

CM205 Progressive Methods of Child Evangelism

Course Syllabus for CMI Online

I. Course Description

Progressive Methods of Child Evangelism is an introduction of contemporary methods and strategies for evangelizing and teaching today's child. It is designed to provide you with a variety of effective tools that can enhance evangelistic skills in children's ministry. You will also examine different learning styles and personality traits so that you can develop methods to reach all children. The biblical basis for child evangelism will be explored, and you will be challenged to compose a theology of child conversion paper. In addition to successfully complete the course, you will use the methods taught in the course to plan and teach an evangelistic Party Club.

II. Rationale

Child evangelism is crucial for world evangelization. Statistics indicate that one third of the world's seven billion people are made up of school-age children. If we are to evangelize the world, we must evangelize its children. However, the children are the most forsaken mission field in the world today. Children's ministry is a specialized field. To reach the child for Christ, the Gospel message must be presented to the child in a simple and appealing manner. Therefore, the effective children's worker must be equipped with a variety of the most effective proven methods and ministries to evangelize children.

III. Prerequisites

Born-again Christian

Minimum age of 18 (for CMI Online course)

Completed CM202 *Teaching Children Effectively Level 1*

IV. Course Objectives

By the conclusion of this course the student will:

1. Compose a research paper defining and defending the theology of conversion of children.
2. Design one evangelistic visualized song applying techniques and guidelines presented in the course.
3. Plan and participate in an evangelistic Party Club outreach utilizing the methods taught in the course.

V. Instructional Procedures

Demonstrations by the instructors train students in a practical, interactive way. In addition, individual assignments and community forum discussions allow the student to interact with the curriculum on both a personal and interpersonal level. The real-world teaching Party Club assignment permits the student to utilize newly gained skills as they teach children concurrently with the course.

VI. Course Materials

- A. *Progressive Methods of Child Evangelism* Student Manual
- B. Dinosaur Tracks! Party Club Kit
- C. *Children's Ministry Resource Bible*
- D. *Children, A Biblical Perspective* by Sam Doherty
- E. *Childhood Education in the Church* by Roy Zuck
- F. *Joining Children on the Spiritual Journey* by Catherine Stonehouse
- G. *Safe in the Arms of God* by John MacArthur
- H. Supplementary materials as suggested within the course

VII. Participation Policies

You can anticipate spending about 12-15 hours per week on course activities and assignments. All assignments including forum posts must be posted or submitted by midnight Central Standard Time (CST) of the day the assignment is due. Due to the fact that this is an interactive course requiring feedback from other students, submitting assignments late affects not only that student but the other classmates and their learning as well. Failure to submit any assignment on time will result in a grade reduction. In cases where the student consistently misses assignment due dates, the student may be withdrawn from the course without remuneration.

In the case of an emergency or other extenuating circumstance, students should contact their online instructor **before** the assignment is due and make arrangements for late submission of an assignment.

Participation on the forum and in live chats should be characterized by Christian courtesy. You may disagree with another student's (or instructor's) point of view, but please do so with respect for one another. Please read the Communication section of the student handbook for more details about communication expectations.

This course will require you to plan and conduct an entire Party Club. This will enable you to put course theory into practice. (Note: A proctor must be present to observe and provide feedback during your Party Club.)

VIII. Grading Policies and Information

During each week, there will be activities and assignments that must be completed. The text reading, presentations and activities are designed to provide information needed to complete the assignments. Students may need to do additional research as well.

It is expected that all assignments, including forum posts, be submitted on time. Failure to post forum items on time affects not only you but also your classmates and their learning. Therefore, late forum posts will negatively affect your grade. Please refer to the downloadable forum grading rubric included in the online Grading Policies and Information section of the course for information on how forums are evaluated.

Failure to submit any other assignment on time will also negatively affect your grade. In the case of an emergency or other extenuating circumstance, contact your online instructor before the assignment due date and make arrangements for a late submission.

All assignments will be graded. Some assignments may be graded with a pass/fail grade. If the work is completed satisfactorily on time, then a pass grade will be earned. Each assignment will earn points that will determine the final course grade. Be sure to refer to the grading rubrics for each assignment to see how they will be graded. All assignments must be completed in order to pass the course.

Assignment	Percentage	Point Value
Defense Paper and Assignments	40%	400
Party Club Assignments	35%	350
Forums	25%	250
TOTAL	100%	1,000

IX. Learning Outcomes and Activities for Each Week

The following information can serve as your checklist as you navigate through the course. Printing this sequential checklist and checking off each activity or assignment as they are completed will help keep you on track throughout the course.

Before the course begins

- ☐ Submit Student Agreement Form verifying proctor information.
- ☐ Order course materials.

Week 1

This first week of Progressive Methods of Child Evangelism will help you understand the basic reasons for developing a theology of child conversion. You will begin by posting a brief introduction about yourself in a forum, following the guidelines included in the assignment. This “getting to know you” exercise will help you begin to feel connected to other students participating in the learning community. You will also begin developing your paper that defines and defends the theology of child conversion this week.

Your assignments and activities for this week will be described below in the recommended order of completion.

- ☐ Introduce yourself to the class by posting in the Week 1 Forum. (This is not a graded assignment, but please complete by Friday.)
- ☐ Participate in a live chat with your instructor and classmates! (Details found within Week 1.)
- ☐ Complete the reading for week 1.
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Sessions: Theology of Child Conversion.
- ☐ Watch the Video How to Write a Paper.
- ☐ Submit your defense paper assignment for Matthew and Mark (Due Monday)
- ☐ Return to the week 1 forum and reply to at least two other student's posts (Due Monday)

Week 2

In Week 2, you will continue to develop your biblical defense of child evangelism paper defining and defending the theology of children through the study of specific passages in the Old Testament and the Pauline Epistles. You will also discuss insights regarding children and their spiritual development in the Week 2 Forum.

