

Semester 96-2 Session: Regular Semester

Instructor: V. Lunga

EDUC 341 - 3 LITERACY, EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Office:

Tel: 291-291-3395

Fax: 291-3203

E-mail:

Section: E1.00

Scheduled Final Exam: Y

PREREQUISITE

60 credit hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introduction to the study of literacy from an interdisciplinary perspective. We shall explore the origins of western literacy, the conditions of which favored its development and the role of literacy in social evolution, the economic and cultural values of literacy, and the effects of literacy on cognitive processes. Of particular interest is the reliance on formal educational institutions for the mass transmission of literacy. We will be looking in some detail at the varying conceptions of literacy that educators have traditionally valued, and we will be looking at some of the current research and scholarship that attempts to explain, justify and prescribe educational practices intended to increase literacy.

OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, students should be able to identify, analyze, and justify or criticize the aesthetic, communicative, cognitive and socially-transformative consequences attributed to or associated with the acquisition of literacy. They should know something of its history and be aware of the range of definitions traditionally currently given to literacy. They should have some understanding of the distinctive contributions of conceptual study and empirical research into literacy, and understand both the capacities and limitations of each of these approaches to literacy, research and practice.

REQUIREMENTS

Grades are based upon three components:

- 1. A book review of one of the supplementary texts.....30%
- 2. Mid-term Exam30%
- 3. Final Exam 40%

READINGS

			REQ	REC
Kintgen, E., Kroll, B. & Rose, M.	Southern Illinois University Press	<u>Perspectives on Literacy</u>		X
deCastell, S, Luke, A. & Egan, K.	Cambridge University Press	<u>Literacy, Society and Schooling</u>		X