

Summer Session 1981

EDUCATION 489-4/807-4

Instructors: H. Graff, M. Peckham,

Asst. T.A.: J. Gould/B. DeForest

Special Topics: Literacy, Culture and Education

This course is co-sponsored by the English Department and the Faculty of Education. The course will focus on the historical and cultural problems associated with "thinking about literacy" and the history of literacy. It will attempt to provide introductions to: the historical course of literacy's development and meaning; conceptual issues involved in the study and interpretation of literacy; and the requirements for understanding literacy today. The explicit premises underlying the approach include: literacy cannot be understood without due attention to context, especially historical context, cultural conditions, and contextual definition. The course will attempt to show, on the one hand, the inadequacies of normative perspectives and, on the other hand, to replace them with critical, grounded approaches that will place literacy in relation to society, education, literary understanding, and reading habits.

The course is open to upper division students in English, Education and the Humanities. Lecture, discussion and seminar format. Students enrolled in the English seminar associated with the course will be asked to read the books noted with an asterisk in addition to the required texts. For further information about this course please contact J. Zaslove at 291-4395, or 291-3136.

Required Texts:

Eric A. Havelock	<u>The Origins of Western Literacy</u>	Ontario Institute for Studies in Ed.
Walter J. Ong	<u>The Presence of the Word</u>	Simon & Shuster
Carlo Cipolla	<u>Literacy and Development in the West</u>	Penguin
Jack Goody	<u>The Domestication of the Savage Mind</u>	Cambridge U. Press
John Oxenham	<u>Literacy: Reading, Writing and Social Organization</u>	Routledge & Kegan Paul

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