

EDUCATION 435-4

EDUCATIONAL THEORY AND THEORY CRITICISM

FALL, 1982
Monday 4:30 - 8:20

Instructor: S. C. deCastell
Telephone: 291-3627
Office: CAE 6, Room 623

This is primarily a "reading and discussion" course. The intention is to expose students to works which have been of major significance in educational thought. Class discussion will give each student maximum opportunity to develop a critical and informed understanding of a range of educational models. Each model will be considered in terms of its implicit social and political theory, its view of human learning, and its conceptions of human nature and educational knowledge.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Students will be expected to read widely and to attend classes consistently. Each student will be asked to prepare two short discussion papers on works of their own choice (wherever possible), and to submit a final essay of 8 - 10 pages in length. There will be no final exam for this course.

COURSE READINGS: Works to be examined are:

Dewey: Democracy and Education
Freire: Education for Critical Consciousness
Neill: Summerhill
Plato: The Republic
Rousseau: Emile
Skinner: Beyond Freedom and Dignity

All required readings will be on reserve in multiple copies in the library. A supplementary reading list will be provided. Each session will involve a lecture by the instructor, a student discussion paper on the week's topic, and a seminar discussion of the text read. Some text-substitution will be possible if desired. Pre-reading of any of the course texts is recommended.