

**Selected Questions & Issues in Education**

Mondays & Wednesdays  
17:30-19:20 in EDB 7600F

**E01.00**

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**PREREQUISITE:**

None.

This is an introductory course aimed at beginning students who are not necessarily already committed to pursuing educational studies. The course introduces you to a small but representative sample of questions and issues of importance to education and educators today. We will examine questions relating to the concept of education; learning and the learner; teaching and the teacher; discourses of education; and the broader contexts of education in the global community and the postmodern world. We will broach questions such as, What are and what should be the goals of education? Whose voices contribute to current educational debates? Whose voices should be considered? These and other educational issues will be critically examined through oral and written discussions of course readings and issues arising in the media during the term as well as through reflection on your own experiences of learning/teaching. You can expect to work independently, in collaborative groups, and online. Critical reading and writing skills will be cultivated through in-class work and assignments. There is a required online component for this course. If you do not have access to a computer and the Internet at home, facilities are available on campus.

**REQUIREMENTS**

Weekly attendance and participation in activities /discussions (online and in class) 20%  
Written responses to readings and to a fieldwork experience 40 %  
Educational narrative (autobiographical) 20%  
Critical review of issues 20%

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

Codell, Esme R. (1999). *Educating Esme: Diary of a teacher's first year*. Chapel Hill, NC: Algonquin Books.  
Sterling, Shirley (1992). *My name is Seepeetza*. Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre.  
James, Carl E. (Ed.) (2000). *Experiencing difference*. Halifax: Fernwood Publishing.

Other readings will be available from time to time in class.