



Short Descriptions of Courses

The MA (Phil) in Educational Leadership (MA-EL) is a graduate program rooted in the Christian faith and designed for K-12 teachers and school administrators seeking to build their capacity as educators and leaders within the context of their school. Combining ICS's rich history of integrally Christian scholarship with the commitment to inquiry-based learning, this program inspires and equips educators to create innovative, challenging, and just learning environments that contribute to God's ongoing redemptive work in the world. Overall, this program is committed to being:

- *Biblically informed and focused on the love embodied by Christ*
- *Deeply contextualized and relevant for educators*
- *Aligned with one's own professional passion and practice*
- *Rooted in wisdom and a sound methodology*

See the ICS Course Catalogue for a full description and the most recent syllabi of each course.



Course offerings over the next three years can be found on this page of our website.



Course List

Educators are welcome to take the following courses within the program:

Foundations Courses

Biblical Foundations is a course that helps students become more familiar with the Bible as an ongoing story of God and creation and increase their ability to think creatively and constructively about the relationship between the biblical text, academic reflection, and contemporary discernment. *(Fall course)*

What is "Christian" about Christian Education?: Reformational Philosophy Applied will offer you an opportunity to reflect on what it means to teach or educate "Christianly." It will situate a Reformational understanding of Christian education. The goal is to give you time, space, and resources to develop a clearer understanding of how faith impacts education in general, and how your faith shapes what you do as an educator more specifically. *(Summer course)*

(cont.)



Immersive Courses

Called to Teach: Formation and Learning is a course that provides educators with a vocational vision of Christian educational innovation and leadership. It is intended to guide educators on an inner journey as they begin cultivating personal competency in critical and constructive reflection on their professional practice. *(Summer course)*

Lead From Where You Are provides understanding and practice in how to diagnose and address the toughest problems experienced by organizations. Students will identify the leadership they are able to contribute to addressing these problems from where they are in their organizations. *(Summer course)*

The Craft of Reflective Practice will engage students in how to do critical reflective practice, primarily by telling stories about our everyday working lives. In the process, they will learn qualitative research skills, receive an introduction to phenomenology, develop their own approach to praxis, come to terms with who they are in what they do, and consider what they want to change in their practice. *(Fall course)*

Cultivating Learning Communities of Belonging considers diversity, cultural complexity and increasingly blurred markers of origin and ethnicity, racial justice, and restorative practices and how they impact and form both school and classroom cultures. *(Fall course)*

Instructional Leadership Concentration

Christian Deeper Learning: From Wonder to Inquiry to Practice seeks to help Christian educators develop deeper learning. We will consider what it means to be image-bearers of God called to care for our neighbours and to be engaged in real work that is part of God's story. Together we will examine the importance of global citizenship as a form of deeper learning and the impact it has on developing a caring and just world. *(Winter course - offered every other year)*

Transformative Teaching frames holiness, justice, and restoration as the foundations of Christian pedagogy and asks educators to examine their posture, the cultural narratives that shape their teaching, and how to integrate faith into classroom life. Participants will learn strategies to align pedagogy with school mission, foster spiritual formation and academic growth, and serve as catalysts for restorative change in their schools and communities. *(Winter course - offered every other year)*

School Administration Concentration

How to Coach a Strong Team is a course for new and aspiring principals. The course provides frameworks and tools for setting directions, building relationships, developing people, developing a school culture and structures to support desired practices, and securing accountability. *(Winter course - offered every three years)*

How to Finance a Vision provides students with frameworks and tools for leadership in making the connections between the vision of a school, the budgeting process, and the cultivation of sources of revenue. Students will be guided in creating their own personal playbook for the financing of a school's vision. *(Winter course - offered every three years)*

How to Govern a School provides frameworks and tools for leadership in governance. The course introduces students to the work of nurturing the relationships among the school's stakeholders, with a focus on the pivotal relationship between the board and the principal. *(Winter course - offered every three years)*

