

ED 230 INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

FALL SEMESTER 1995 INSTRUCTOR: Doug Smith

DAYS OF THE WEEK: Wed. & Fri.

LOCATION: Fort St. John Campus of Northern Lights College ROOM: TBA

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course familiarizes students with the nature of philosophy of education and enables them to begin to develop their personal views critically. It examines contemporary philosophies and situates them within the historical development of educational approaches. It addresses the notion of what it means to "think philosophically" about educational issues and practices. The crucial role of language for distinguishing and clarifying central educational concepts is emphasized, and students are encouraged to pursue high intellectual standards in their dialectical discussion, analysis, and synthesis of philosophical issues. NO PREREQUISITE.

A list of the main topics follows:

I The meaning and relevance of philosophy of education for prospective teachers

II The nature and methods of philosophy of education

III Analytic philosophy and education

IV Traditional, modern, and contemporary educational concepts, theories and philosophies

V Critical thinking and philosophy of education

VI Philosophical concerns regarding the impact of 21st Century technologies and ideologies on education

VII The importance of consciously developing a personal philosophy of education

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Classwork 15%
Weekly Assignments 25%
Essays (2 x 20%) 40%
Final Examination 20%
100%

TEXTBOOKS:

Philosophical Foundations of Education, 4th ed., Howard Ozmon and Samuel Craver, Maxwell Macmillan Canada, Don Mills, Ont., 1990.

Wheels in the Head: Educational philosophies of authority, freedom and culture from Socrates to Paulo Freire, Joel Spring, McGraw-Hill, Toronto, 1994