

EDUCATION 489-4

EXPERIMENTAL COURSE: ISSUES FOR THE BEGINNING TEACHER

INTERSESSION, 1985

INSTRUCTOR: Dennis Smith

MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAY,
1:00 - 4:50

LOCATION: MPX 7504

Participants in this course will tackle some of the non-curricular concerns of beginning teachers. The overall design can be divided into three main themes; The Self (exploring the particular demands teaching places on the individual); The School (its social, administrative, political, cultural workings); and The System (the large-scale factors affecting education). Among the particular topics we will touch upon are the stresses (and joys) of first-year teaching and how to manage (and relish) them, setting personal goals, substitute teaching, alternatives to teaching, establishing one's own classroom, continuous professional development, and policy-making in the B.C. system.

Within the course's general plan, students will also define their own issues, based upon personal experiences and needs. Since the course is intended to be practical, students will be required to produce work that is personally useful and useful to other beginning teachers. A variety of assignments will be proposed, including a major project, as well as readings and short written assignment.

The design of the course includes a weekly session that will be open to all interested 404 students.