

Comenius: Pedagogue of the Nations

In 1928, the President of the Czechoslovak Republic, T.G. Masaryk, wrote, “Comenius was one of the first to demand an educational and cultural policy in the true sense of the word. Today he would have expressed himself as a believer in *progress*. From a practical point of view the rebirth was attained by education--by a new system of education. Thus Comenius became the teacher, the pedagogue, of all nations.” By looking at Comenius’s example and following his philosophy of education, we as Christian educators can help instigate real change in our institutions and in the lives of our students.

Teri McCarthy earned her PhD in education and second language acquisition from the University of Kansas. She also has a Master’s Degree in education and a Bachelor’s Degree in mass communications and journalism. Teri co-authored *Teaching in a Distant Classroom* (InterVarsity Press), a handbook for Christian professors, which is now in its third printing and has been published in Korean as well. She has traveled, taught, and conducted research in more than 50 countries. Teri has taught in public universities internationally for over 30 years, including in China, Russia, and Afghanistan. From 2010 until 2017, she taught in Lithuania, including six years as associate professor at Lithuania University of Educational Sciences in Vilnius.

- I. Comenius’ Transformational Philosophy of Education
 - A. Society and Education
 - B. Gender and Education
 - C. Education as a Garden
- II. Reformational Thinking: Comenius’ Christian Worldview of Life and Learning
 - A. Approaches to Teaching
 - B. Structures of Life-long Learning
 - C. Revolutionary Student-Centered Education
- III. School Reform and Classroom Management

Suggested Readings:

- Cole, L. (1950). *A history of education, Socrates to Montessori*. New York: Rinehart & Company Publishers.
- Comenius, J.A. (1910). *The great didactic*. (M.A. Keatinge, Trans.). Oxford: The University of Oxford Press. (Original work published 1657)
- Jackson, P.W. (1990). Introduction. *The school and society /curriculum and the child* (pp. ix-xli). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Jakubec, J. (1971). *The Eastern Europe collection: Johannes Amos Comenius*. New York: Arno Press & New York Times. (Original work published 1928)
- Keatinge, M.A. (Ed. & trans.). (1910). Introduction. *The great didactic of John Amos Comenius* (pp. 1-153). Oxford: University of Oxford Press.
- Lewis, C.S. (1996). *The abolition of man*. New York: Touchstone. (Original work published 1942)
- Masaryk, T. G. (1971). Introduction. *Johannes Amos Comenius*. New York: Arno Press & The New York Times. (Original work published 1928)
- Panek, J. (1991). *Joan Amos Comenius, teacher of nations*. Prague: Orbis Publishing.
- Rodgers, R. E. L. (1992). *The incarnation of the antithesis*. Cambridge: The Pentland Press, Ltd.