

What is Core Training?

Core Training is for all new Navigator staff. It encompasses the heart of what it means to be a Navigator and includes six courses: one for each of the Five Traits of a Disciplemaker and a course called Navigators 101, which will be about the Navigators' history, mission, vision, and values. This training will provide an introductory training standard across missions and cities without replacing contextualized mission and city training. Our expectation is for staff to complete all six courses in two years, stay in contact with and be held accountable by their local trainer throughout the training's process.

Why was it Created?

To accomplish all God has called us to as Navigators, we need a more aligned and coordinated effort in training staff. Core Training provides a unified approach across missions that will bring a common foundation to our varying contexts.

In 2019, a training coalition made up of members from various missions began identifying the outcomes of Core Training. Most of them fit under one of Five Traits. These Five Traits communicate for us an agreed upon, robust profile of a Navigator Disciplemaker. The TDC Training team created and launched the Core Training courses in March 2021. The courses are built around learning outcomes and organized in sections. Each course has a “start, stop and keep” reflection exercise to encourage application.

This training doesn't replace the excellent life-to-life and contextualized training that we love and value about our mission-specific work.

You can find more about Core Training on [our FAQ](#).

Links to Courses for trainer:

Core 101: <https://rise.articulate.com/share/i6WpUkGec8gVRq8C1cX4VdJZLrcF2ynr>

Core 201: <https://rise.articulate.com/share/L5X65cDVvupRylsdwNQG-HMZF8Eow1u7>

Core 301: <https://rise.articulate.com/share/zsHqnl2QcgrHhFHYJHFS380BG87mar97>

Core 401: https://rise.articulate.com/share/kTW0GsR6I7y12NvECL_W6t2HZ7ZnsI3j

Core 501: <https://rise.articulate.com/share/OkB5O86AW1OnQrgLvZKSzp-fwGma2TCd>

Core 601: <https://rise.articulate.com/share/Oz3mkw0p4v9tfa3K0MeYKCAAqLAI-o7s>

New staff will access Core Training through LearnUpon. Trainers can see what the courses look like by using the links above. We suggest cohort discussions for all of Core Training, but especially for Courses 3 and 5.

CORE 101: Abiding and Walking with Jesus

Desired Outcomes:

1. Spiritual Disciplines - Trainee has implemented practices, rhythms, and a plan for abiding in God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) during Initial Staff Training.
2. Holy Spirit - Trainee is able to communicate how the Holy Spirit is bringing about personal transformation in character, desire, and will, with Biblical conviction.
3. Sharing the Gospel - Trainee can share how the Gospel has brought joy and freedom to a place of shame, guilt, brokenness, or suffering in their own life.
4. Prayerful Faith - Trainee has exercised prayerful faith, trust and dependence on God through His promises for personal provision and faith initiatives.

Course Overview:

Section 1: This section includes Abiding/Walking with Jesus and Spiritual Discipline Categories Disciplines of Abstinence and Disciplines of Engagement. Internal, External, and Corporate are a way to categorize spiritual disciplines.

Section 2: Here we use Navigator speakers who are leading ministries overseas and in various ministry contexts. The video from Francis Chan then speaks of the Holy Spirit.

Section 3: Trainer has direct access to see the trainee share the gospel. We imagine this is one of the joys as a trainer because the gospel is advancing, and you are journeying with them as they grow and demonstrate passion and skill. They will process how the Gospel brought joy and freedom to places of shame, guilt, brokenness or suffering in their own life.

Section 4: The Navigators have a storied tradition of laborers believing and praying the promises of God and seeing God answer. We know there are many perspectives on praying the promises. We encourage you to help the trainee develop their own convictions about promises.

Questions for Your Radar:

- What are they stopping, starting, and keeping as a result of this course?
- How could they include others in these applications? How can you model this for them?
- As they craft their testimony, how do you see evidence that they understand shame, guilt, brokenness, or suffering becoming places of increasing joy and freedom?
 - We encourage you to share ways the Gospel has helped you in these areas as well.
- What opportunities can you give them to share this testimony?
 - Nav night, evangelism on campus, their family or relational networks, additional vocational opportunities, STP or overseas. Note: They will have more opportunities in Course 3 to practice sharing their story with others.
- What promises are they claiming? What action can they take to pray more intentionally about these promises?
- What promises from this section have you as the trainer also claimed? Can you ask the trainee to pray with you over these promises?

