
Semester: 97-1

EDUC 230 - 3 Introduction to Philosophy of Education

Lecture: Mondays & Wednesdays 13:30 - 14:20

Section: D1.00

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PREREQUISITE

None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The heart of philosophy has always been reflection and enquiry, which we need to lead an examined life. Without rigorous examination of the concepts, values, and practices that inundate the practical domains of life--education not excepting--we fall prey to restless consumerism where we rapidly exchange one slogan/proposal/program for another. Or, conversely, becoming helpless in the face of controversial matters (again, ourselves with philosophical dispositions and tools for critical reflection and enquiry. This course, then, aims at helping students develop such dispositions and tools in in the field of education.

OBJECTIVES

This course has the following objectives:

1. To introduce the idea, method, and practice of philosophy.
2. To introduce some of the major topics in philosophy of education.
3. To help students become comfortable with philosophical inquiry, analysis, and debate.

REQUIREMENTS

The focus of the course is in-class inquiry and discussion and, thus, attendance and participation are mandatory. There are no major papers for this course, but students are asked to keep reflective reading journals, and in addition, there will be short writing assignments. More detailed discussion on the requirement will be undertaken on the first day of class.

REQUIRED READING

Portelli, P. (ed.) Philosophy of Education. Detselig Enterprises Ltd., 1996. 2nd ed.