

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

EDUC 487-4 (D1.00)

SPECIAL TOPICS: TEACHER RESEARCH: INQUIRING INTO THE CRAFT OF TEACHING
(Cat. #97950)

Summer Session, 1994
(July 4 - 29)
Tuesday & Thursday, 8:30-12:20, MPX 8651/2
Wednesday, 17:30-21:20, MPX 7610

Instructor: Herbert Kohl
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PREREQUISITE: 60 credit hours

COURSE OUTLINE

The class will consider the following issues:

Participatory research in education - that is, the nature and application of research that can be done by teachers as they work in their own classrooms, and the nature and application of research that can be done by students and parents in collaboration with teachers. The emphasis will be on defining research questions that can improve classroom practice and increase understanding of students' strengths. It will also focus on how teacher research can inform conflict resolution and lead to the modification of specific classroom practices. Included in this will be:

- a study of techniques of observing and writing about children, as well as other forms of recording research information (including photos, videos, and tapes).
- analyses of the relative merits of stories, statistical analysis, and personal speculations about the nature and effectiveness of practice.

Teacher craft knowledge - that is, the knowledge derived from classroom experience. Some of this knowledge is cautionary (what you shouldn't do), some prescriptive (what you might do), some pedagogical (what strategies to use and how to evaluate the results) and some philosophical (what overall view you take about your work with children).

Education across culture, gender, and class - that is, how the teacher has to incorporate knowledge about culture, class and gender into her or his work. This will concentrate on how research is essential in order to discover how to deal with these very sensitive and crucial issues.

TEXTS

Kohl, H.R. (1993). *I won't learn from you and other thoughts on creative maladjustment*. NY: New York Press.

Kohl, H.R. (1984). *Growing minds: On becoming a teacher*. New York: Harper & Row.

Henry, Jules. (n.d.). *Outline of cross cultural education*. *on education*

Moll, L. (1990). *Vygotsky and education*. New York: Cambridge University Press)