

Cultural Differences and Education

Summer Session 1979.

Richard O. Dalbey

The course is designed as a seminar on the influence of cultural factors in school learning, focusing on the dynamics of majority-minority relations and their relevance for educational policy and practice. The aim is to explore this arena in such a way that we are better able to: (1) identify cultural characteristics and differences, (2) appreciate and respect them, and (3) learn to use them constructively in educational planning and school learning.

Preferring to accent depth rather than breadth, emphasis will be placed on a modest number of major racial and ethnic groups important to Canada and the United States. Although a cross-national analysis comparing race and ethnic relations in a variety of countries around the globe is not the intent of the course, students will be asked to look at a particular aspect of minority education in other cultures.

Special attention will be given to Canada and ethnic relations, and the reality of multiculturalism and education in Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia as well as cultural, sociological, and historical factors influencing the education of minority groups such as Eskimos, Indians, Metis, Hutterites, recent immigrants, and the developing subcultures of the inner city; and the prevailing ideology in the United States with respect to cultural differences and the role and policies of educational institutions in community, national, and regional development to eliminate inequality. Emphasis will also be given to recent trends and issues: class structure, ethnicity, and regional variation as a basis for understanding social class biases in education; schools and cultural assimilation; educational aspirations as a new social force; and the social psychology of heterogeneous schools.

During the course, students will be asked to concentrate on creative projects in the subject area and to prepare a two-page prospectus with annotated bibliographic entries. At the end of the term, each student will in turn present his research findings to the class in the form of an oral report.

From time to time, members of the community representing diverse racial and ethnic groups will be invited to address the class.

TEXTS: Oscar Handlin, The Uprooted

Canadian Ethnic Studies. Special Issue: Ethnicity and Education, 1976.

Toronto Board of Education, Final Report of the Work Group on Multicultural Programs, 1976.

Cole S. Brembeck and Walker H. Hill, Cultural Challenges to Education, 1973 (optional but highly recommended for further course work in the subject area).

"On Reserve" reading list and bibliography will be handed out first day of class.

RECOMMENDED READINGS

In the Library:

Curriculum

- BANKS, J. Teaching Ethnic Studies
- BANKS & JOYCE Teaching Social Studies to Culturally Different Children
Teaching Language Arts to Culturally Different Children
- Alberta Elementary Social Studies Handbook: Experiences in Decision Making
- RATHS, HARMIN, SIMON Values and Teaching
- SHAFTEL, FANNY AND GEORGE Role Playing for Social Values
- TABA, Hilda Teaching Strategies for the Culturally Disadvantaged
A Teachers' Handbook for Elementary Social Studies
Curriculum Development: Theory and Practice

BOOKS (Ordered for the Bookstore)

- ASHWORTH, Mary Immigrant Children in Canadian Schools
- CAZDEN, C. Functions of Language in the Classroom
Teachers College Press
- MARTELL, George Politics of the Canadian Public School

General:

- PALMER, Howard, Ed. Immigration and the Rise of Multiculturalism
- ROSENTHAL Pygmalion in the Classroom
- RYAN, T. Poverty and the Child: A Canadian Study
- HODGETTS What Culture, What Heritage?
- KRAUTER, Joseph The Other Canadians: Profiles of Six Minorities
- MINGHI, Julian Peoples of the Living Land (studies of ethnic groups in B.C.)
- LAMBERT, W. E. Bilingual Education: The St. Lambert Experience
- SWAIN, M. Bilingual Schooling: Some Experiences in Canada and the U.S.
- McLEOD, N. R. Need Culture and Curriculum
Educating Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities
1968
- Canadian Teachers Federation The Poor at School in Canada 1970
- MOWAT, and St. Lawrence New Canadian Activities: Summary of Teachers Response to a Questionnaire, 1969
- Ontario Association for Curriculum Development Conference on Multiculturalism in Education, 1977
- COLES and HILL Cultural Challenges to Education, 1973

Recommended Readings (con't)

Journals

Canadian Ethnic Studies

Vol. VII No. 1 1975

Vol. VIII No. 1 1976

Special Issue: The Green Paper on Immigration

Special Issue: Education and Ethnicity

TESL Talk

Vol. 10 No. 3 Summer 1979

Immigration and Multiculturalism

Related Bibliographies Available in the Library

Ethnicity and Ethnic Groups

Immigration, Emigration and Migration

Indian and Eskimo Periodicals

Ashworth, Mary Immigrant Children In Canadian Schools.

Aoki, T. & Dahlie, J. Whose Culture? Whose Heritage? UBC Faculty of Ed.

Cazden, C. Functions of Language In The Classroom.
Teachers College Press.

Martell, George. Politics of The Canadian Public School.

Troper & Palmer Issues In Cultural Diversity, Ontario Institute For
Studies In Education, 1976.

Wolfgang , Aaron The Education Of Immigrant Students, OISE, 1976.