Your assignments and activities for this week will be described below in the recommended order of completion.

- ☐ Complete the reading for week 2.
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Sessions: Theology of Child Conversion.
- ☐ Post in the week 2 forum (Due Friday)
- ☐ Submit your defense paper assignment for the Old Testament and Epistles (Due Monday)
- ☐ Return to the week 2 forum and reply to at least two other student's posts (Due Monday)

Week 3

In this week of Progressive Methods of Child Evangelism, you will begin to understand the philosophies of child conversion and their origins! You will begin by reading *Safe in the Arms of God* and viewing the video presentations concerning philosophies of child conversion. Next, you will discuss how you can minister to someone who has lost a child. Then, you will continue developing your paper defining and defending the theology of conversion of children.

Your assignments and activities for this week will be described below in the recommended order of completion.

- ☐ Complete the reading for week 3.
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Sessions: Theology of Child Conversion.
- ☐ Post in the week 3 forum (Due Friday)
- ☐ Submit your defense paper assignment for the Philosophies of Child Conversion (Due Monday)
- ☐ Return to the week 3 forum and reply to at least two other student's posts (Due Monday)

Week 4

This week, you will complete and post in the forum the defense paper started at the beginning of the course. You will then read and assess two classmates' papers providing encouragement as well as suggesting revisions to help them improve their paper. You will then make any necessary revisions to your own paper based on helpful comments provided by your classmates. Your final paper will be submitted for evaluation at the end of the week. This week you will also grow in your understanding of the necessity of praying for lost children so they will be reached for Christ, and you will learn how to use the Children's Ministry Resource Bible effectively.

Your assignments and activities for this week will be described below in the recommended order of completion.

- ☐ Post in the week 3 forum (Due Friday)
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Session: Praying for the Lost.
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Session: Unpacking the Children's Ministries Resource Bible.
- ☐ Submit your final defense paper assignment (Due Monday)
- ☐ Return to the week 4 forum and reply to at least two other student's posts (Due Monday)

Week 5

In Week 5, you will learn how to develop your assigned Bible lesson using the methods described in the course for a doctrinal or topical lesson. You will also become familiar with a Party Club and begin planning for your Party Club that will take place during Week 9 of this course.

Your assignments and activities for this week will be described below in the recommended order of completion.

- ☐ Watch the Video Class Session: Evangelistic Bible Lessons.
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Session: Party Club Evangelistic Outreach.
- ☐ Post in the week 5 forum (Due Friday)
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Session: Giving an Invitation and Counseling for Salvation.
- ☐ Return to the week 5 forum and reply to at least two other student's posts (Due Monday)
- ☐ Submit your Party Club Lesson Outline (Due Monday)

Week 6

In Week 6, you will learn how to design visual aids that will enhance your teaching and create a visualized song to use in your Party Club. You will also research different methods that can be used when teaching children and discuss their uses in the Week 6 Forum.

Your assignments and activities for this week will be described below in the recommended order of completion.

- ☐ Watch the Video Class Session: Designing Visuals.
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Session: Using Puppets Effectively.
- ☐ Post in the week 6 forum (Due Friday)

- ☐ Submit your Visualized Song (Due Monday)
- ☐ Return to the week 6 forum and reply to at least two other student's posts (Due Monday)

Week 7

During Week 7, you will learn how to use object lessons to present the message of salvation to children. Throughout the week, you will discuss your Party Club schedule, your list of materials needed, and other preparations needed for your Party Club.

Your assignments and activities for this week will be described below in the recommended order of completion.

- ☐ Watch the Video Class Sessions: Evangelism through Object Lessons.
- ☐ Post in the week 7 forum (Due Friday)
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Sessions: Developing Biblically Focused Kids
- ☐ Return to the week 7 forum and reply to at least two other student's posts (Due Monday)

Week 8

In Week 8, you will learn how to effectively counsel children for salvation, discussing reasons that children come for counseling and ways to respond to their needs. You will also become familiar with a variety of review games and have an opportunity to develop a review game to use in your Party Club.

Your assignments and activities for this week will be described below in the recommended order of completion.

- ☐ Watch the Video Class Sessions: Counseling the Child.
- ☐ Post in the week 8 forum (Due Friday)
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Sessions: Review Games
- ☐ Submit the Review Game Assignment (Due Monday)
- ☐ Return to the week 8 forum and reply to at least two other student's posts (Due Monday)

Week 9

In Week 9, you will become familiar with learning styles and personality types along with practical ways to help you teach children most effectively. This week you will also be teaching your Party Club using the principles presented in the course. To allow you to focus your attention on the Party Club, there is no Week 9 forum Discussion.

Your assignments and activities for this week will be described below in the recommended order of completion.

- ☐ Watch the Video Class Sessions: Learning Styles.
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Sessions: The Teaching Challenge.
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Sessions: Teaching According to Personalities.
- ☐ Complete your Real-world Party Club (Due Monday)

Week 10

In week 10, you will reflect, discuss, and describe your real-world Party Club teaching experience in the Week 10 Forum. You will learn the principles of another evangelistic outreach - Open-air Ministry. You will also learn why and how you should teach apologetics to children.

Your assignments and activities for this week will be described below in the recommended order of completion.

- ☐ Post in the week 10 forum (Due Friday)
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Session: Apologetics.
- ☐ Watch the Video Class Session: Open Air.
- ☐ Return to the week 10 forum and reply to at least two other student's posts (Due Monday)
- ☐ Complete the End of Course Survey (Due Monday)