

Education 240-3 Social Issues in Education

~~REGULAR~~ SUMMER SEMESTER 1983

Instructor:
A. Luke

Friday, 1:00 - 3:50

LOCATION: on campus

OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of this course are: 1) to provide a broad base of information about the theory and practice of schooling in B.C. and Canada; 2) to outline a variety of points of view on public and professional controversies and debates about the aims and practices of public schooling; and 3) to provide analytical perspectives essential for the evaluation of these perspectives. The primary aim of the course is the development by each student of a coherent and justifiable critical perspective with which to identify and analyze contemporary debates on educational issues.

FORMAT:

The course will combine lectures, film and videotape presentations, and seminar discussions.

TOPICS:

An introduction to the educational 'field' in British Columbia.
What is a 'social issue'? Consensus and conflict in education.
A brief history of educational issues and politics in B.C.
The roles and functions of the school in society: socialization, cultural reproduction, and the 'hidden curriculum'.
Multiculturalism, racism and schooling.
Sexism: academic and occupational equality.
Social class: the differential provision of 'school knowledge'.
Alternative educational models.
The basics movement: literacy, accountability and centralization.
Teacher politics, professionalism, and rights.
Studies in comparative education: the pedagogy of Paulo Freire.
The aims and structures of post-secondary education.

TEXTS:

Required: Cusich, P. Inside High School.
Wilson, J.D. (ed.) Canadian Education in the 1980's.
Mackie, R. Literacy and Revolution: The Radical Pedagogy of Paulo Freire.
Recommended: Apple, M. Ideology and Curriculum.
Freire, P. Education for Critical Consciousness.
Olson, P. (ed.) Interchange 12:2/3 (1981) "Theme Issue: Rethinking Social Reproduction".

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students will be expected to complete assigned course readings. Two major assignments will be required: a seminar literature review/discussion paper (5 pages) and one longer essay (7-10 pages). Occasional brief seminar writing assignments will be required.

No pre-requisite courses are required.