

**American Baptist Churches of New York State  
Lay Study Program**

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**A Brief Course Description**

This course is designed to enable the student to relate Christian education to all aspects of church life.

**Expected Outcomes**

Students will be able to fully understand their roles and duties as teachers and learners within their local churches.

Students will have examined the biblical and theological basis of Christian education and will have developed their own perspective on Christian education in the church setting.

Students will be familiar with the various elements of Christian education including but not limited to: the purpose and models of church educational ministry, aspects of teaching and learning, curriculums available to church teachers, where to find resource materials for classes, creating lesson plans, and developing class presentations.

Those students who are gifted and called to lead in teaching will have become more confident and capable in preparing for, and leading in, various educational settings that are in keeping with their personal biblical/theological perspective and current church context.

**Class Expectations**

Students will read the assigned readings and participate in class discussions.

Students taking the course for credit will attend at least eight out of ten classes.

Students who are taking the course for credit will create and hand in the written assignments and/or complete projects designed by the teacher, which may include paper/s on particular subjects, oral presentations, power point presentations, class lesson plans, and etc.

The course generally has ten classes which are two hours long. A short break may be included in the middle of the class time. Classes may be designed to include a variety of learning experiences, including but not limited to: interactive lectures, and small and large group discussions.

**Suggested Resources**

Introducing Christian Education – Foundations for the Twenty-first Century by Michael Anthony. Baker Publishing, 2001.

The Philosophy of Christian Religious Education by Jeff Astley. Religious Education Press, 1994.

The Power of Small Groups in Christian Education by Harley Atkinson. Evangel Publishing House, 2002.

The Nuts and Bolts of Christian Education – Practical Wisdom for Teachers & Leaders by Delia Halverson. Abingdon Press, 2000.

Other Resources (a starting place)

For Scripture: Bible Hub, Bible Gateway

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