SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY Education 489-4 SPECIAL TOPICS PROMOTING THINKING IN THE CURRICULUM (E2.00)

Fall Semester, 1994 Thursdays, 5:30 to 9:30 p.m., Sept. 22 - Dec. 8 Location: Langley Instructor: Pat Holborn Phone: 291-4770 Fax: 291-3203

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PREREQUISITE: 401/402 or equivalent

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides an opportunity for classroom teachers to examine current literature and research on promoting thinking as an element of school learning. Participants will also investigate a variety of opportunities for and approaches to teaching thinking, and discuss how higher-order thinking can be infused into the daily life of the classroom. They will be expected to prepare thinking activities in selected curriculum areas, practice and demonstrate teacher-student interactions that promote thoughtful learning, and develop approaches to student assessment and evaluation.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- a. Activity plans, including assessment strategies, for two teaching/learning experiences in selected curriculum areas.
- b. One example of how to infuse critical thinking in a curriculum area using existing teaching resources such as texts or curricular materials.
- c. Audiotape and analysis of two play-debrief simulations demonstrating teacher-student interactions.
- d. Critique of a resource for teaching thinking.
- e. Critical reflection on learning and self-evaluation of development as a thoughtful learner.

Students will be evaluated on their development as thoughtful learners. Grading procedures will follow SFU guidelines.

READINGS:

Required:

British Columbia Ministry of Education (1991). Thinking in the Classroom.

- Bailin, S., Case, R., Coombs, J., & Daniels, L. (1993). A Conception of Critical Thinking for Instruction and Assessment.
- Raths, L., Wassermann, S., Jonas, A., & Rothstein, A. (1986). Teaching for thinking: Theory, strategies, and activities for the classroom.

Wassermann, S. (1991). Asking the right question.

Selected articles on thinking provided by the instructor.

Recommended - one of the following, or a similar resource approved by the instructor:

Bailin, S. (1987). Achieving extraordinary ends: Creativity and education.

Barrell, J. (1991). Teaching for thoughtfulness.

Costa, A. (1991). The school as a home for the mind.

Hyde, A., & Bizar, M. (1989). Thinking in context: Teaching cognitive processes across the elementary school curriculum.

Ivany, G. & Wassermann, S. (1989). Teaching elementary science: Who's afraid of spiders.

Wassermann, S. (1991). Serious players in the primary classroom.