

D-4: Educational Change: Meeting the Challenge of Inclusion

Instructor: George Flynn

Location: Kitimat

Date: August 15–24, 1994

Days: Monday–Saturday

Time: 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

	UVic	SFU	*UBC
Course Number:	ED-D 487	✓ EDUC 373	EPSE 390A
Section Number:	Q56	T4.00	96B
TT or Cat Number:	46865	75180	13844

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will begin with a focus on the educational and moral imperatives that students with disabilities belong in general education classrooms and that they have a right to receive the supports and services necessary to benefit from their education in the general education setting. A context for "inclusion" will be established given our current knowledge based on research and documented best practice. The course will then focus on practical issues such as parent concerns and resistance, personnel preparation, consensus building, communication, changing roles for support staff, etc., with a particular look at the Administrator's roles in these shifts in thinking.

INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

George Flynn has been the Director of Education (Superintendent in B.C.) for the Waterloo Region Catholic School Board in Kitchener, Ontario. He led the effort to create a totally unified school system where "there has been a basic shift in values." It is now accepted throughout this system of 25,000 students that all young people of school age...regardless of presence or absence of challenging needs and who otherwise qualify as resident pupils of the system...belong naturally and fully. There are no exceptions. Flynn has become an internationally known speaker on the school as an inclusive community. He talks honestly and openly about the process in his school system, the questions and concerns that arose, and the successes this school district and the students have experienced. Flynn is now an Adjunct Professor at McGill University and the Executive Director of The Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps (TASH) which is headquartered in Seattle, Washington.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Regular attendance.
- Appropriate level of interest and participation.
- Pre-course readings and course readings.
- One paper.

Participants will be expected to complete the readings, to engage enthusiastically in the dialogue, and to submit a paper on a relevant topic of interest to the student and approved by the instructor.

READINGS

Land, George and Jarmen, Beth. *Breakpoint and Beyond—Mastering your Future Today.*

Block, Peter. *Stewardship—Choosing Service over Self-interest.*

Each participant will receive a binder at the beginning of the course which will contain a number of articles, monographs, etc., which will be referenced throughout the course.