

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
FALL SEMESTER 2006**

**EDUC 100-3
SELECTED QUESTIONS & ISSUES IN EDUCATION
(E01.00)**

MATT HERN

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MONDAY/WEDNESDAY
4:30-6:20 edb 8620F

PREREQUISITE: None.

Description

The class will look at fundamental questions concerning the nature of education and learning, including:

1. How has the idea of schooling emerged historically?
2. What is education? What is it for? Competing renditions.
3. What is learning? What is its relationship to teaching?
4. Epistemological diversity: how do kids learn best?
5. What is the role of the community in education?
6. What is the role of education in diverse and fluid societies?

Students will be asked to begin to build a personal philosophy of education and epistemological outlook, engage with competing renditions, and understand where their views sit in relation to other approaches.

Organization / Requirements

The course will run twice a week, for two hours each class, and will be half-lecture and half various participatory discussion formats. Students are expected to participate in all class and small-group discussions, complete all assigned readings, complete a number of short response papers and in-class presentations, and critically engage the material presented.

Readings

- Tatum: Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?
- Gatto: The Exhausted School: Bending the Bars of Traditional Education
- Mercogliano: Making It Up As We Go Along
- Selected Articles and Interviews Distributed by the Instructor

Evaluation

Class participation	20%
In-class response papers/presentations	20 %
First paper	20%
Final paper	40%