

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
SUMMER SEMESTER 2005**

**EDUC 377-4
SPECIAL TOPICS: MIDDLE SCHOOL THEORY & PRACTICE
(E01.00)**

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THURSDAY 5:30-9:20 WMC 3220

PREREQUISITE: EDUC 401/402

DESCRIPTION

Students will engage in a collaborative/team investigation of the important issues addressing middle school theory and practice. The course is designed for pre-service and beginning teachers who are, or anticipate teaching at the middle school level. This course will also be of interest to those teaching grades five-seven in a conventional (K-7) elementary school. It will examine the historical and theoretical foundations of, as well as, the practical approaches to the purpose and nature of middle school pedagogy. Participants will engage in a variety of learning activities and experiences that reflect best practice at the middle school level. Particular attention will be paid to the following components of the middle school structure: teaming (both for students and teachers), advisory and exploratory programs. Guest speakers and field trips to middle schools during school hours may become part of the class investigation, if possible, according to the group schedule.

REQUIREMENTS:

Portfolio of Assignments	75%
Attendance/Participation	25%

Required Text: *This We Believe*, National Middle School Association, ISBN: 1-56090-167-5
Required readings to be announced. A photocopy fee will be applied.

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