

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY OF EDUCATION

in collaboration with  
Burnaby School District

**The Theory and Practice of Implementation:  
Meeting the Challenge of Educational Change**

Education 407-5    Field Based In-Service: Theory and Practice of  
Implementation  
January to April, 1991

Instructor: Susan Montabello, Program Coordinator SFU

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Education 407-5 is a five credit course that provides a structure for teachers to use their own classrooms as the setting for implementing new curriculum. The grading is done on a pass/withdraw basis. This particular course will focus on the opportunities and challenges which are presented in the Primary and Intermediate Programs.

The purposes of this course are to help practising teachers:

- a) examine the beliefs and intentions which lie at the core of the Primary and Intermediate Program
- b) understand the theoretical arguments that have arisen from research in curriculum, child development, language learning and other fields of study on which these programs are based
- c) explore the practical implications of this theory by becoming familiar with a variety of instructional and evaluation strategies that support a developmental learning philosophy
- d) clarify personal beliefs about the teacher's role in a program that assumes a developmental philosophy
- e) be able to articulate a rationale for using a developmental approach in their own classrooms, supported with examples from current educational literature and classroom practice.

The course includes the following components:

The workshop component of the course will focus on such issues as:

- goals and objectives of the Primary and Intermediate Programs;
- theory of educational change;
- the constructive, generative and collaborative nature of learning;
- selected aspects of child growth and development as they relate to, and hold implication for, school programs;
- creating learning environments and selecting, organizing, and implementing instructional strategies, materials and content;
- appraising pupil learning, assessing teacher performance, and evaluating educational programs.

This component will comprise a broad range of experiences organized in such a way as to model a student-centered approach and to maximize individualization of learning.

The seminar component of the course will provide a forum in which participants can learn from one another - to reflect on their personal knowledge of children, teaching and learning and how they apply as they implement new instructional approaches into their classroom.

The classroom component of this course will involve the design, implementation and assessment of a focused project in participants' own classroom or school settings. Ongoing support, coaching and consultation will be provided jointly by the course instructor and district personnel. Participants will be asked to keep a reflective journal in which they document and assess changes in their understanding and teaching practices throughout the semester, and to create a portfolio which represents their learning.

A meeting will be held to provide interested teachers with further information on both the design and the requirements of the course as well as **specific registration procedures**. Interested participants **must** attend this session. This information session will be held in Burnaby at Schou Centre on November 21 beginning at 4:00 p.m. To register for this meeting please phone **Schou Centre (437-4511)**.