Additional Resource Links:

- [Out of the Saltshaker and Into the World - InterVarsity Press](#)
- [Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life](#)
- [Go: Returning Discipleship to the Frontlines of Faith: Preston Sprinkle: 9781631466106 - Christianbook.com](#)
- [Talking about God: Honest Conversations about Spirituality - Kindle edition by Saccone, Stephen, Saccone, Cheri. Religion & Spirituality Kindle eBooks @ Amazon.com.](#)

CORE 201: Knowing and Living the Scriptures

Desired Outcomes:

1. Biblical Foundations: Trainee possesses foundational knowledge and familiarity with the composition of the Bible and its Genesis to Revelation Gospel narrative.
2. The Gospel: Trainee can describe the Gospel of Jesus Christ using the Scriptures.
3. Intaking and Obeying the Word of God: Trainee is able to utilize a variety of means to intake and obey the Word of God.
4. Sharing the Scriptures: Trainee is able to share the Scriptures with others in a variety of ways.

Course Overview:

Section 1: We set the stage by meditating on Psalm 19:7-14 and go through some Bible Project videos to help set a foundation by asking questions like “What is the Bible?” and “What is the main storyline of the Bible?” We also give three options to consider the overarching narratives of scriptures.

Section 2: We go through the gospel, and how to share it using scripture. We include a short Bible study and share three tools in how to share the gospel with others. We end with a Conviction Capsule (a tool we will revisit a few times in CORE training) to help them summarize and form conviction on different topics.

Section 3: We are reminded that the Bible is living and active and there is always something new, “to teach, reprove, correct or train us for righteousness.” In a video by Jackie Hill Perry, she reminds us that prayer is the first step when we engage in God’s word, because we want our posture to be one of listening and depending on the Lord. We shared the Navigator tool: ‘The Word Hand’ and discussed what obedience to the Word produces in us.

Section 4: We consider how to share the scriptures with others. We ask the trainee to create a simple, reproducible plan for either a believer or non-believer. We give them freedom, because we realize each situation and each person may require something a bit different, but we challenge them to go and try something!

Questions for Your Radar:

- What are they stopping, starting, and keeping as a result of this course?
- Is there an opportunity for the trainee to share their summaries or a practical tool they learned in this course at a weekly gathering/training or at a one-on-one?
- As the trainer, discuss with them: “Think about a beautiful (not necessarily perfect) way someone shared the gospel with you. What made it that way?”
- Ask the trainee what their “Conviction Capsule” included and why they included it?
- What is their plan for sharing the scriptures with others?
- What do they think “success” looks like in sharing the scriptures with others?

Additional Resource Links:

- [Book: 30 Days to Understanding the Bible by Max E. Anders](#)
- [How to Read the Bible: The Bible Project](#)
- [Old Testament and New Testament Courses](#)
- Route 66: A 17-session course surveying the Old Testament and New Testament storyline that was created by Gretchen Riedel and Margo Cook. *Please contact Deborah Proctor for access to this resource.* deborah.proctor@navigator.org

CORE 301: Participating in Community

Desired Outcomes:

1. Relationship Building: Trainee initiates with new people both outside and within the Kingdom, facilitating healthy relationships in a community environment.
2. Interdependence: Trainee demonstrates unity and interdependence with another part of the Navigator work and across the broader Body of Christ.

Course Overview:

Section 1: A major desire of this course is to see disciplemakers continue to initiate with new people outside AND within the Kingdom. We have resources on living and leading as an insider, suggestions for healthy community, and coaching the Bible. We also have resources on Discovery Bible study as application choices.

Section 2: We focus on the characteristics that define disciplemaking communities and provide intentional reflection time.

