
Spring Semester 1998

EDUC 441 - 4
Multicultural Education

D01.00

Dr. M. Warsh
Office: TBA
Tel: 291-3395
E-mail: warsh@sfu.ca

PREREQUISITE

60 credit hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Multicultural education is a process of comprehensive school reform and basic education for all students. It accepts and affirms: 1) the doctrine of pluralism which Canada and British Columbia subscribe to legislatively; 2) the pluralism (ethnic, racial, linguistic, religious, economic, gender, and among others) that students, their communities, and teachers represent; and, 3) it challenges and rejects racism and other forms of discrimination in schools and society. Multicultural education permeates the curriculum and instructional strategies used in schools, as well as the interactions among teachers, students and parents, and in fact the very way that the schools conceptualize the nature of teaching and learning.

Education 441 is a course for educators and others to develop ways of working in education communities in a manner consistent with the principles of multicultural and anti-racist education. Role play, group discussion, readings, audiovisual and curriculum materials will be used to assist participants to develop definitions of their professional roles in a multicultural Canada. Activities and programs which promote intercultural and anti-racist education will be examined.

OBJECTIVES

1. Develop understanding of the meaning of multicultural/anti-racist education in theory and practice.
2. Become familiar with appropriate resources (films, books, etc.)
3. Evaluate curriculum materials for stereotyping and bias.
4. Examine problems related to the multicultural classroom.
5. Identify techniques for learning about a culture other than your own.
6. Begin defining your own attitudes, feelings, and values about cultural diversity.
7. Explore the importance of cultural and ethnic background in shaping self-concept.
8. Become familiar with issues in multicultural education and develop strategies for analyzing origins of conflict.

REQUIREMENTS

- Attendance and Class participation - 10%
- Interview with someone from a cultural background other than your own - 20%
- Weekly in-class and take home assignments - 20%
- Field Assignment - 10%
- Research Project - 20%
- Midterm Exam - 20%

REQUIRED READING

Gosh, Ratna. Redefining Multicultural Education. Harcourt Brace. ISBN 077473276-8.

RECOMMENDED READING

Tiedt, P. and Tiedt, I. Multicultural Teaching. Allyn and Bacon. ISBN 0-205-15488-3.