undergird current teaching ministries in congregational contexts;
3.	Plan an effective educational experience appropriate for people of all ages;
4.	Employ some basic teaching skills suitable for a variety of ministry contexts and a range of ages.

Content

- 1 Teaching and the Church/What Is Teaching?
- 2 The Teacher's Calling/Tasks of an Effective Teacher
- 3 Jesus as Teacher/Basic Teaching Skills and Strategies
- 4 The Minister as Teacher/Catering for Diversity
- 5 Theological Reflection and Teaching Ministry
- 6 Critical Reflection in Teaching/Creativity
- 7 Shared Christian Praxis
- 8 Planning to Teach
- 9 Contexts for Teaching
- 10 Congregational Education and Nurture/Families, Children, Young People
- 11 Micro Teaching Sessions presented by students

Organization and Teaching Strategies

A range of interactive teaching strategies will be used. While key material will be presented through formal lectures, the emphasis will be on group work and on the lecturer demonstrating a range of teaching strategies. There will be opportunities for students to present their mini teaching sessions.

Most weeks the sessions will be divided into two segments – the first will focus on the theoretical foundations and the second will focus on the practical skills of teaching.

Assessment

	Type of assessment	No of words	Weighting %	Due date	Learning Outcomes covered
1	An essay which details the student's own framework for teaching ministry with appropriate biblical and theological foundations.	2,000	30%	Week 6	1, 2
2	A teaching plan which is based on the student's preferred framework. The plan will include a rationale for each section, which will demonstrate some of the student's theoretical understanding of their chosen educational framework. The plan will be designed with a particular age group in mind, eg adults, young adults, young people, children or for an all age setting.	3,000	40%	By end of semester on allocated week	2, 3
3	A 30 minute teaching session based on the teaching plan developed in item 2.		30%	By end of semester on allocated week	3, 4

Notes on Assessment

Item 1	Will develop the student's knowledge of the biblical and theological foundations of their own educational framework as a basis for ministry.
Items 2 and 3	Will develop the student's ability to collect, analyse and organize information and ideas and to convey those ideas clearly and fluently in written form; the ability to engage effectively and appropriately with current information and communication technologies; and the ability to generate ideas and adapt innovatively to a given environment.

Bibliography

Textbooks

Required — Nil

Book of Readings

These readings are listed in the order they appear in the Book of Readings.

Module A

Aleshire, Daniel. "Christian Education and Theology" in *Christian Education Handbook*.

Rev ed; ed Bruce P Powers; Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1996, 13-28.

Palmer, Parker J. "The Heart of a Teacher: Identity and Integrity in the Teacher's Calling" in *The Courage to Teach*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1998, 9-33.

Moore, Mary Elizabeth Mullino. "The Art of Teaching from the Heart: The Heart of the Matter" in *Teaching from the Heart: Theology and Education Method*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1991, 197-224.

Pazmino, Robert W. "God with us: Jesus, the Master Teacher" in *God our Teacher: Theological Basics in Christian Education*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2001, 59-86.

Davis, Barbara Gross. "Asking Questions". In *Tools for Teaching*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2001, 82-90.

Rowell, J Cy. "Empowering Images of the Minister as Teacher". *Religious Education* 95 (2000), 64-78.

- Tanner, Kathryn. "Theological Reflection and Christian Practices" in *Practicing Theology: Beliefs and Practices in Christian Life*. Ed Miroslav Volf & Dorothy C Bass; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002, 228-242.
- Brookfield, Stephen D. "What It Means to Be a Critically Reflective Teacher" in *Becoming a Critically Reflective Teacher*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1995, 1-27.
- Groome, Thomas H. "Shared Christian Praxis" in *Christian Religious Education*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1980, 184-206.
- Dykstra, Craig. "Education in Christian Practice" in *Growing in the Life of Faith: Education and Christian Practices*. Louisville: Geneva Press, 1999, 66-79.
- Osmer, Richard Robert. "Congregational Education and the Nurture of Practical Theological Reflection: A Faith Development Perspective" in *A Teachable Spirit: Recovering the Teaching Office in the Church*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1990, 212-251.

Module B

- Wilhoit, Jim & Leland Ryken. "The Tasks of the Effective Teacher" in *Effective Bible Teaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1988, 41-57.
- Lazear, David G. "Awakening, Amplifying, Teaching and Transferring Intelligence: An Introduction to Multiple Intelligence Theory" in *Eight Ways of Knowing: Teaching for Multiple Intelligences*. 3rd ed; Arlington Heights, Illinois: Skylight, 1991, 1-11.
- Everist, Norma Cook. "Eight Facets of Learning: Methodologies for a Diverse People" in *The Church As Learning Community: A Comprehensive Guide to Christian Education*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2002, 103-148.
- Webb-Mitchell, Brett P. "Christly Gestures: Body, Mind and Spirit" in *Christly Gestures: Learning to be Members of the Body of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003, 92-107.
- Dallow, Gill. "Spirituality and Faith Development" in *Touching The Future: A Handbook for Church-Based Children's Leaders*. Oxford: The Bible Reading Fellowship, 2002, 78-92.
- Jones, Tony. *Postmodern Youth Ministry: Exploring Cultural Shift, Cultivating Authentic Community, Creating Holistic Connections*. Grand Rapids: Youth Specialties, Zondervan, 2001, 214-229.