Section 3: We explore what it means to resolve conflict biblically and to pursue that biblical reconciliation. Choosing to help staff with reconciliation and a Biblical basis for resolution was an important tool for us to include in this section.

Section 4: We end the course with three options for the trainee. The option of collaborating with the broader Body of Christ (may involve some planning), the option to explore and become familiar with the SHAW material, or the option to explore the campus version of 'Conversations on Race and God's Heart for Justice'. We also realize these might already be a part of your plans.

Questions for Your Radar:

- What are they stopping, starting, and keeping as a result of this course?
- Is there an opportunity for the trainee to share their summaries or a practical tool they learned in this course at a weekly gathering/training or at a one-on-one?
- What would it look like to carry out the Navigator calling as individuals?
- Dream big - what could this look like if carried out in a disciplemaking community?
- What are the differences between how it plays out individually and in a community?
- What are they learning and applying related to reconciliation?
- How do they see God's heart for justice and sexual health and wholeness impacting discipleship relationships?

Additional Resource Links:

- [SHAW](#)
- [Conversations on Race and God's Heart for Justice](#)
- [True Fellowship: Church as Community by Art Katz](#)
- [Principles and Models of Reconciliation pdf](#)

CORE 401: Engaging With Those Who Don't Know Christ

Desired Outcomes:

1. A Plan to Engage: Trainee has formed and implemented a plan to regularly engage with those who don't know Christ in their natural everyday life (family, friends, neighborhood, work/school, etc.) or in their missional ministry context.
2. Spiritual Conversations: Trainee can initiate spiritual conversations and share the good news of the Kingdom.
3. Sharing the Gospel: Trainee can skillfully utilize contextual resources for sharing the Gospel.

Course Overview:

Section 1: Here we help the trainee make a plan to engage with those that don't know Christ. We help them practically think about engaging with others by focusing on a "Person of Peace," or someone that may be open to hearing the good news and using one of two tools (Oikos Map or Praying Through Your Neighborhood) as springboards. We end this section by considering our posture as we engage with those that don't know Christ.

Section 2: We help the trainee remember that we are instruments in the hand of God, and one of the best things we can do with a person who has yet to believe is to winsomely begin a down-to-earth conversation that leads them to the eternal truths of the Kingdom of God. It does not end with just the introductory conversations - there are conversations about God that can begin with sexual brokenness, justice, and other relevant issues in someone's life.

Section 3: Here we discuss what it is like to help people move from darkness to light. We explore testimonies and examples of helping the lost move from that which is familiar to unfamiliar. We also have the trainee review their testimony in light of the resource provided by Kingdom Keys and testimony of Navigator staff.

Questions for Your Radar:

- What are they stopping, starting, and keeping as a result of this course?
- Is there an opportunity for the trainee to share their summaries or a practical tool they learned in this course at a weekly gathering/training or at a one-on-one?
- What is their S.M.A.R.T. goal for engaging with those that don't know Christ?
- How might a discussion around the tool of the [Football Field of Faith](#) assist with reaching the lost?
- How have you observed the trainee share the gospel?
- One helpful principle in sharing with someone who has little biblical knowledge is to go from the familiar to the unfamiliar. How might the trainee use something that's already familiar with a friend?

Additional Resource Links:

- [The New Parish: How Neighborhood Churches Are Transforming Mission, Discipleship and Community By: Sparks, Sorens, and Friesen](#)
- [Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus](#)
- [Can I smoke pot? Marijuana in light of Scripture.](#)
- [I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Athiest](#)
- [Black Man's Religion: Can Christianity be Afrocentric?](#)
- [The Celtic Way of Evangelism](#)
- [The 3D Gospel Ministry in Guilt, Shame and Fear Cultures](#)

CORE 501: Reproducing Spiritual Generations

Desired Outcomes:

1. Pioneering Personal Ministry: Trainee has participated in a pioneering ministry to lay the foundation of generational ministry.
2. Follow-Up: Trainee has personally engaged with or “followed-up” a new Christ follower or young believer with the aim of establishing them as a disciple of Jesus.
3. Helping Another: Trainee has demonstrated growing discipling vision, experience, and skill through personally helping another in each of the Five Traits of a Disciplemaker with spiritual generations in mind.
4. Mobile Alongsiders: Trainee has functioned as a mobile alongsider in equipping, empowering, and encouraging a discipling maker or local leader.

