

Able to Teach: Course Syllabus

Offered through:

Family Academy and Multnomah University

About the Course Developers:

Diana McAlister and Candice Broman Childs are the proud parents of their (respective) children. Candice and Diana were each public school teachers for five years, but chose to be stay-at-home moms (and eventually homeschooling moms). Candice and Diana discovered home schooling through Dr. Raymond and Dorothy Moore, John Holt, and other late '70's-early '80's local homeschooling pioneers. Both become committed to homeschooling, and in 1981, founded the beginnings of Family Academy/Academy Northwest, an accredited private school through which thousands of parents, teachers, and students have been trained in homeschooling. They are also the co-authors of *Homeschooling the High Schooler* and have developed two record-keeping systems: *Teaching My Own (K-8)* and *High School Your Way*.

Course Objectives

Session 1: Chapter 1 Homeschooling Foundations: Legal, Personal and Philosophical



Chapter 2 Thinking Skills: From Facts to Discernment

- Identify key legal and personal requirements to be effective home educators
- Review the variety of educational philosophies prevalent in America and their effects on home education
- Practice developing effective questioning strategies and thinking skills



Session 2: Chapter 3 Learning Theory: Keys to Unlocking Understanding



- Overview three learning style theories and their applications
- Practice developing educational activities that apply learning styles techniques
- Analyze other environmental and physical factors which impact learning
- Review the basic components of reading
- Examine the nature of testing and assessment



Session 3: Chapter 4 Nurturing Creativity: The Other Half of Learning

- Examine the nature of creativity and how to nurture it within the home
- Apply creativity principles in writing and drawing exercises

Session 4: Chapter 5 Child Development: Mathematical Reasoning

- Overview the basic components of Piaget's theory of human development
- Identify the conceptual basis of mathematical comprehension
- Examine a variety of methods and resources for math instruction and money management (applied mathematics)



Session 5: Chapter 6 Curriculum 101: From Knowledge to Wisdom

- Determine the academic and personal goals with the 11 required subjects
- Practice developing unit studies
- Review junior high essentials and high school graduation requirements
- Overview multiple educational resources, suppliers, publishers, organizations, and approaches useful to homeschoolers



Session 6: Chapter 7 Home and Homeschool: Family Management 101

- Examine the goal of parenting: character development
- Overview issues of socialization and homeschooling
- Develop strategies for effective home management
- Analyze key parenting techniques and resources
- Determine the advantages and disadvantages of homeschooling



School