SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

EDUCATION 240-3 SOCIAL ISSUES IN EDUCATION (D1.00)

Regular Summer Semester, 1992

Instructor: Dr. Jamie Wallin

(May 4 - July 31)

Office:

MPX 9508

Mondays, 9:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.

Location: ASB 9703

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine a number of social factors which influence (and are influenced by) education in Canada. These will be studied within their historical and cultural contexts, with particular reference to British Columbia and Western Canada.

Topics to be addressed include the following:

- immigration, ethnic diversity, and the curriculum
- First Nations and self government
- issues related to gender and sexual orientation
- poverty and abuse: impact on formal education
- public attitudes toward schools and colleges
- social priorities and the state of the economy

OBJECTIVES

One of the purposes of this course is to provide an opportunity for course participants to become better informed about the relationship between educational institutions and the society which supports them. Another purpose is to engage students in critical discussions on the strengths and weaknesses of today's educational institutions.

STUDY PLAN

Students will be expected to become conversant with the main issues underlying each of the topics identified above. However, opportunity will be given to each student to study two of the topics in greater depth. The results of these individual studies will be shared with other members of the class.

EVALUATION

Two term tests: Test 1 20% Test 2 25% Term paper 25% Final exam 30%

REQUIRED TEXTS

Ghosh, R. & Ray, D. 1991). Social Change and Education in Canada. 2nd Edition. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich Holt.

Sheehan, N., Wilson, J., & Jones, D. (1986). Schools in the West: Essays in Canadian Educational History. Detselig Enterprises.

Major reference materials will be on reserve in the library.