

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
SPRING SEMESTER 2007**

**EDUC 100-3
SELECTED QUESTIONS & ISSUES IN EDUCATION
(D01.00)**

Stefan Popenici

email: stefan_popenici@sfu.ca

MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS
9:30-11:20 AQ 2122

PREREQUISITE: None.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is an introductory course aimed at beginning students who are not necessarily already committed to further specialize in educational sciences. No prior or further study in education is assumed, but together we will analyze the role of teachers and the political and cultural issues connected to educational policies. The course is designed as a common learning journey where we will question and focus on various important issues in the field of education for both educators and learners. Readings will focus on examination of questions relating to; aims and goals for education, equity and equality in schools, motivation in education, moral issues and diversity in education, future scenarios and global challenges for schooling. Because of the diversity of topics there will be opportunities, as a class, to shape the final design and contents of the course. You will be expected to actively participate in group discussions and team assignments and to share your independent work with the team. Critical reading and writing skills at university level will be cultivated along with a deeper understanding of the institution of education and an independent and coherent view on the main topics covered by the course.

ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION:

- Attendance and active participation in activities/discussions: 30%
- Written work related to readings and discussions / portfolio: 50%
- In-class final exam: 20%

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Nussbaum, Martha C. (1997) *Cultivating Humanity: A Classical Defense of Reform in Liberal Education*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press
ISBN: 0-674-17949-8.
- Egan, Kieran (2005) *An Imaginative Approach to Teaching*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass ISBN: 0-7879-7157-X

Recommended textbooks:

- Bruner, J. *The Culture of Education*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University

Press, 1996.

- Kilpatrick, W. *Why Johnny Can't Tell Right from Wrong. And What We Can Do About It.* New York: Simon & Schuster, 1993.
- Whitehead, A.N. *The Aims of Education and other essays.* New York: New American Library, 1963, c1929.
- Marrou, Henri Irénée. *A history of education in antiquity.* New York: Sheed and Ward, 1956.

Books on reserve in Library

- Whitehead, A.N. *The Aims of Education and other essays.* New York: New American Library, 1963, c1929.
- Bruner, J. *The Culture of Education.* Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1996.