

## Education 441-4: CULTURAL DIFFERENCES IN EDUCATION

Fall, 1986  
Wednesdays, 4:30 - 8:20 p.m.

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### DESCRIPTION/ELIGIBILITY

Multicultural education can be defined as:

"an education in which cultural diversity is seen and used as a valuable resource to enrich the lives of all, and in which every child has the chance to benefit from the cultural heritage of others, as well as his or her own."

This definition is the foundation of this course which is open to educators (teachers, administrators, counsellors) and social service workers who want to develop positive ways of working in multicultural communities. Role play, group discussion, case study, audiovisual and curriculum materials will be used to assist participants to develop definitions of their professional roles in a multicultural community, and activities and programs which will promote positive intercultural education.

### OBJECTIVES

1. Develop an understanding of the meaning of culture and multicultural education.
2. Become familiar with multicultural resources (films, books, etc.) and develop techniques and a series of lesson plans for using these in the classroom.
3. Evaluate curriculum materials for stereotyping and bias.
4. Learn about the importance of cultural and racial background in shaping self-concept.
5. Identify techniques for learning about a culture other than your own.
6. Understand the negative impact of prejudice, discrimination and stereotyping and ways of combatting these with positive programs.
7. Begin defining your role as a teacher in a multicultural community.
8. Become familiar with research literature on major issues in multicultural education: e.g. equality of opportunity, social class and school achievement, local control and bilingual education; and develop an understanding of the diverse views of the role and objectives of education in a multicultural society.

### THEMES: OVERVIEW OF MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

These broadly define the major dimensions of multicultural education. In this course some reference will be made to each. The course calendar will specify weekly topics which are related to these themes.

- I. Awareness of and Sensitivity to One's Own and Others' Cultural Background (Personal Exchange)  
Concepts: identity, ethnic identity, self-concept, multiculturalism
- II. Interpersonal/Intercultural Communication  
Verbal (tone, speed, volume); Non-verbal (eye and body contact)

- III. Teaching English as a Second Language
- IV. Knowledge of other cultures  
(History, Religion, Art, Celebrations, Music, Dance, Play, School, Work, Community, Sex Roles)
- V. Knowledge of cultures in contact  
Concepts: acculturation, assimilation, integration, segregation, separation, "culture shock" immigration
- VI. Curriculum and Program Planning/Developing Positive Multicultural Activities and Programs
  - evaluating materials for stereotyping and bias
  - access to multicultural curriculum
  - integrating multicultural experiences and resources into the "mainstream" curriculum, e.g., Art, Social Studies
  - building positive attitudes through educational programs
- VII. Handling Conflict.
- VIII. The Social Context/Institutional Setting  
Historical-Contemporary Issues
  - hiring practices
  - policy and guidelines on curriculum and language programs - "minority" language rights and bilingualism
  - community participation
  - parent involvement - independent schools
  - equality of educational opportunity
  - native rights
  - teacher expectations

#### ASSIGNMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS

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| 1. Attendance and class participation are required.  | 20% |
| 2. Multicultural Curriculum project.   | 40% |
| 3. Interview with someone from cultural background other than your own.<br>(including a report relating your interview to your readings) | 40% |

#### BOOKS: DO NOT PURCHASE ANY BOOKS UNTIL YOU HAVE ATTENDED THE FIRST CLASS

1. Ashworth, Mary. The Forces Which Shaped Them.
2. Banks, James. Teaching Strategies for Ethnic Studies.
3. Cazden, C. Functions of Language in the Classroom.
4. Roe, Michael. Multiculturalism, Racism and the Classroom.
5. Shapson, S., D'Oyley, V. and Lloyd, A. (Ed.) Canadian Perspectives on Bilingualism
6. Tiedt & Tiedt. Multicultural Teaching.
7. Werner, W., Aoki, T., Connors, T., Dahlie, J. Whose Culture, Whose Heritage.
8. Wolfgang, A. The Education of Immigrant Students.