

Teacher Development Renaissance Module Guide to the Reader

The Reader for this module is *The Courage to Teach*, by Parker Palmer, as well as the handouts. Both are well-integrated into the module. It is recommended that participants read the entire book and handouts before attending the module in order to get the background needed to fully engage in the module. If that is not possible, at least the chapters from the Palmer book and the handouts that will be used in the module sessions should be read before participants attend the module. These are indicated below:

Session 1: Teaching and Learning—What Shapes Us?

The Courage to Teach Chapters I, III, IV, VI

Handouts 1-10:

Introduction to the Renaissance Program and Religious Education Credentialing
Preparation for Module Evaluation
Schedule of Sessions
Module and Session Goals
The Mutuality of Making a Difference
Shared Praxis
Lesson Planning Using Shared Praxis
Tom Groome's Shared Praxis in Action
Reflections on *The Courage to Teach*
Reflection Questions

Session 2: Teachers as Learners and Seekers

The Courage to Teach Chapters III, VI

Handouts 11-19:

The Soul Only Avails: Teaching as a Spiritual Act
Teaching in Faith: Providing Tools to Support and Sustain Volunteers
Channing on Teachers
The Care and Feeding of Volunteers: Part One
Tips for Successful Recruiting
Recruitment Skits
Safety, Health and Ethics in Congregations
Code of Ethics Sample
Sample Health and Safety Guidelines

Session 3: Supporting Children as Learners and Seekers

The Courage to Teach Chapter III

Handouts 20-29

Faith Development Outline
Abbreviated Summary: Child Development

Abbreviated Summary: Adolescent Development
Howard Gardner on Multiple Intelligences
7 Ways Congregations Can Embrace People with Disabilities
Sample Referral Form for Individuals with Special Needs
The Children of Jowonio
The Paradoxes of Space
Creating an Environment of Acceptance and Mutuality
Discipline in Sunday School: What Would a UU Do?

Session 4: Toolkits for Teachers

Note for Hybrid module participants: the in-person gathering covers sessions 4 and 5

The Courage to Teach Chapter III

Handouts 30-42

Support Checklist

The Care and Feeding of Volunteers: Part Two

Sample Religious Education Teacher Contract

Team Teaching

A Fictional (But Not Unrealistic) Teaching Team Rotation

Leader Reflection and Planning

Sample Teacher Check-In Form

How to be Sure the Teacher Development Workshop Goes Home with Your Teachers

Tapestry of Faith — Spiritual Preparation

Creating Covenants

Children's Covenant

Teacher Dedication

Group Project and Presentation

Session 5: Group Toolkit Presentations and Module Closing

Handout 43 and Appendices

Selected Online Resources

Appendix One: Small Group Ministry

Unitarian Universalist Teacher Development Using a Small Group Ministry

Model, by Gail Forsyth-Vail

Small Group Ministry and Lifespan Faith Development, by Rev. Helen Zidowecki

Appendix Two: Spiritual Practices to Use with Children

Meditation with Children, by Susan Freudenthal

Writing Prayers, by Tracey L. Hurd, Ph.D.