

EDUCATION 441  
CULTURAL DIFFERENCES IN EDUCATION  
SPRING, 1981

Instructor: Dr. Anne Lloyd

This course will examine the issue of multiculturalism in education from a theoretical and practical viewpoint.

Objectives

A. Theoretical Issues

Through assigned readings, lectures, and active participation in class and group discussions, students will acquire an informed position on the cultural and structural issues affecting the process of education. Students will be expected to develop their educational theories and practices based on knowledge of the following:

1. Canadian cultural identity--the historical and present status of Canadian cultural diversity--some cross-cultural comparisons with the United States will be highlighted--inequality and public policy.
2. The history of minority cultural education in B.C.--in whose interest?--the shaping of educational policy.
3. Class, culture, and student achievement--differences vs. deficiencies.
4. The process of education--a system of interrelated variables i.e., achievement, locus of control, motivation, self esteem, expectations--differences among ethnic and racial groups.
5. Teacher and parent expectations--as significant others and their effects on various educational outcomes.
6. Prejudice and the role of the school--the nature of prejudice and strategies for change.
7. Bilingual education--educational and political concerns.
8. Community control--the role of community groups in the educational process--community service availability.

B. Practical Issues

Through participation in problem-solving groups and the development of individual projects, students will acquire knowledge and develop resources and materials for effectively dealing with:

1. Teaching in the multicultural classroom
2. Handling conflict and prejudice in the classroom
3. Teaching about value and cultural differences
4. Home-school communications in the culturally diverse community

Evaluation

1. An individual curriculum project
2. Context assessment
3. Family History
4. Class and Small Group Participation

Textbooks

Werner, A. et al, Whose Culture? Whose Heritage?, 1977/

Troper & Palmer, Issues in Cultural Diversity, 1976.

Ashworth, M., The Forces That Shaped Them: A History of the Education of Minority Group Children in British Columbia, 1979.

Wood, D., Multicultural Canada's Teachers' Guide to Ethnic Studies

Kehoe, J., Ethnic Prejudice in the Classroom

Banks, J., Teaching Strategies Ethnic Studies

Tiedt, P.; Tiedt, I., Multicultural Teaching

1. FAMILY HISTORY

The objective of this assignment is for students to gain knowledge about the processes of social mobility over several generations. Each student will complete a written analysis of his family history for at least 3 generations which will include:

1. name of individual, date and place of birth
2. marriage (out-marry) -- age at marriage
3. occupations of each adult
4. income/property (e.g. own or rent)
5. number of children
6. race
7. religion/ethnic group
8. years of schooling
9. SES
10. where they lived, number of times they changed homes, reason for moving
11. languages spoken in home
12. other description of family: noteworthy events; interviews with older members; maintenance of cultural identity

Students should conclude this essay with a statement of their own cultural identities and its relationship to their professional roles.

2. INDIVIDUAL CURRICULUM PROJECTS

The objectives of this project are:

1. to increase student knowledge about cultural groups, and concepts and attitudes in multicultural education
2. to develop materials and strategies to teach about cultural groups, concepts and attitudes.

Each project should include:

1. description and assessment of audience
2. rationale for content and strategy selection
3. statement of objectives
4. curriculum materials and teaching strategies

Projects should encompass at least five classroom sessions and average 10-15 pages.

Outline Due: Feb. 23

Final Project Due: March 23

3. CONTEXT ASSESSMENT

The objective of this assignment is for students to apply their knowledge to a situation involving cultural differences in the school. Students will be given a situation and will be asked to:

1. define the issue involving cultural differences
2. discuss the context of the issue
3. highlight the facilitating and negating factors
4. suggest alternative strategies for resolving the issue
5. using appropriate literature and experience select optimal alternative

Students will complete a written take-home essay and class discussion.

COURSE OUTLINE

Dr. Anne Lloyd

EDUCATION 441

Spring, 1981

- January 12                    Course overview  
Film: Starting from Nina
- January 19                    Conceptualizing the Educational Process  
Read: 1. Boardman, et al., "Variables Affecting the Learning of Inner City Children"  
2. Moriarty & Wallerstein, "Student/Teacher/Learner"
- January 26                    The Canadian Cultural Identity  
Read: 1. Driedger, "Ethnic Identity in Canadian Mosaic"  
2. Burnet, "Myths & Multiculturalism"  
3. D'Oyley, "Multiculturalism in Canadian Society"  
Film: Fields of Endless Days
- February 2                    Cultural Identity in Western Canada  
Read: Ashworth, The Forces That Shaped Them  
Films: Hutterites  
Bella Bella
- February 9                    Social Mobility of Ethnic and Racial Groups  
Individual Family Histories - Defining Your Own Culture
- February 16                    Issues in Cultural Differences  
Read: Troper & Palmer, 'Issues in Cultural Diversity  
Small group presentations of case studies to be assigned.
- February 23                    Language Education  
Read: 1. Cummins, "The Language and Culture Issue"  
2. Morearty & Wallerstein, "A Friere Approach to ABE/ESL"  
3. Lambert, "Cognitive & Socio-Cultural Consequences of Bilingualism"  
Outlines of Projects Due
- March 2                        Canadian Social Studies Curriculum  
Read: 1. Werner, Whose Culture? Whose Heritage?  
2. Wood, Multicultural Canada's Teachers' Guide, pp. 1-55  
3. Wyatt, "Implications of Multiculturalism for Teacher Education"  
Each student will discuss an example of the curriculum used at his grade level.  
Film: Racism in the Schools

