

EDUCATION 489

SPRING 1979

Title: Educating Awareness: Implications for Educational Practice

Instructor: Dr. A.J. (Sandy) Dawson: Ph. 291-3189 Office: MPX 8632

An alternative perspective arising from physical and social science research is emerging which postulates that education is (1) a process through which energy is structured, (2) a fundamental means of human evolution, and (3) equivalent to the education of awareness of one's self. This course will critically examine this postulation and the implications it has for educational practice.

The course will take the form of a seminar to critically analyse the work of several authors who have focused on the education of awareness. Students will study selected readings of recent empirical research and theoretical speculations of how man has evolved, how he learns, and how he educates himself. Students will, in addition, experience and have opportunities to apply and subsequently evaluate new approaches to educational practice.

Course Outline

1. Education as the Structuring of Energy - 4 sessions.
2. Education as a Means of Human Evolution - 4 sessions.
3. Education as the Growth of Awareness - 4 sessions.
4. Education Awareness as an Empirical Study - 2 sessions.

Course Requirements:

It is not intended that students will read every book listed on the reading list. Students will, however, be required to read selected passages from each work as well as study intensely two or three of the books listed. A critical and scholarly analysis of one of these books must be submitted on or before the twelfth session of the course.

In addition, each student will be required to empirically study themselves or others in the process of learning. A report of this study must be submitted on or before the twelfth session of the course.

Attendance and participation in all class activities is a normal expectation.

Reading List for Education 489

1. Education as the Structure of Energy

- Fritjof Capra, The Tao of Physics, Bantam Books, N.Y., 1977. QC c277
Caleb Gattegno, Evolution and Memory, Educational Solutions Inc, N.Y., 1977.
Carl Sagan, Dragons of Eden, Ballantine Books, N.Y., 1977. BF 431 S2
E.F. Schumacher, A Guide for the Perplexed, Harper & Row, N.Y., 1977 BJ 1581.2
Lyle Watson, Gifts of Unknown Things, Simon & Schuster, N.Y., 1976

2. Education as a Means of Human Evolution.

- Paulo Freire, Education for Critical Consciousness, A Continuum Book,
N.Y., 1973. LC 191 F7613
Arthur Koestler, (ed.), Beyond Reductionism, MacMillan, N.Y., 1969, QH 331 A37
Robert Ornstein, The Mind Field, Grossman Press, N.Y., 1976. BF 311 072
William Irwin Thompson, At The Edge of History, Harper & Row, N.Y. 1975 CB 19 T5

3. Education as the Growth of Awareness.

- Caleb Gattegno, The Common Sense of Teaching Mathematics, Educational
Solutions Inc., N.Y., 1974. QA 135.5 634.
J.C. Pearce, The Magical Child, E.P. Dutton, N.Y., 1977.
Robert Samples, The Metaphoric Mind, Addison-Wesley, Don Mills, 1976. BF 311 534

4. Education Awareness as an Empirical Study.

- Caleb Gattegno, The Science of Education, Educational Solutions Inc., N.Y., 1977
Robert Ornstein, Psychology of Consciousness, Penguin Books, N.Y., 1972. BF 311 075
Charles Tart, States of Consciousness, E.P. Dutton, N.Y., 1975.