

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
SUMMER SEMESTER 2004**

**EDUC 474-4
DESIGNS FOR LEARNING: ELEMENTARY SOCIAL
STUDIES
(D02.00)**

KEL R. McDOWELL
Office: TBD
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FRIDAY 13:00-16:50 in EDB 7500F
June 4 (1 day only) class will be held in EDB 8651

PREREQUISITE: EDUC 401/402

Course Description:

This course is designed to help you better understand the subject area of social studies and to learn about techniques and strategies for teaching and assessing the goals of this vast and complex subject. The importance of building a coherent design or vision to guide your social studies program will be emphasized throughout the course. The course is essentially divided into three sections: a/ foundations b/ strategies c/ implementation. Specific assignments will be used to assess students understanding of each of these sections.

Course Format:

A number of different teaching approaches and/or formats will be incorporated into this course including combinations of short lectures, discussions, group conferencing, reading review groups, and lesson activities. For some topics I am hoping to invite guests to present specific information although this cannot yet be confirmed.

Specific objectives:

- understand the rationales, organizing strands, and goals of social studies
- become familiar with the British Columbia IRP for social studies
- become aware of strategies for promoting and assessing the major goals of social studies
- be able to develop a yearly course plan including units and lessons
- become familiar with assessment strategies that will enhance student learning in all areas
- have a more developed and thoughtful perspective and justification for all of the above objectives

Required Readings:

Case, R., & Clark, P. (1999). *The Canadian Anthology of Social Studies: Issues and Strategies for Teachers*. Pacific Educational Press (Vancouver).

Ministry of Education, Skills and Training. (1998). *Social Studies K - 7: Integrated Resource Package*.

A scheduled list of readings will be circulated during the first class.

Assignments & Evaluations:

- Class Participation & Mini-assignments: 15% (Self & Instructor Evaluated)
- Short Paper: 15% (Instructor Evaluated)
- Reflective Journal OR Final Reflections Paper: 20% (Instructor Evaluated)
- Group Project - Yearly Course, Unit & Lesson Planning: 50% (Self, Peer, Instructor Evaluated)

A detailed outline of each of these assignments will be distributed and explained during the first class. ALL assignments must be completed to receive a final grade.

Participation & Mini-Assignment Policy:

Attendance for this course is most important as classes are lengthy and a significant amount of material will be covered each week. In order to learn the material, some lessons will involve participating in a number of in-class mini-assignments to facilitate understanding of teaching methods and strategies. Furthermore, a significant amount of class time will be used for work on the large group project, and in fairness to your group members it will be pertinent that you be in attendance. For each class and/or mini-assignment missed without an appropriate reason, marks will be deducted from your total participation mark and will therefore affect your final grade.

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