

Curriculum Planning for the Individual Learner

SUMMER SESSION 1983

INSTRUCTOR: Deidre Bjornson

Mondays and Thursdays, 1:00 - 4:50

LOCATION: on campus

DESCRIPTION

In this course, students will become familiar with a framework for observing and assessing pupils' developmental, emotional, and learning needs, and a process for addressing these needs in the classroom. The instructor's approach is based on the beliefs that:

- a) each learner has different needs, arising from many factors such as physical, emotional and social development, background experience, and home and community life;
- b) learning will be more effective when the teacher attends to the needs of the whole child in curriculum planning.

Therefore, this course will emphasize planning for individual students, within the framework of Louis Rath's Needs Theory.

OBJECTIVES

Each student in this course will:

1. become familiar with Rath's Needs Theory;
2. apply the needs theory to a variety of case studies;
3. learn and practice processes for -
  - a) collecting and organizing information about individual pupils,
  - b) developing working hypotheses,
  - c) planning curriculum strategies,
  - d) implementing and evaluating curriculum plans,
  - e) interacting supportively with pupils.

EXPECTATIONS

1. Attendance and participation in all course activities.
2. Satisfactory completion of course assignments, including
  - a) case studies.
  - b) curriculum tasks.
  - c) interactions tasks.
3. Completion of related readings.

Specific requirements for this course will be outlined in the first session.

READINGS

1. Rath, Louis. Meeting the Needs of Children. Columbus, Ohio: Charles E. Merrill, 1972.
2. Wassermann, S. (ed.). Kids: Handbook of Related Readings. (available from instructor)
3. Selections from a bibliography provided during the course; other relevant books and articles.