Summer Semester 2003

# EDUC 448 - 4 Law in the Curriculum

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## PREREQUISITE:

60 credit hours

DESCRIPTION

#### RATIONALE

Legal themes and principles are embedded in the school curriculum, from kindergarten to grade 12. Courses such as social studies, language arts, science, consumer education and CAPP include substantial law content. In addition, students learn about the law through the informal curriculum of the schools—school policies and practices.

Law-related education (LRE) helps students understand the role law plays in society, and the relationship between law and democratic principles-for e.g., the rule of law, citizens' rights and responsibilities, fairness, due process, diversity, equality. LRE also teaches children about those aspects of law that affect their daily lives (for e.g., family relationships, workplace issues, consumer issues). LRE is also associated with higher order thinking; for e.g., differentiating information, weighing evidence, making reasoned arguments, justifying a decision (Cassidy, 2000; Ferguson, 1997, Kuehn, Yates, & Mainville, 1995).

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is a methodology course, and addresses various ways to teach law in engaging ways throughout the curriculum. Students taking this course should have some background in teaching or curriculum *c* elopment.

#### **Topics include:**

- the purpose and nature of law-related education
- curriculum connections
- teaching law in engaging ways
- simulations, role, play and story drama
- the case study method
- accessing resources (community, internet, etc.)
- alternate dispute resolution
- the informal curriculum
- developing classroom resources

#### Requirements

- double entry journal based on the readings & selected classroom activities (15%)
- individual and group presentation on rationale for law-related education (10%)
- report and poster based on a community-based resource (15%)
- participation in mock trial or moot appeal (held at court house) (20%)
- development of a curriculum resource to use in the classroom (30%)
- attendance and participation in class (for each day missed students will lose 2% of their mark; if students miss more than 3 classes they will be asked to withdraw from the course) (10%)

#### Required Readings

Cassidy, W. & Yates, R. (Eds.) (1998). Let's talk about law in the elementary school. Calgary: Detselig Publishers.

Selected chapters from Cassidy, W. & Yates, R. (in press). Storybook Mock Trials, and other readings. (available in class; professor will collect \$30 the first day of class.)

# EDUCATION 448–4 LAW IN THE CURRICULUM

The justification and practice of law-related education in the K-12 curriculum are the subjects of this methodology course. Students will examine the place of law in the curriculum, existing resources and appropriate teaching strategies and will have the opportunity to develop unit plans and curriculum materials. Emphasis is on developing and implementing law-related programs in the classroom.

PREREQUISITE:

60 hours of credit.

## **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Cassidy, Wanda and Yates, Ruth (eds.) Let's Talk About Law in Elementary School. Calgary: Detselig Enterprises, 1998.

Wassermann, Selma. Introduction to Case Method Teaching. New York: NY Teachers College, Columbia University 1994.

## **COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS:**

This course is delivered online using a computer conferencing system called FirstClass Intranet Client. Access to a computer and is required. Please see overleaf for more details.

# **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

Assignment 1 (group and individual)	20%
Assignment 2 (group)	15%
Assignment 3 (individual)	15%
Assignment 4 (individual)	15%
Assignment 5 (group and individual)	15%
Assignment 6 (individual)	20%

## **SUPPLEMENTARY FEES:**

Course Materials & Service Fee	\$30
Deposit for Additional Materials	\$25

# **Computer Requirements**

1. This course requires active participation over the Internet through conferencing software called FirstClass. Students must have access to computers and the Internet. Students wishing to connect to the Internet from home computers are responsible for connecting to either SFU or external Internet service providers (ISPs). Information on connecting to SFU through modem dialup lines is available at the Academic Computing Services (ACS) web site, <a href="http://www.sfu.ca/acs">http://www.sfu.ca/acs</a>. Phone numbers for ACS are 604-291-3234 (Burnaby) and 604-291-5030 (Harbour Centre).

SFU students: Activate your SFU computing account online at <a href="http://my.sfu.ca">http://my.sfu.ca</a>

2. On-campus computer facilities are available. If you are using your own computer, you need the following *minimum* computer requirements:

## Hardware

- Macintosh with System 7.1 or higher OR PC with Windows 95 or later (i.e., 98, 2000, NT, ME, XP, etc.)
- 6 MB RAM
- 10 MB free disk space
- 28.8-baud modem
- CD-ROM drive

# Software & Other

- Internet connection
- E-mail (e.g. Eudora, Outlook, Webmail, etc.)
- Internet browser (e.g. Netscape or Internet Explorer)
- FirstClass conferencing system\* (described and provided in your course materials package)
- SFU computing account (SFU students only); get it online at <a href="http://my.sfu.ca">http://my.sfu.ca</a>

#### General

- Prior computer knowledge is expected (i.e. ability to save files, install programs, and maintain your computer).
- Familiarity with the Internet, e-mail, and related applications is highly recommended.

#### 3. Please Note:

 Support is not available for general computer problems such as operating system difficulties and hardware problems.

• If you are having problems getting started with FirstClass, you may drop in to Teaching and Learning Technologies (West Mall Centre, room 1340) from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM during the first week of classes. Students unable to access the Burnaby campus may call the Centre at 604-291-5575 or e-mail <help@firstclass.sfu.ca> for assistance.

• The subsidized modem hours allotted to SFU students each semester are not normally sufficient to complete the required course work.

 A voucher system has been implemented to allow students to pay for continued modem access on 604-291-4721 (after your subsidized access is used up). Vouchers may be purchased from campus bookstores in increments of \$20. At 60 cents per hour, each voucher is good for approximately 33 hours. Instructions are included with the voucher.

For complete information on SFU's modem access policy, check the ACS web site, above.

 Out-of-town students only: It is recommended that students residing outside the Lower Mainland contact local Internet service provider (ISPs), since using SFU dialup services will result in additional long-distance charges. Check your local yellow pages under "Internet" for listings.

For further information about computer requirements or *FirstClass*, contact Teaching and Learning Technologies by e-mail at <help@firstclass.sfu.ca>.