

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

**EDUCATION 325-3 (E1.00)
TESTING IN SCHOOLS
(Cat. #68676)**

Summer Intersession 1994
(May 2 - June 10)
Tuesday & Thursday, 17:30-21:20
Location: MPX 9511/12

Instructor: Phil Winne
Office: MPX 9506
Phone: 291-4858 or 3395

PREREQUISITE: EDUC 220

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course surveys assessment methods that contribute to improving teaching and learning, and for making judgments and decisions about qualities of teaching, the classroom environment, and student achievement and growth. Topics include: goal and task analysis, validity and reliability, observing and assessing classroom processes and environments, self-report methods, assessing student achievement, published tests of achievement and aptitude, marking and reporting.

OBJECTIVES

This course teaches knowledge and skills for assessing a) students' learning processes, motivation, and achievements, and b) teachers' instruction so that the information obtained is accurate, clear, valid, and useful for promoting students' growth, improving teaching, and evaluating educational programs.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Journal, Thought Questions, Learning Exercises, and Self Test (not graded). The journal is a personally relevant chronicle of thoughts, insights, interpretations, questions and disagreements with a) positions or suggestions the text presents and b) the activities in which you undertake as you work through the course. Thought Questions, Learning Exercises, and Self Tests are self-reflective and extension activities to enrich understanding of course material.

GRADING

Assessment Package (55%)

This exercise accumulates in four installments over the course. Part by part, you will develop an assessment package for a unit of instruction. In the package, you'll demonstrate knowledge and skills related to a) planning a broad-spectrum assessment of students and of your teaching, b) designing tools for gathering measurements, c) appraising technical properties of the assessment tools you design, d) analyzing the overall utility of the assessment package, and e) reporting to audiences for assessment.

Think Paper Assignment (10%)

An essay with a maximum length of 1000 words (4 pages, double-spaced typing). The topic of a think paper is a controversial issue. In a think paper, you present a logical and, where appropriate, empirically supported argument addressing the issue.

Final Examination (35%)

A 3-hour final examination will survey the range of information presented in the course. Each week's reading will be sampled by 2-3 multiple-choice items. Approximately 10 other items will be a mix of objective interpretative exercises and restricted response essay items.

READINGS

Gronlund, N.E. & Linn, R.L. (1990). *Measurement and Evaluation in Teaching* (6th ed.). New York: Macmillan.

Course Reader for EDUC 325 Distance Education.