

Summer Semester 2001

EDUC 441 - 4
Multicultural Education

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D01.00

Tuesdays 8:30-12:20 in EDB 8651/2

PREREQUISITE

60 credit hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course we will study important social phenomenon as they relate to multicultural education such as identity, solidarity, politics, systems of knowledge, values, beliefs, child rearing practices, etc. We will also examine concepts such as racism, privilege, social justice, hegemony. We will consider the important role of teachers as the gatekeepers for the future generation.

And we will reflect on our own cultural experiences as a basis for new understanding of the importance of diversity and complexity in a creative environment. Issues in the discourse on multicultural education will be considered from texts. Particular emphasis will be given to issues in First Nations education and we will consider how certain issues may have implications for other cultures. The arts and non-verbal communication will be important aspects of the course, as they pertain to cultural experience and social change.

OBJECTIVES

- To establish a knowledge in literature on Multicultural Education;
- To reflect on what "culture" means to us as individuals and groups;
- To learn ways to include diverse perspectives on our professional practice;
- To attempt to understand some of the complexity surrounding the multicultural debate in our society;
- To learn explicitly about issues pertaining to First Nations;
- To reflect on the way we might conduct ourselves as global citizens and on how we might encourage our students to do the same.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Students are required to arrive on the first day of class with a short 3 page essay reflecting on a multicultural experience you have had in life.
2. Midterm exam
3. Class presentation

REQUIRED READINGS

Ghosh, R. (1996). Redefining Multicultural Education. Harcourt Brace & Co. ISBN 0-7747-3276-8.

Fleras, A. (1999). Unequal Relations. Prentice-Hall Canada, Inc. ISBN 0-13-020560-5.

In addition, handouts will be made available throughout the course.