



CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

**ED621**

**THE SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT  
OF LEARNERS**

This sample unit outline is provided by CHC for prospective and current students to assist with unit selection.

Elements of this outline which may change with subsequent offerings of the unit include Content, Required Texts, Recommended Readings and details of the Assessment Tasks.

Students who are currently enrolled in this unit should obtain the outline for the relevant semester from the unit lecturer.

<b>Unit code</b>	ED621
<b>Unit name</b>	The Spiritual Development of Learners
<b>Associated higher education awards</b>	Graduate Certificate in Christian Education Master of Education
<b>Duration</b>	One semester
<b>Level</b>	Postgraduate
<b>Unit Coordinator</b>	Sadie Praeger
<b>Core/Elective</b>	Elective
<b>Weighting</b>	Unit credit points: 10
	Total course credit points: Graduate Certificate in Christian Education - 40 Master of Education - 80
<b>Student workload</b>	Directed study hours: 90 Personal study hours: 60 Total workload hours: 150
	Students requiring additional English language support are expected to undertake an additional 1 hour(s) per week.
<b>Delivery mode</b>	External
<b>Pre-/Corequisites</b>	Prerequisite or corequisite: ED601 Applying Worldview Studies to Christian Education <b>OR</b> ED602 Philosophical Perspectives on Education
<b>Rationale</b>	<p>Holistic human growth and development incorporates biological, cognitive, social/ emotional, volitional, aspirational and spiritual dimensions. Understanding the self necessarily involves understanding others but also involves an examination of transcendence. Transcendence implies a cognisance of the mystery of life and an attempt to explain God's fingerprint in the world, and is not bound by culture, gender, age, education, and socio-economic status. Questions of existence, purpose, identity, suffering and the future impact the developing individual in varying ways at different stages of development. Individuals assign different meanings to learning moments and to critical life events.</p> <p>This unit will investigate spiritual/faith development in the context of personal growth and community engagement. An exploration of different theories of spiritual development will be undertaken to inform the teachers understanding of the learner as a spiritual being. Innovative pedagogical approaches that will support the spiritual growth of learners will be considered.</p>

<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p>On completion of this unit, students will have provided evidence that they have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recognised and understood the multi-dimensionality of humankind from Christian theological and spiritual perspectives.</li> <li>2. Reviewed the key themes of the psychological and spiritual development of humankind.</li> <li>3. Investigated and critically reviewed theories of spiritual/faith development.</li> <li>4. Identified and evaluated the influence of context in spiritual/faith development.</li> <li>5. Reviewed different pedagogical approaches to supporting the processes of spiritual/faith growth.</li> <li>6. Communicated at an appropriate tertiary standard: with special attention to design elements, grammars, usage, logical relations, style and presentation.</li> </ol>
<b>Content</b>	<p>Introduction to spiritual development.</p> <p>Towards a Biblical view of the person across the lifespan.</p> <p>Theoretical perspectives of spiritual development- developmental theories relating to cognitive, moral, psychosocial and spiritual/faith development and the implications they have for spiritual development of the learner will be investigated.</p> <p>Contexts of spiritual development theory - community, context and transitions as components which shape a person's spirituality.</p> <p>Pedagogical implications for Christian spiritual development.</p>
<b>Assessment tasks</b>	<p><b>Task 1:</b> Comparative research essay</p> <p>Word length/Duration: 3000 words</p> <p>Weighting: 50%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-3, 6</p> <p>Assessed: Y - 2016, S - 1, W - 9</p> <p><b>Task 2:</b> Development of a theoretical framework</p> <p>Word length/Duration: 3000 words</p> <p>Weighting: 50%</p> <p>Learning Outcomes: 1-6</p> <p>Assessed: Y - 2016, S - 1, W - 15</p>
<b>Specialist resource requirements</b>	<p>Nil</p>
<b>Prescribed text(s)</b>	<p>Estep, J. &amp; Kim, J. (Eds.). ( 2010). <i>Christian formation: Integrating theology and human development</i>. Nashville, TN: B &amp; H Publishing Group.</p>
<b>Recommended readings</b>	<p>Allen, H. (Ed.). (2008). <i>Nurturing children's spirituality Christian perspectives and best practices</i>. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books.</p> <p>Anthony, M. (2006). <i>Perspectives on children's spiritual formation</i>. Nashville, TN: Broadman &amp; Holman.</p> <p>Berryman, J. (2009). <i>Teaching Godly play: How to mentor the spiritual development of children</i>. (2nd ed.). Denver, CO. Morehouse Educational Resources.</p> <p>De Souza M., &amp; Lamb, W. (Eds.). (2008). <i>Children, adolescents and spirituality,10 (2)</i>. Adelaide: Australian Theological Forum.</p> <p>De Souza, M. (2007). <i>Spirituality in the lives of children</i>. Adelaide: ATF Press.</p>

