

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
SUMMER SEMESTER 2005**

EDUC 474-4

**DESIGNS FOR LEARNING: ELEMENTARY SOCIAL STUDIES
(E01.00)**

KEL R. McDOWELL
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Tuesday 5:30-9:20 EDB 7600B

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/ theoretical foundations b/ methodology & strategies c/ curriculum 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 in-class assignments and activities. For some topics guest speakers may present specific information.

Course Objectives:

- understand the rationales, organizing strands , and goals of the social studies curriculum
- become familiar with the British Columbia IRP for elementary 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 the above objectives

Course Readings:

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

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

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

Assignments & Evaluation:

- Class Participation, Mini Assignments & Activities: 15% (self & instructor evaluation)

- Short Paper: 15% (instructor evaluation)
- Personal Choice Assignment: 20% (instructor evaluation)
- Course Plan Assignment: Group Project (self, peer, instructor evaluation)

Each assignment will be explained in full detail at the first class.
ALL assignments must be completed to receive a final grade for this class.

Instructor Expectations:

Each summer I look forward to welcoming a new group of students into my class. The classes are structured in a way that I hope everyone will feel comfortable and happy to learn. Students however will be expected to come prepared and ready to fully participate in each class. Attendance is important as classes are lengthy and a significant amount of material will be covered each week. In order to learn and understand the material, some lessons will involve participating in a number of in-class assignments and activities to facilitate the learning of various 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 is pertinent that you be in attendance. For each class and/or mini assignment missed without an appropriate reason, marks will be deducted from your participation mark and will therefore affect your final grade.

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