

EDUCATION 474: Designs for Learning - Social Studies (Secondary)

1985 Intersession (May-June)

Instructor: Michael Warsh

Tuesday & Thursday (17:30 - 21:20)

Location: MPX 8631

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The purpose of the course is to introduce students to some of the issues central to the teaching of Social Studies, to familiarize students with the Social Studies curriculum in British Columbia, to examine fundamental ideas underlying this curriculum, and to help students become adept at a range of practical methods appropriate to teaching the Social Studies curriculum. In order to do this, the course will be divided into three main topics.

I. A survey of the historical/philosophical perspectives of Social Studies teaching:

- evolution of Social Studies programming
- teaching Social Studies in other countries
- the place of Social Studies in school curriculum
- the constituents in the domain of Social Studies
- Social Studies under attack as the soft sciences

II. An examination of the Secondary Social Studies curriculum in B.C.:

- the "new" Grade 8 curriculum (students will complete all activities in Geolab 1 and will undertake all Grade 8 reading assignments)
- the "new" Grade 9 proposed curriculum
- Grade 10 and 11: what is it and where will it go in the future?

III. An in-depth survey of teaching strategies and student activities applicable to Social Studies teaching:

- ways of planning Social Studies curriculum
- teaching for critical thinking
- the inquiry teaching method
- representative instructional strategies
- resources for Social Studies teachers

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Critical analysis of two textbooks or materials currently used in Social Studies courses
2. Development of a list of Social Studies resources applicable to current Social Studies courses
3. Annotated bibliography of journals applicable to Social Studies teaching
4. Two papers: (5 - 7 pages) One from each of the three main topics as described above
5. Oral presentation
6. Completion of Geolab 1 and other Grade 8 readings

TEXTS AND READINGS: T.B.A.