

Educ. 441-4 Cultural Differences and Education

REGULAR SUMMER SEMESTER 1983

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. K. Toohey

Thursday, 8:30 - 12:20

LOCATION: on campus

DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed for persons working or preparing to work in educational settings and is focussed on the multicultural nature of Canadian schools. Participants will investigate social, political and economic characteristics of the Canadian "cultural mosaic" historically and in the present. With this background, participants will examine educational approaches, techniques and materials which might be effective for working with students from a variety of cultural backgrounds.

TOPICS FOR INVESTIGATION:

1. The content: social, political and economic considerations
 - participants in Educ. 441 as a multicultural group, personal and family histories in Canada, aboriginal and immigrant history and contemporary situations
 - official educational and governmental policy statements on multiculturalism
2. The child: his/her cultural and linguistic background
 - information about students that is available to educators, differences as resources, "culture" as a problematic concept
 - evaluating children's linguistic backgrounds, possibilities for first language or bilingual instruction, second language learning and teaching
3. The multicultural school:
 - administrative control and goal-setting, facilitating community decision-making
 - teachers' expectations and demands, cross-cultural communication in classrooms, methods for a variety of learning styles
 - curricular content, identifying bias, creating/selecting appropriate materials, multicultural materials across the curriculum

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. - attendance, class participation, mini-assignments, mini-presentations
2. - history of family in Canadian setting
3. - interview person from cultural group different from one's own
4. - annotated bibliography of research or materials
5. - presentation of group project (curriculum package)
6. - book review

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Ashworth, M. The Forces Which Shaped Them. Vancouver: New Star Books, 1979.
Werner, W. et. al. Whose Culture? Whose Heritage? U.B.C. Centre for the Study of Curriculum and Instruction, 1980.

COURSE OUTLINE

This course includes sections on the social dimensions of multiculturalism, the psychological dimensions of multi-culturalism, curriculum development in multi-cultural education, and specific issues (Indian education; community control and parental choice and Second Language Programs). It is of interest to those concerned with the history and current status of minority ethnic groups in Canada, and either preparing to be a teacher or already teaching.

Textbooks:

Ashworth, Mary. The Forces Which Shaped Them. New Star Books, Vancouver, 1979.

Aoki, Ted. Whose Culture? Whose Heritage? University of B.C., Faculty of Education.

Banks, James A. Teaching Strategies for Ethnic Studies, 2nd ed., Boston, 1979 (for students preparing curriculum for secondary).

Cazden, C. Functions of Language in the Classroom. Teachers College Press.

Tiedt, Iris M. & Tiedt, Pamela L. Multicultural Teaching, Boston, 1979. (For students preparing curriculum for elementary).

Wood, D. Multicultural Canada. O.I.S.E. 1978.