

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
SUMMER SEMESTER 2005**

**EDUC 471-4
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT: THEORY AND
PRACTICE
(E01.00)**

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Thursday 17:30-21:20 EDB 8620B

PREREQUISITE: 60 credit hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Whether we realize it or not, theory underlies our teaching practice. We are only partially aware of what and how we communicate and teach, even as we inevitably affect student learning. It is therefore crucial that we consider curricula that are hidden and unintended as well as those that are intentional. We do so as responsive and responsible teachers.

This course provides some lenses for thinking about curriculum. Our class will examine the orientations to curriculum development. We will study these in light of the historical, social, political and the inter-personal. Our investigation will also lead us to dig deep and critically look into the assumptions that form and inform our theory and practice. We will look at the connection between our conceptions of curriculum and the implications of these on our classroom practices, and hence, student learning. Together, we will develop the awareness and skills necessary to assess existing curricula and develop new ones.

EXPECTATIONS: It is essential that participants in the course attend all sessions and come prepared to engage in class activities. We will inquire and learn collaboratively as well as independently.

EVALUATION

• **Journal (30%)**

There is theme for each month. At the end of each writing period, submit a short (maximum five pages double spaced) wrap-up of the month's entries. Consider: How are the readings and activities related to the focus for May, June and July?

Theme for May: What do my practices tell me about me? Due: June 2 (10%)

Theme for June: I influence my social space Due: June 30 (10%)

Theme for July: I'm stepping out (...or I'm trying to...) Due: July 21 (10%)

• **Group project (30%)**

- 1) Conduct a workshop that will help your class think about, assess and/or develop curricula.
- 2) Design a feedback form to help you evaluate your session. Collect completed forms at the end of

the class. Write a short statement on how the comments given back to you contribute to your own learning.

- Contribution to the class (10%). Participate towards the success of the workshops conducted by other groups. The feedback forms you return and comments of the presenters will be used in evaluating your contribution to the class.
- Individual Project, Research Paper or Essay (30%). Create a project, research a topic or write an essay to demonstrate how you consider the various issues and theories in the development of curriculum. Due: July 28.

REQUIRED TEXT

Starting Points and Forks in the Road (Custom courseware for section E01.00)
Other readings will be provided or suggested based on student interests

There will be no final exam for this course.

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