

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

EDUCATION 471-4

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T/R 1100-4:50 MPX9511

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT: THEORY AND PRACTICE

The course is designed to examine curriculum in the broadest sense including the culture of the school, certain aspects of theory and certain aspects of the way it is. (Practice) leadership issues connected with curriculum evaluation, development, implementation, co-ordination and articulation will be explored from a perspective designed to bridge the gap between theory and practice. The premise of the course is that curriculum, the complex network of what to teach and how to teach it, exists for students.

I. OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE AND INTENDED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1.1 To describe and analyze the tasks of curriculum and curriculum development.
- 1.2 To synthesize and explain the factors which lead to curriculum dysfunction.
- 1.3 To be able to internalize and apply a comprehensive teaching-learning model.
- 1.4 To develop a systematic plan for curriculum development and evaluation.
- 1.5 To understand and apply the concepts of curriculum alignment and curriculum mapping.
- 1.6 To develop strategic planning skills which are future oriented and pro-active in working with curriculum.
- 1.7 To be able to plan for and work with curriculum co-ordination and articulation.
- 1.8 To problem-solve practical issues related to curriculum at the school level.
- 1.9 To discuss and analyze current issues in curriculum.
- 1.10 To be able to translate curriculum theory into curriculum practice.

2. TOPICS OF THE COURSE

- 2.1 Curriculum tasks for professional educators.
- 2.2 Teaching-learning model.
- 2.3 Curriculum evaluation.
- 2.4 Curriculum alignment.
- 2.5 Curriculum mapping.
- 2.6 Strategic planning.
- 2.7 The school as a "system".
- 2.8 Curriculum development.
- 2.9 Theory vs. Practice.
- 2.10 Contemporary Issues.

3. CLASS EVALUATION

3.1 Active class participation and ad hoc written assignments 25%

3.2 Curriculum Project

This will be based on an area of study in the class where each student will prepare a curriculum proposal - practical in nature - which could be implemented in a school. The nature of the project may be specific and situations appropriate so that two objectives may be realized:

- a. Student growth and expertise in the project; and
- b. A school in which the project could be implemented would benefit from the work and the results.

The project topic will need to be agreed upon between the instructor and the student prior to commencement. Details will follow in class.

75%

4. REQUIRED TEXT

Robinson, Floyd G.; Ross, John A.; and White, Floyd; Curriculum Development for Effective Instruction, OISE Press, Toronto, Ontario. 1985