

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Education 220-3

1973-3 (Fall)

PSYCHOLOGICAL ISSUES IN EDUCATION

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This course is designed to familiarize students with the most significant findings of the science of psychology that have relevance to teaching and learning. The emphasis of the course will be on critically examining these findings and relating them to the practice of education.

Outline:

Previous experience teaching this course has established that a large proportion of students are at or near the beginning of their university degree program. For them it is designed, but the needs of those who have established some background in psychology are not neglected. The course is primarily concerned with learning and teaching. Research and theory pertaining to learning are the major emphases but stress is continually placed upon the relevance and application of learning theories to teaching.

Learning cannot be studied in isolation from human mental and physical development, motivation, attitudes and values, concepts of personality development and these and others are woven into the general theme. There are many kinds of learning - learning facts, rules, concepts: learning how to learn - and all or as many as possible receive attention.

The main purpose and emphasis of the course is to familiarize students with the literature and the problems sufficiently for them to continue reading and learning in the psychological area. Active participation in lectures and tutorials is a necessary condition for success.

Other topics we will deal with will include; "readiness"; age-level characteristics; programmed instruction; discovery learning; the uses of competition; problems of individual differences; conditioning - all are integrated with the treatment of learning.

Texts:

Required: Robert F. Biehler, Psychology Applied to Teaching, (Boston: Houghton-Mifflin, 1971.) (Red/orange book)

(Tutorials are closely related to this text - it is a must for all students.)

Strongly Recommended - one of the following:*

1. Robert F. Biehler (ed) Psychology Applied to Teaching: Selected Readings, (Boston: Houghton-Mifflin, 1972) (Green book)
2. E. Paul Torrance and W.F. White, Issues and Advances in Educational Psychology, (Itasca, Illinois: Peacock, 1969.)

* Each of these is a collection of original essays. Students who prefer original sources will find them more satisfying than the text.