Recommended

- Everist, Norma Cook. *The Church as Learning Community – A Comprehensive Guide to Christian Education*. Nashville: Abingdon, Nashville, 2002.
- Groome, T. *Christian Religious Education*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1980.

References – Books

- Bracke, John M & Karen B Tye. *Teaching the Bible in the Church*. St Louis: Chalice Press, 2003.
- Brookfield, Stephen D. *Becoming a Critically Reflective Teacher*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1995.
- Davis, Barbara Gross. *Tools for Teaching*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2001.
- Durka, Gloria. *The Teacher's Calling – A Spirituality for Those Who Teach*. New York/Mahwah: Paulist, 2002.
- Dykstra, Craig. *Growing in the Life of Faith – Education and Christian Practices*. Louisville: Geneva Press, 1999.
- Emmett, John A. *The Minister as Educator – Exploring Aspects of the Educational Role of Ordained Ministers*. Uniting Education, 2002.
- Everist, Norma Cook. *The Church As Learning Community – A Comprehensive Guide to Christian Education*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2002.
- Foster, C. *Educating Congregations*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1994.
- Groome, T. *Christian Religious Education*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1980.
- Johnson, S. *Christian Spiritual Formation in the Church and Classroom*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1989.

- Moore, Mary Elizabeth Mullino. *Teaching from the Heart – Theology and Education Method*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1998.
- Osmer, Richard Robert. *A Teachable Spirit – Recovering the Teaching Office in the Church*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1990.
- Osmer, Richard Robert. *Teaching for Faith – A Guide for Teachers of Adult Classes*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1992.
- Palmer, P. *The Courage to Teach*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1998.
- Pazmino, Robert W. *By What Authority Do we Teach?* Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1994.
- Pazmino, Robert W. *Foundational Issues in Christian Education*. 2nd ed; Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 1997.
- Pazmino, Robert W. *God our Teacher-Theological Basics in Christian Education*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2001.
- Powers, BP (ed). *Christian Education Handbook*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1996.
- Rusbult, Richard E. *Basic Teacher Skills (Rev Ed)*. Valley Forge: Judson Press, 1997.
- Webb-Mitchell, Brett P. *Christly Gestures- Learning to be Members of the Body of Christ*. Grand Rapids/Cambridge: Eerdmans, 2003.

References – Journals and other readings

- Bullock, Karen O'Dell. "Called to teach :an introduction to the ministry of teaching". *Southwestern Journal of Theology* 42 (Fall 1999), 80-81.
- Colson, William & Royce A Rose. "The Teaching Ministry of the Church". *Southwestern Journal of Theology* 38 (Spring 1996), 4-39.
- Felton, Gayle-Carlton. "John Wesley and the Teaching Ministry: Ramifications for Teaching Education in the Church Today". *Religious Education* 92 (Winter 1997), 92-106.
- Grierson, Denham. "Why has the UCA turned its back on the Teaching Ministry of the Church". *Uniting Church Studies* 2 (Mar 1996), 36-41.
- Hoke, Stephen T. "Paradigm Shifts and Trends in Missions Training – A Call to Servant Teaching: A Ministry of Humility". *Evangelical Review of Theology* 23 (Oct 1999), 329-346.
- Kauffman, J Howard. "Education for peoplehood: essays on the teaching ministry of the church". *Mennonite-Quarterly Review* 74:4 (Oct 2000), 631-633.
- Lazear, D. "Eight ways of knowing – Teaching for Multiple Intelligences" in *Awakening, Amplifying, Teaching and Transferring Intelligence – An introduction to Multiple intelligence theory*. Arlington Heights, Illinois: Skylight Training and Publishing, 1999.
- McLaughlin, Linden D. "Called to teach: an introduction to the ministry of teaching". *Bibliotheca-sacra* 158:630 (Ap-Je 2001), 254.
- Osmer, Richard Robert. "Local church in a global era" in *The teaching ministry in a multicultural world*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000, 63-74.

References - Online and Other IT resources

Jesus' Ministry and Teaching.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/religion/jesus/ministry.html>.

United Church of Christ. <http://www.ucc.org/education/partners/303Whys.pdf>

Characteristics and Pedagogy of Jesuit Education. <http://loyola.server101.com/cje/html>

Christian education links. <http://www.christianeducation.org.uk/links.htm>

Free online database of Christian resources.

<http://www.calmonline.org.uk/data/showbook.asp?template=data.htm&Book=7&width=500>