<p><b>Recommended readings (continued)</b></p>	<p>Grajczonek, J., &amp; Ryan, M. (Eds.). (2007). <i>Religious education in early childhood a reader</i>. Brisbane: Lumino Press.</p> <p>Hyde, B. (2008). <i>Children and spirituality searching for meaning and connectedness</i>. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.</p> <p>Ratcliff, D. (Ed). (2004). <i>Children's spirituality Christian perspectives, research, and applications</i>. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books.</p> <p>Roehlkepartain, E., King, P., Wagner, L., &amp; Benson, P. (Eds.). (2006). <i>The handbook of spiritual development in childhood and adolescence</i>. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.</p> <p>Smith, K. (2007). <i>Christian spirituality</i>. London: SCM Press.</p> <p>Westerhoff, J. (2012). <i>Will our children have faith?</i> (3rd ed.). Toronto: Morehouse Publishing.</p> <p>Yust, K. (2004). <i>Real kids real faith: Practices for nurturing children's spiritual lives</i>. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.</p> <p><b>Journals and Periodicals</b></p> <p>International Journal of Children's Spirituality</p> <p>Journal of Spiritual Formation and Soul Care</p> <p>Lifelong Faith</p> <p>Spiritual Formation in Children</p> <p><b>Websites</b></p> <p>Children's Spirituality Bibliography:  <a href="http://www.childrenspirituality.org/documents/bibliography/articles.pdf">http://www.childrenspirituality.org/documents/bibliography/articles.pdf</a></p> <p>Cross-Curricular Spiritual and Moral Development: Reflections on the Charis Project:  <a href="http://www.stapleford-centre.org/files/files/David_Smith-Cross_Curricular_Spiritual_and_Moral_Development-Reflections_on_the_Charis_Project.pdf">http://www.stapleford-centre.org/files/files/David_Smith-Cross_Curricular_Spiritual_and_Moral_Development-Reflections_on_the_Charis_Project.pdf</a></p> <p>National Christian Life Survey: <a href="http://www.ncls.org.au/default.aspx?sitemapid=4528">http://www.ncls.org.au/default.aspx?sitemapid=4528</a></p> <p>Spiritual and Moral Development across the Curriculum:  <a href="http://www.wiseman.ealing.sch.uk/page_viewer.asp?page=Spiritual+and+Moral+Development+Across+the+Curriculum&amp;pid=241">http://www.wiseman.ealing.sch.uk/page_viewer.asp?page=Spiritual+and+Moral+Development+Across+the+Curriculum&amp;pid=241</a></p> <p>Spiritual and Moral Development in Schools:  <a href="http://books.google.com.au/books/about/Spiritual_and_Moral_Development_in_School.html?id=TkpXAAAAYAAJ&amp;redir_esc=y">http://books.google.com.au/books/about/Spiritual_and_Moral_Development_in_School.html?id=TkpXAAAAYAAJ&amp;redir_esc=y</a></p> <p>Spiritual Growth of Kids:  <a href="http://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/spiritual_growth_for_kids.aspx">http://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/spiritual_growth_for_kids.aspx</a></p> <p>In addition to the resources above, students should have access to a Bible, preferably a modern translation such as the <i>New International Version (NIV)</i> or the <i>New King James Version (NKJV)</i>.</p> <p>These and other translations may be accessed free on-line at <a href="http://www.biblegateway.com">http://www.biblegateway.com</a>. The Bible app from LifeChurch.tv is also available free for smart phones and tablet devices.</p>
<p><b>Unit summary</b></p>	<p>This unit will investigate spiritual/faith development in the context of personal growth and community engagement. An exploration of different theories of spiritual development will be undertaken to inform the teachers understanding of the learner as a spiritual being. Innovative pedagogical approaches that will support the spiritual growth of learners will be considered.</p>