

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
EDUC 240 – 3
SOCIAL ISSUES IN EDUCATION
D02.00

Instructor: Dr. Zahra Montazer
Dawson Creek Campus
Fall 2003

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PREREQUISITE: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students to a number of sociocultural issues affecting the procedures, and conditions of our education. Studying perspectives and thoughts on education issues and application of fruitful dialogues and critical thinking will stimulate students' reflection on the subject matter. In addition to reviewing the impact of social issues on education generally, we will focus particularly on selected themes including: issues arising from gender; issues arising from ethnic and cultural differences; and issues deriving from the position of First Nations peoples within Canadian society.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course intends to improve students' ability to read critically, to evaluate and analyze the available perspectives in the field and to relate them to educational system within which they will work, and to contribute effectively to the shaping of the profession of which they will be a member.

COURSE EVALUATION:

Written responses to reading material	30%
Oral Presentations of research	20%
Organized summary of the research	10%
Final exam/dissertation	30%
Participation in class activities and discussions	10%

Written responses: (4 written responses, in-class or take home, 7.5% each).

Take home assignments must be two pages long, typed double space, 12 font. They are to be handed to the instructor in each meeting. They will be evaluated according to university criteria. Clear and critical exposition of arguments and association of ideas from textbooks and personal experience. Students will be notified in advance whether written responses would have to be completed in class or taken home.

Oral Presentation: Possible topics for the oral presentation will be explored during the class.

Final exam OR dissertation: Students will be notified of the final exam requirements in class. A final dissertation will be assigned in the absence of a final exam. Final dissertation must be 6-8 pages long, typed doubled space, 12 font. It will be evaluated according to university standards.

REQUIRED READING:

EDUC 240 Custom courseware

Additional sources relevant to each topic of study will be placed on reserve in the library.