

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
SPRING SEMESTER 2006**

**EDUC 382-4
SPECIAL TOPICS: ISSUES IN DIVERSITY IN EDUCATION
(E01.00)**

Randolph-Dalton Hyman
604-682-3269 ext. 7672
email: rhyman@sfu.ca

Thursday 4:30-8:20
EDB 8620

PREREQUISITE

This course is available to students who have completed a minimum of 6 semester credits taken from Education, the Social Sciences and/or the Humanities, or upon approval of the instructor.

DESCRIPTION

This course looks at both aspects of sociocultural theories and the practical nature of human development to instruct students in the history of increasingly diverse issues in education that has given rise to many new social issues and conflicts in societies. To learn from a cultural angle, students will survey the differences and similarities of diversity identifiers.

OBJECTIVE

To derive meaning of how “diversity” ideas have grown and changed and to see the challenges to different minority achievements, we will study pressing social issues in education: the meaning of culture and diversity, identity, power, gender differences, sexual orientation, the social construction of ‘race,’ the cognitive and psychological effects of racism, the presentation of minorities in media, and the interpretive schemes employed to portray culturally diverse people as “other” are analyzed.

Students will be invited to describe from their personal experience of what it means to be "female," "Chinese," "Black," or other identification descriptors and relate that back to the course materials. Through facilitating the exchange of these experiences students are supported to communicate different perspectives and encourage the development of other voices, build a class atmosphere conducive to introspection, self-development, and increased awareness of agency.

FORMAT

Instructor lectures, group discussions, performative debates, short student response pieces, film presentations, fieldwork, collaborative projects, and research assignments.

ASSIGNMENTS

Group performance [10%]
Mid-term [30%] – based extensively on readings
Fieldwork presentation [30%] – diversity “out there”
Response pieces [10%]
Final [20%]

REQUIRED TEXT

Rogoff, Barbara. (2003) The cultural nature of human development. ISBN: 0195131339

Hooks, bell. (2003). Teaching community, a pedagogy of hope. ISBN: 041596818

\$10.00 charge for copies of articles, book chapters, etc. to be paid at the first class.

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