EDUCATION 488-4



SPECIAL TOPICS: LAW IN THE CURRICULUM

SPRING, 1985 Wednesdays 4:30 - 8:20 p.m.

Instructor: Wanda Cassidy

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Location: TO BE ANNOUNCED

"Just as we recognize that every student has a right to read, so we should recognize that every student has a right to be 'legally literate', to possess that minimum amount of information needed by citizens to understand how their legal system works and how it can work for them."

(D. Schimmel)

Research shows that teachers are just as interested in teaching law as students are in learning it. In B.C. schools, law is evident in the elementary school curriculum as well as in secondary courses, including Social Studies, English, Consumer Education, Law 11 and Business Education electives.

Education 488-4 is a methodology course. Its purpose is to provide teachers and prospective teachers with an overview of law's relationship and importance to the curriculum and to provide the opportunity for educators to examine and participate in a wide variety of strategies useful for teaching legal topics and concepts in the classroom. The course will be flexible so as to accommodate the needs of elementary and secondary school teachers and those experienced and inexperienced in teaching law.

Topics will include:

- l) justification for teaching law in the schools
- 2) law and the curriculum, formal and informal
- 3) unit development in law
- 4) basic skills of legal research
- 5) classroom strategies such as: mock trials, simulations, case law method, debate, use of a-v, concept presentation
- 6) community resources
- 7) materials review and development
- 8) evaluation in law-related education

The occasional field trip will also occur.

Requirements:

Short paper on justification for teaching law. Development of a short curriculum unit in law. Participation in group activities and presentations. Weekly readings and attendance.

Materials:

A source book of readings will be made available at minimal cost.

Eligibility:

Educ. 401/2 or the equivalent of a first teaching practicum

or permission from the instructor.