Course Overview:

Section 1: This foundational section attempts to answer the questions of “why” and “how” of building spiritual generations with key Navigator tools. There are “what” tools to ensure an understanding of Biblical basis for vision, to growing personal conviction and to developing awareness of spiritual hindrances.

Section 2: Here we give the trainee an opportunity to read or listen to Dawson Trotman’s message on “The Need of the Hour” and “Born to Reproduce.” We also discuss the importance of having a plan to establish a growing believer, as well as key Navigator tools and resources.

Section 3: We continue to build on our Navigator core of “helping others do the same” with several inspiring and challenging videos including the Four Es of Discipling, Randy Raysbrook on “Being a life-long learner” as we make disciples and discipling makers.

Section 4: Here we cast the vision of a discipling maker to continue on to their next generation by being willing to “go” where their disciple is living/ministering and to be “with him/her” to better understand their context in order to better pray and offer support and encouragement.

Questions for Your Radar:

- What are they stopping, starting and keeping as a result of this course?
- What resonated with them from their Conviction Capsule regarding their part in spiritual generations?
- Which of the principles of learning that Randy Raysbrook shared about is a strength and a weakness? What would they like to apply?
- As they consider the examples of spiritual generations and mobile alongsiders in lesson 6, what principles of learning do they see present? What role does learning play in spiritual generations?
- What did they learn about the role of being a mobile alongsider? What do they want to practice related to visiting, observing, listening, and asking questions to better understand one’s life and cultural contexts? Note: These are excellent skills to establish or strengthen as a new staff that will serve them the rest of their life.

Additional Resource Links:

[The story of the wise young man/Chess Board Story](#)

[Billy Graham Crusade Follow-up](#)

[Pipeline Illustration](#)

[Establishing Lists](#)

[The Next Steps to Follow-up](#)

[The Basics Compilation Tool](#)

[The Follow Up Plan Form](#)

CORE 601: Navigator 101

Desired Outcomes:

1. Navigator History: Trainee can communicate the story of Dawson Trotman and the early and recent history of The Navigators.
2. Navigator Tools: Trainee has familiarity with several historical tools used by the Navigators and is able to share The Wheel illustration.
3. Scripture Memory: Trainee has an understanding of the importance of Scripture memory, the history of the Topical Memory System (TMS) and is able to implement a personal Scripture memory plan.
4. Our Core: Trainee has knowledge and increasing embodiment of The Navigators' Calling, Core Values, Vision, and Statement of Faith.

Course Overview:

Section 1: We look at the history of The Navigators, the way God provided Glen Eyrie, the promises God has given The Navigators and our Worldwide Partnership.

Section 2: We do a deeper dive into our historical Navigator tools, as well as a few new ones! We share ways to practice using these tools with others.

Section 3: We also talk about the importance of Scripture memory and the history of the TMS. We provide several resources for memorizing Scripture throughout this section.

Section 4: In Section 4, we look at what it means to be a Navigator through the lens of our core. We explore our Calling, Core Values, Statement of Faith and Vision Statement.

Questions For Your Radar

- What are they stopping, starting and keeping as a result of this course?
- What stands out to the trainee about Dawson's faith and the beginnings of The Navigators? What do they want to remember?
- What is a part of The Navigators they want to learn more about? How could you as a trainer connect them with someone in a different mission or context?
- What experiences would they like to have with the Worldwide Partnership?
- What do they like about our historical Navigator tools? What adjustments have or could they make to make them fit their context more? How can you help them?
- What is their current plan for memorizing Scripture? How can they involve others in this?
- What motivates them about Our Calling? What questions do they have about our Values, Vision or Statement of Faith? How can they practice living these out in community?

Note: Additional resources for learning about The Navigators are included throughout Course 6. Although we make suggestions, we are leaving the specific book choices to the discretion of the mission.