

Sunday School Teacher and Youth Leader Training

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course serves as an introduction to the nature, purpose, and approach of Sunday school and leadership in the life of the church. Students will reflect theologically on the aims of education and will explore the role and nature of the curriculum in the life of the church. They will also reflect on the role of religious education in the history of the life of the church as well as its place and purpose in contemporary Orthodox Churches.

This unit will also explore the key understanding that Sunday school teachers need to have about learners in Sunday school. Students will study the guiding documents for the Swedish school system and reflect on how these could affect educational practice in Sunday schools. The overall purpose of the course is to equip Sunday school teachers with the basic competency to be able to teach in Sunday schools.

GOALS

After successful completion of the course students are expected to:

- Be able to describe the role of religious education in the history of the Church
- Be able to critically reflect on the role of the Sunday school in the life of the Church today
- Show an understanding of what pedagogy is and how it relates to Sunday school
- Be able to plan and teach a lesson in the Sunday school
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of the theology of the orthodox Churches
- Be familiar with the documents pertaining to the Swedish educational system

ASSESSMENT

There are no examinations for College courses organised by the Folkhögskola. Assessment is based on full participation in all aspects of the course. This includes reading the set texts, completing written assignments and participating in group work.

REQUIREMENTS

All students need to be at least 18 years old, be officially registered in Sweden and have a sufficient knowledge of the language of instruction.

TUITION

Tuition at Sankt Ignatios Folkhögskola is free for everyone who is a citizen of Sweden or another EU country or who have been granted permission to live in Sweden. Students must be registered as living in Sweden.

SERVICE FEE

Students are required to pay a service fee. The service fee for this course is SEK 600 per semester.

Quick Facts

Organizer

Sankt Ignatios Folkhögskola

Level

Preparatory

Length

1 year

Study Pace

Part-time (50%)

Teaching Hours

Weekends and evenings

Type of Instruction

On-campus

Location

Campus Södertälje

Language of Instruction

English

Literature & Materials

Books with an Asterisk (*) are mandatory. The rest is reference literature.

* J Boojamra, John Lawrence. *Foundations for Orthodox Christian Education*. Crestwood, N.Y.: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1989.

Boys, Mary C. *Educating in Faith: Maps and Visions*. San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1989.

* Estep Jr, James R, Anthony, MJ, and Allison, GR. *A Theology for Religious Education*. Nashville: B.&H. Publishing Group 2008.

Groome, Thomas H. *Christian Religious Education: Sharing Our Story and Vision*. 1st Jossey-Bass ed. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1999.

Harris, Maria. *Fashion Me a People: Curriculum in the Church*. 1st ed. Louisville, KY.: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1989.

* Hattie, John. *Visible Learning for Teachers: Maximizing Impact on Learning*. London: Routledge, 2012.

* Koulomzin, Sophie. *Our Church and Our Children*. Crestwood, NY: SVS Press, 1975, reissued 2004.

Pazmino, Robert W. *Foundational Issues in Religious Education*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker 2008.

Literature & Materials (continued)

Schmemmann, Alexander. *"Liturgy and Education" in Liturgy and Life*. Syosset, NY: OCA-DRE.

* Vrame, Anton C. *The Educating Icon: Teaching Wisdom and Holiness in the Orthodox Way*. Brookline, Mass.: Holy Cross Orthodox Press, 1999.

Yount, William R. *The Teaching Ministry of the Church*. 2nd ed. Nashville: B.&H. Publishing Group 2008.

Habib Gergis, Bishop Suriel, *Coptic Orthodox educator and a light in the darkness*, Sac Press. Australia.

