

12/28/83 Cvs. cancelled V.S.

Education 330-3 A Critical History of Educational Thought

SPRING, 1984

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Robin Barrow  
Office: MPX 9615  
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Wednesdays, 4:30 - 7:30

LOCATION: on campus

PURPOSE:

To examine the ideas and arguments of prominent educational theorists in the Western tradition from the time of Plato to the present day.

OUTLINE:

1. Introduction. "History: the repository of wisdom." The nature of educational theory. The value of historical study.
2. The Greek world (i). "From socialization to education." The Homer's world. Athens. Sparta.
3. The Greek world (ii). "The first great educational treatise." Plato and the belief in reason.
4. The Roman world. "The beginnings of formalism." Quintilian and the art of rhetoric.
5. 17th Century. "Something for everybody." Comenius and the idea of a universal education system.
6. 18th Century. "The beginnings of progressivism." Rousseau and education according to nature.
7. 19th - 20th Century (i). "The emphasis on method." Pestalozzi, Herbart, Froebel and Montessori.
8. 19th - 20th Century (ii). "What knowledge is of most worth?" Spencer and Arnold.
9. 19th - 20th Century (iii). "The return of progressivism." John Dewey and A.S. Neill.
10. Contemporary thought (i). "The revolt against schooling." Illich, Goodman and Reimer.
11. Contemporary thought (ii). "The return of reason." P.H. Hirst and R.S. Peters.
12. Contemporary thought (iii). "Some warring factions." Oakeshott, Skinner and Bantock.

ASSESSMENT:

Extended essay on a topic approved by instructor.  
Final examination.

REQUIRED READING:

Robert R. Rusk  
Robin Barrow  
Robin Barrow  
R.S. Peters

Doctrines of the Great Educators  
Plato and Education  
Radical Education  
Essays on Educators