

EVENING

EDUCATION 497-4

Special Topic: Social Issues in Classroom Practice

INTERSESSION 1995

D. Meronuk

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

"Education in our present context is not viewed as separate from the 'real world' but is integrally woven into the wider societal framework."
Ministry of education, 1990.

This course is designed for practicing and preservice intermediate and secondary teachers. The focus will be on the influence of social trends and relevant research on current teaching practice. Topics covered will include: risk/success factors, stress/time theory, media/technology influences, violence/abuse issues, brain/health research, family/community/cultural change, behavior/attitude trends, as they relate to the young adolescent learner. Case studies, historical perspectives, guest speakers and film will supplement the required and recommended readings. Instruction in preparation, presentation and debrief of cases will be available.

An integrated study of societal influences may help educators to better understand student behaviors that may seem inexplicable.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/EVALUATION: No prerequisite courses required.

Attendance, preparation, active participation in discussions and exercises on seminar topics, films, and guest presentations	20%
Original Case Study, with Reflective Essay relating Research/Readings	30%
Issue/Topic Essay: Integration of Current Research and Classroom Practice with annotations	30%
Written Review of Recommended Readings	20%

There will be no midterm or final examination. Alternative assignments may be arranged.

READINGS: Required and Recommended readings will be announced at the first class.

"A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."

H. B. Adams, 1907.