

Spring Semester 2001

EDUC 441 - 4
Multicultural Education

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E01.00

Monday 16:30-20:20 in EDB 8620

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 cultural pluralism that Canada and British Columbia subscribe to legislatively, 2) the various forms of pluralism (ethnic, racial, linguistic, religious, economic, and gender, etc.) that students and their communities and teachers represent, and 3) it challenges and rejects racism and other forms of discrimination in schools and throughout society.

Multicultural education is a progressive approach for transforming education. It is grounded in ideals of social justice, education equity, and a dedication to facilitating educational experiences in which all students reach their full potential as learners and as socially aware and active beings, locally, nationally, and globally.

Multicultural education permeates school curriculum and instructional strategies as well as the interactions among teachers, students, and parents, and it affects the very way schools conceptualize the nature of teaching and learning. In this course students will examine the origins, history and social context of multicultural education and anti-racism in Canada. Particular emphasis will be paid to a number of important concepts including multiculturalism, multicultural education, anti-racism education, racism, social justice, and the ways schools further existing social inequities.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To establish a comprehensive knowledge-base pertaining to multicultural/anti-racism education in theory and practice.
- To become familiar with contemporary issues in multicultural/anti-racism education.
- To reflect on what "culture" means to individuals and groups.
- To examine curriculum and learning materials for stereotyping and bias.
- To make explicit the ways teachers and schools further social injustice and inequities.
- To examine specific problems related to multicultural classrooms and schools.
- To explore how curriculum and school can be "multiculturalized".

ASSIGNMENTS

1. In class and/or take-home assignments, and class participation - 20%
2. Midterm - 25%
3. Field assignment - 10%
4. Research Project - 25%
5. Final Essay/Presentation - 20%

REQUIRED TEXT

None. Photocopied materials will be provided at a cost of approximately \$15.

RECOMMENDED TEXT: (For Elementary Teachers or Student Teachers)

Tiedt, P. and Tiedt, I. (1999). Multicultural Teaching: A Handbook of Activities, Information and Resources, 5th edition. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. [ISBN 0-205-27528-1]

COURSE WEBSITE: <http://members.home.net/mwarsh/Spring441.html>