

Course Title: The Impact of the Christian Worldview on Teaching

Course Format: online course (site: <https://acsieu.org/moodle>)

Course Language: English

Participants: primarily for K-12 teachers

Length of Course: 3 weeks (~3-4 hours/week of study)

Hours*: Reading: 3 hours
Viewing: 1 hour
Interaction with other participants in forums: 4 hours
Activities/Writing: 4 hours
**Estimated. Actual hours required will vary depending on participant background.*



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Course Description

There is no such thing as "neutral" teaching. Our worldview determines the way we teach. During this course, we will study the teaching process and how the teacher applies a worldview through their character, their calling, their attitudes and their activities in the classroom. We will use chapter 2 of *First the Foundation*, by Stephen Kaufmann as a platform to discuss the questions: Who is the teacher? Why does he/she teach? And How does he/she teach? while connecting these to the impact of the Christian worldview. The final assignment is to develop a professional development plan which demonstrates understanding and application of the course content.

Course Purpose

An understanding of who the teacher is and how this impacts their life and teaching is essential for every teacher. The responsibility of the Christian teacher is to integrate their beliefs about the world as God's creation with their attitudes, relationships and their practice in and out of the classroom. Participants will be challenged and discover and reflect on their own teaching and how that aligns with the biblical worldview through this course.

Course Objectives

Students (participants) will...

- 1) Articulate the difference between a Biblical and a non-Biblical approach to teaching.
- 2) Identify the roles of the Christian teacher in the learning process.
- 3) Describe appropriate methods of integrating a Biblical worldview in their teaching.
- 4) Evaluate their own attitudes and approaches to teaching and learning.
- 5) Prepare a personal strategy for professional development that demonstrates their integration of a biblical view of teaching.

Required Texts/Other Resources

Kaufmann, S. (2008). *First the Foundation: A primer for Christian School Education*. ACSI Europe, Budapest, Hungary. (Chapter 2 - Provided in electronic format)

Van Brummelen, H. *Walking with God in the Classroom*. Purposeful Design Publications, ACSI, Colorado Springs, CO. (Selections from: Ways in which the Bible informs teaching and learning)

Eckel, M. (2003). *The Whole Truth: Classroom Strategies for Biblical Integration*. Xulon Press. (Selections from: chapter 5, "Everyone integrates what they believe").

Course Outline

Week	Instruction Methods	Focus Topic	Activities
1	<p>Reading: <u>First the Foundation</u>, ch. 2</p> <p>Video presentation with PowerPoint presented by the course instructor</p>	The Teacher: Who is the teacher?	<p>- Forum discussion: Self introduction - If someone asks you, "Why are you a teacher?", what do you tell them?</p> <p>- Pre-test: ungraded with a focus on introducing the topics and the vocabulary needed for the course</p> <p>- Forum discussion: Describe 2 different aspects of your relationship with former teachers or colleagues and how they modeled a Biblical approach to teaching (or not). Describe 2 different aspects of who you are as a teacher and how that impacts your attitudes about teaching, 1 that reflects a non-Biblical approach and 1 that reflects a Biblical approach to the subject or student or method of instruction. (Objectives 1, 2, 4)</p>
2	<p>Presentation: "The Calling of the Teacher"</p> <p>Reading: "Ways in which the Bible informs teaching and learning".</p>	The Calling of the Teacher: Why does he/she teach?	<p>- Forum discussion: Based on the instruction this week, discuss how your personal worldview shapes your approach to teaching.</p> <p>- Assignment: Write a summary of one purpose of teaching from the biblical worldview and how this is reflected in your approach to teaching (or not). (Objectives 1, 2, 4)</p>
3	<p>Presentation: "Approaches to Teaching and Learning"</p> <p>Optional reading: Bible-shaped teaching</p>	A Biblical Approach to the Curriculum: What does he/she teach?	- Forum discussion: Based on our reading, which classroom methods might better reflect a commitment to the biblical worldview? (Objective 3)
4	<p>Reading: Rethinking Assessment</p> <p>Optional reading: Selection from <u>The Abolition of Man</u>, C.S. Lewis</p>	A Biblical Approach to Assessment: How do we evaluate student learning?	Assignment: Write a strategy for personal and professional development and engage in peer-review of another participant's strategy. (Objectives 4, 5)

Assessment Tasks

Task	Objective/s	Week	% Weight
<p>Contribution to the course discussion forum by</p> <p>a) Creating forum posts that thoughtfully address the questions outlined in the course.</p> <p>b) Responding to the forum posts of other participants by making comments and asking reflective questions.</p>	1, 2, 3, 4	Ongoing	30%
Self-assessment at the conclusion of the course	4	4	30%
Assignment: Write a summary of one purpose of teaching from the biblical worldview and how this is reflected in your approach to teaching (or not).	1, 2, 4	2	20%

Assignment: Write a strategy for personal and professional development and engage in peer-review of another participant's strategy.	3, 5	4	20%
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