Simon Fraser University
Educ 471 – 4
Curriculum Development: Theory and Practice

Fall Semester 2004   **Instructor: Dr. J.D. Clarkson**
Thursday 4:30 – 8:30   **Office:**   8637
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Prerequisite

60 Credit Hours

Course Description
In British Columbia, the purposes of education, the ends to be achieved in teaching, and the strategies that might be employed to pursue them are prescribed or at least strongly indicated by the Mission Statement for Schools and the Integrated Resource Packages published by the Ministry of Education. The content and methods of instruction that teachers might choose are further constrained by the forms of evaluation that students will experience at the end of their courses. Provincial examinations, for example, are an incentive for teachers to stay close to the kind of content that will appear on the exams and to use methods consistent with learning it. Nevertheless, teachers must choose among the prescribed ends because they cannot teach all that is listed, and they must adapt suggested teaching methods to local conditions. As teachers go about planning their lessons, then, they must at least be able to choose wisely. This course will provide prospective and practicing teachers with the theoretical and practical ideas that will allow them to do both, develop educational curricula and to choose well when faced with curricula developed by others. It will also provide them with the theoretical framework to comment on the merits of curriculum proposals that are presented to them during their teaching careers.

Assignments
1. Three Discussion Papers.............................75%
2. Final Examination......................................25%

Required Readings
Barrow, Robin. (1985). *Giving Teaching back to teachers: A critical introduction to curriculum theory*. Toronto, ONT: The Althouse Press. ISBN: 0-920354-13-0

Beyer, Landon E & Apple, Michael W. (1998). *The Curriculum: Problems, politics, and possibilities*. State University of New York Press. ISBN: 0-7914-3810-4