

Fall Semester 1999

EDUC 298 - 3
Special Topics:
Selected Questions & Issues in Education
D01.00

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PREREQUISITE: None

Note: you will be required to install, with guidance, a simple piece of free software on your home computer (if you have one) and, at no extra cost to you, you will be required to conference on-line from home or campus.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

- This is an introductory course aimed at beginning students not necessarily already committed to, or interested in, pursuing educational studies.
- The course introduces you to a small but representative sample of questions and issues of importance to education and of interest to educators today.
- You will examine questions relating to: the concept or idea of education; learning and the learner; teaching and the teacher; disciplines and discourses of education; and the broader contexts of education in the global village and the postmodern world.
- You will be introduced to ways of exploring educational questions and issues, from philosophical and critical analysis, to historical and cross-cultural studies, to empirical research.
- The course models a range of instructional strategies, including: lecture, panel-discussion and workshop; discussion and debate; story; case study, and simulation game.
- The course offers a range of learning experiences, including: reading and responding orally and in writing; discussion in tutorial and on-line; library research and field-work.

TOPICS

A detailed outline of topics and presenters will be available at the first class.

REQUIREMENTS

- Weekly discussions on-line and in tutorial - 50%
- Written responses to selected course readings - 30%
- Final exam - 20%
- Regular attendance is required

The completion of course requirements forms the basis for evaluation. The final evaluating process will comprise both your own self-evaluation and evaluation by the course instructor and tutorial leader/s.

REQUIRED READINGS

Jones, Ron. (1976). *The Acorn People*. New York, NY: Bantam ISBN 0-440-22702-X

Sinclair, Carollyne. (1994). *Looking for Home: A phenomenological Study of Home in the Classroom*. NY: SUNY ISBN 0-7914-2040-X

Palmer, Parker. (1998). *The Courage to Teach: Exploring the Inner Landscape of a Teacher's Life*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass ISBN 0-7879-1058-9

Other readings will be available from the Bookstore as a Custom Courseware text.