

Christian Philosophy of Education: Course 1, Foundations Syllabus

[Online course provided on ACSI PD](#)

Course Information

- **Instructor:** Jerry Nelson, Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)
- **CEUs:** 8 Educational and 2 Bible (10 total CEUs)
- **Prerequisite:** *none*
- **CPoE Certification Option:** This course is 1 of 3 courses needed to complete ACSI's Christian Philosophy of Education requirement. Completion of all three courses is needed to meet the requirement.

Course Description

In this new and revised Philosophy of Christian Education series (2023), multimedia segments and engagement activities present a foundation of teaching from an intentionally Christian perspective. Course 1 *Foundations*, the first of three courses in this series, explores key philosophical beliefs from a scriptural perspective and examines their impact on Christian education.

Learning Objective

- By the end of this course, you will be able to develop and articulate a personal philosophy of education informed by a biblical perspective on life and learning.

Course Requirements

- This full-length course requires a pre- and post-assessment, engagement activities, discussion forums, and formative assessments. All activities must be completed to receive credit for this course.
- The post-assessment for this course is an original composition, referred to as an “**artifact**,” that showcases your personality as an educator and demonstrates your understanding of a Christian philosophy of education. Your artifact should meet the requirements detailed in the course rubric, but it may be in any format, such as a written paper, an audio recording, a video, a blog post, an infographic, a slide deck, etc. If you are applying for certification through ACSI, your administrator must review and approve your completed artifact.

Course Structure

This course is delivered entirely online through ACSI's online platform, [ACSI PD](#). A subscription to the platform is required. All the lessons, course materials, and resources are provided through the platform. The course is asynchronous, so learners may advance at their own pace.

Recommended Course Schedule

Committing 1–2 hours per week, learners can complete this 10-hour course in 8 weeks.

Week 1	Getting Started + Module 1 Session 1
Week 2	Module 1 Session 2
Week 3	Module 2 Session 1
Week 4	Module 2 Session 2
Week 5	Module 3 Session 1
Week 6	Module 3 Session 2
Week 7	Module 3 Session 3
Week 8	Course Finish (including Artifact submission)

Course Outline

Getting Started

- ☐ Pre-Assessment
- ☐ Video: Jerry's Why
- ☐ Prepare: Course Artifact (provides information about the course artifact)

Module 1: Belief

- ☐ Bassline (Scripture reading)

Session 1: Philosophy

- ☐ Lead Sheet
 - Video: Jerry's Introduction to Philosophy
 - Reading: Section 1 Introduction, Chapter 1*
 - Podcast: Philosophy Part 1
- ☐ Woodshed (worksheet)

Session 2: Big Questions of Philosophy

- ☐ Lead Sheet
 - Reading: Chapter 2*
 - Interaction: Philosophy
 - Podcast: Reality, Truth, and the End Goals of Education
- ☐ Woodshed (worksheet)
- ☐ Jam Session (discussion forum)

Module 2: Aim

- ☐ Bassline (Scripture reading)

Session 1: Goals of Christian Education

- ☐ Lead Sheet
 - Reading: Chapter 3, Chapter 4 from start of chapter until “Educational Responsibility”*
 - Videos: Jerry's Story, Glen's Story, Larry's Story
 - Podcast: The Purpose of Christian Education: A Critical and Lasting Endeavor
- ☐ Woodshed (worksheet)

Session 2: Roles of Educating Children

- ☐ Lead Sheet
 - Videos: Education in the Church, Education in the Home, Education in School
 - Reading: Chapter 4 “Educational Responsibility” to end of chapter*
- ☐ Woodshed (worksheet)
- ☐ Jam Session (discussion forum)

Module 3: Implication

- ☐ Bassline (Scripture reading)

Session 1: The Learner

- ☐ Lead Sheet
 - Video: The Nature of Learning
 - Reading: Section 2 Introduction, Chapter 5*
 - Interaction: Human Nature of the Learner
- ☐ Woodshed (worksheet)

Session 2: The Teacher

- ☐ Lead Sheet
 - Videos: The Role of the Teacher, Role Models
 - Reading: Chapter 10 from start of chapter until “To Be in Charge”*
 - Podcast: How Do I Balance Educating and Ministering to Students?
- ☐ Woodshed (worksheet)

Session 3: The Curriculum

- ☐ Lead Sheet
 - Reading: Chapter 10 from “To Be in Charge” to end of chapter*
 - Video: The Importance of Developing a CPoE
- ☐ Woodshed (worksheet)
- ☐ Jam Session (discussion forum)

Finish Course

- ☐ Artifact Submission (administrator approval needed for CPoE certification)
- ☐ Self-Assessment

*All course readings are selected from the book *By Design: Developing a Philosophy of Education Informed by a Christian Worldview* by Martha E. MacCullough, Ed.D.

Other CPoE Courses

- [CPoE Course 2: Worldview](#) 10 CEUs (5 Educational and 5 Bible)
- [CPoE Course 3: Biblical Integration](#) 8 CEUs (all Educational)