

**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. Texts in **bold** are paramount and provide an elementary preparation for the test. Familiarity with the entire bibliography is recommended.

Educational Foundations*Historical/Philosophical Foundations*

Anthony, Michael and Warren Benson. *Exploring the History and Philosophy of Christian Education: Principles for the 21st Century*. Eugene, Oregon: Wipf and Stock, 2011

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.

Gangel, Kenneth O. and Warren S. Benson *Christian Education: Its History and Philosophy* Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2002.

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, 2014.

Balswick, Joack, Pamela King, and Kevin Reimer. *The Reciprocating Self: Human Development in Theological Perspective*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2016.

Teaching and Learning*Teaching the Bible*

Melick, Rick and Shera Melick. *Teaching that Transforms: Facilitating Life Change through Adult Bible Teaching*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2010.

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

Yount, William. *The Teaching Ministry of the Church*. Nashville, TN: B&H Publishing Group, 2008.

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

**Doctoral Entrance Exam
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Hughes, Adam, and Jody Dean. *Together We Lead: Integrating Church Leadership and Administration for Ministry Success*. Birmingham, AL: New Hope Publishers, 2021

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

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

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

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

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

Discipleship*Discipleship Strategies*

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

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.

Lifespan Discipleship

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

Electronic document available with professor (Dr Allen Jackson) “A Vision for Child & Youth Discipleship” by Sally and David Michael

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

Galindo, Israel. 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)

Preparation Suggestions and Guidelines

1. Be familiar with foundational educational philosophies and theories. Be able to identify historical and contemporary influencers in the discipline of Christian Education.
2. Study human growth and development considering physiological, intellectual, emotional, social, and spiritual maturity processes.
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, school or other organization.