

CE-520
Educating Christians for Social Change
Fall 2017
Tuesday 2:30-5:30pm
DRAFT – subject to change

Course description

This course in Christian Education considers the relationship between the church's educational ministry and the ministries of social transformation. The course will examine personal commitments to social transformation, theologies of change, and educational skills for transformation.

Course Goals:

- A. **Knowing:** To know practices and disciplines of Christian education and formation and to understand how these are affected by differing cultural contexts. In particular, to know the foundations, roots, and goals of faith-rooted social change.
- B. **Doing:** To examine, assess, and lead a variety of approaches to teaching and learning. In particular, to learn educational skills for social transformation
- C. **Being:** To be a theological educator who seeks to liberate and empower persons to be co-creators of the reign of God in our multi-cultural and multi-faith environment. In particular, to examine their personal commitments to social transformation.

Required Texts:

Christopher Emdin: *For White Folks Who Teach in the Hood...and the rest of Y'all Too: Reality Pedagogy and Urban Education*. (Boston: Beacon Press, 2016.) Paperback 978-0807028025, \$11.00

Anne Hope and Sally Timmel (editors). *Training for Transformation in Practice* (Warwickshire, UK: Practical Action Publishing, 2014). Paperback 978-1853398322, \$24.74

Denise Jansen (editor). *Educating for Redemptive Community*. (Wipf & Stock, 2015). Paperback 978-1498208161, \$20.35

John McKnight and Peter Block. *The Abundant Community: Awakening the Power of Families and Neighborhoods* (San Francisco, Barrett-Koehler, 2012). Paperback 978-1609940812, \$15.41

Patrick B. Reyes. *Nobody Cries When We Die: God, Community, and Surviving to Adulthood*. (Saint Louis, Missouri: Chalice Press, 2016). Paperback 978-0827225312, \$16.99

Christian Scharen. *Fieldwork in Theology: Exploring the Social Context of God's Work in the World*. (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic, 2015). Paperback 978-0801049309, \$15.33

Mai-Anh Le Tran. *Reset the Heart: Unlearning Violence, Relearning Hope*. (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2017). Paperback 978-1501832468, \$22.58

Samuel Wells. *A Nazareth Manifesto: Being with God*. (West Sussex, UK: Wiley Blackwell, 2015). Paperback 978-0470673263, \$29.09

Assignments:

- Active participation in class
- Interview a leader who is involved in social transformation (Professor can provide assistance in identifying persons/agencies/congregations/non-profit agencies) (A guide will be provided)
- Analysis of a social issue and student peer teaching on your findings
- Final Project: Development of an educational design or congregational strategy to engage the issue in a local congregation or non-profit setting. Student peer teaching of this design or strategy

Class Schedule:

Session 1: Introduction: Education and Social Change in a Global Context

Session 2: Vocation of Transformation

Session 3 and 4: Motivation for Ministries of Transformation

Session 5 and 6: The Process and Tools of Social Analysis

Session 7: Analysis of Social Issues

Session 8: Pedagogies for Transformation, including teaching practices

Session 9: Student Peer Teaching of Social Issues

Session 10: Education as Vision and Action

Session 11 and 12: Student Peer Teaching of final project

Session 13: Conclusion: Educating Christians for Social Change