

Doctoral Entrance Exam Reading List and Study Guide

The following resources are foundational texts and articles used in our master's program. The Entrance Exam reflects information from these resources. Applicants are expected to have a basic knowledge and understanding of the people, concepts and theories identified in them.

Educational Foundations

Historical/Philosophical Foundations

Estep, James R., Michael R. Anthony, and Greg R. Allison. *A Theology for Christian Education*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2008.

Estep, James R. et. al. *CE: The Heritage of Christian Education*. Joplin, MO: College Press, 2003.

Anthony, Michael and Warren Benson. *Exploring the History and Philosophy of Christian Education*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2003 (printed 2011).

Knight, George R. *Philosophy & Education: An Introduction in Christian Perspective, 4th ed.* Berrien Springs, MI: Andrews University Press, 2006.

Lifespan Development

Kail, Robert, and John Cavanaugh. *Essentials of Human Development: A Life-Span View*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2016. ISBN: 978-1305504585 (This text is available for rent or as an ebook)

Balswick, Joack, Pamela King, and Kevin Reimer. *The Reciprocating Self: Human Development in Theological Perspective*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2016. ISBN: 978-0830851430 (Kindle edition available)

Discipleship

Discipleship Strategies

Coleman, Robert. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Grand Rapids, MI: Revell, 1993.

Geiger, Eric, Michael Kelley, and Philip Nation. *Transformational Discipleship: How People Really Grow*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2012.

Harrington, Bobby. *Discipleship that Fits: The Five Kinds of Relationships God Uses to Help Us Grow*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2016.

Malphurs, Aubrey. *Strategic Disciple Making: A Practical Tool for Successful Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2009.

Putnam, Jim. *Real Life Discipleship: Building Churches that Make Disciples*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2010.

Putnam, Jim and Bobby Harrington. *DiscipleShift: Five Steps to Help Your Church to Make Disciples Who Make Disciples*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2013. Absalom, Alex and

Lifespan Discipleship

Read Transcript from *Five Views on Infants & Children in the Church* (conference at NOBTS, April 27, 2015)

Jackson, Allen. *DISCIPLE: The Ordinary Person's Guide to Discipling Teenagers*. Birmingham, AL: YM360, 2015.

Read, Chapter 4, "Implications for an Adult Religious Education for Spiritual Development," in *The Spiritual Development of Adults in Mid-Life and Spiritual Direction: Implications for Adult Religious Education* (EdD Dissertation, NOBTS)

Disciplemaking Through Small Group Ministry

Braddy, Ken. *Breathing Life into Sunday School: 12 Essentials to Revive your Most Important Ministry*. Nashville, TN: Lifeway Resources. 2019.

Search, Bill. *The Essential Guide for Small Group Leaders*. Carol Stream, IL: Christianity Today. 2017.

Stetzer, Ed and Eric Geiger. *Transformational Groups: Creating a Scorecard For Groups*. Nashville, TN: B & H Books. 2014.

Leadership

Church Leadership & Administration

Dean, Jody & Hal Stewart eds. *Together We Equip*. Bloomington, IN: Westbow Press. 2018.

Geiger, Eric and Kevin Peck. *Designed to Lead*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2016.

Hartwig, Ryan T. and Warren Bird. *Teams That Thrive: Five Disciplines of Collaborative Church Leadership*. Downers Grove. InterVarsity Press, 2015.

Malphurs, Aubrey. *Being Leaders: The Nature of Authentic Christian Leadership*. Grand Rapids, MI: Book House, 2003.

Welch, Robert. *Church Administration: Creating Efficiency for Effective Ministry, Second Edition*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2011.

Organizational Leadership & Administration

Parr, Steve, ed. *Sunday School That Really Excels: Real Life Examples of Churches with Healthy Sunday Schools*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2013.

Taylor, Allan. *Sunday School in HD*. With a forward by Thom S. Rainer. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Press, 2009.

Gladden, Steve. *Small Groups with Purpose*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Publishing, 2011.

Teaching and Learning

Ford, LeRoy, *Design for Teaching and Training: A Self-Study Guide to Lesson Planning*. Eugene OR: Wipf and Stock Publishers 2000.

LeFever, Marlene D. *Creative Teaching Methods: Be an Effective Christian Teacher*. Colorado Springs, CO: David Cook, 2004.

Richards, Lawrence O, and Gary J. Bredfeldt. *Creative Bible Teaching*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 1998

Yount, William. *The Discippler's Handbook*. Revised 2014. Pdf posted on website.

Yount, William. *Created to Learn: A Christian Teacher's Introduction to Educational Psychology*, 2d ed. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2010. (ISBN: 978-0805447279). Kindle Edition available.

Areas of Questioning

1. Be familiar with leading educational theories. Be able to identify historical and contemporary influencers in the discipline.
2. Study human growth and development considering physiological, intellectual, emotional, social, and spiritual maturity process.
3. Be familiar with basic church administration textbooks and administration processes and procedures.
4. Prepare to define terms found in the fields of Christian Education, discipleship and spiritual formation.
5. Be prepared to explain your personal philosophy of Education ministry in the church.