

Instructor: Dr Kieran Egan

The course is designed primarily for teachers or prospective teachers of Social Studies in both primary and secondary grades. The main emphasis will be on methods and techniques that facilitate learning the facts and concepts important for understanding past societies, historical change, and present social and political interactions. A subsidiary emphasis will be put on a critical examination of new methods, techniques and materials.

Topics to be dealt with include the following:

1. Foundations of Social Studies teaching - aims and ideals; stages of students' conceptual development, i.e. what general principles should guide methods and content at particular ages; the roles of myth, story, romance, "philosophy".
2. Inquiry strategies
3. Uses of media
4. Simulation games
5. Values
6. Structural Communication
7. Designing a unit of study
8. Concept formation
9. B.C. curriculum, and curriculum guide

There is no required text for the course. A variety of materials will be distributed during the course along with a bibliography.