

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
FALL SEMESTER 2008**

**EDUC 382-4
ISSUES IN DIVERSITY IN EDUCATION
(E100)**

Phong Kuoch
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Thursday 4:30-8:20 pm
Surrey Campus room 3200

Prerequisite:

60 hours of credit. Students who have received credit for EDUC 441, EDUC 382-4 Special Topics from fall 2003-3 on, cannot take EDUC 382 for further credit.

Course Description:

What does it mean to be normal? What does it mean to be different? It can be argued that schooling is a social process whereby students are groomed to conform to the dominant cultural beliefs and practices of the greater society. However, as the student demographic in Canadian schools increasingly shifts away from the traditionally homogenous grouping of the past, particularly in urban areas that are economically disadvantaged and culturally heterogeneous, how do educators conceptualize, approach and create curricula, classroom experiences and learning environments that acknowledge and honour the diverse backgrounds, identities, perspectives, and needs of students outside the dominant cultural group? This course will explore and examine pedagogical possibilities for creating classroom spaces that are more diverse, equitable and inclusive for all students, particularly those who have been traditionally marginalized by the mainstream Canadian education system.

Education 382 is designed for practicing educators, pre-service teachers and students interested in exploring and discussing issues on social diversity and schooling in Canada. We will explore both historical and contemporary theories, policies and practices focused on socio-cultural, political, ethnic, racial, linguistic, economic, sexual and gender differences as they impact education in Canada. A more detailed course outline will be provided on the first day of class.

Assignments and Assessments:

Participation – 10%

Presentation – 20%

Personal Critical Response (1000 words) – 30%

Final Research Paper (2500 words) or Original Unit Plan – 40%

Note: There is NO final exam for this course.

Required Readings:

Augie Fleras and Jean Leonard Elliott. (2007). *Unequal Relations: An Introduction to Race and Ethnic Dynamics in Canada*. 5th Ed. Toronto: Prentice Hall.

ISBN: 013096865x

Additional article readings will be provided by the instructor at cost.

Students in all Faculty of Education courses are encouraged to review policies pertaining to academic integrity available on the Undergraduate Programs website:

http://www.educ.sfu.ca/ugradprogs/student_resources/index.html