

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Education 230-3 Philosophical Issues in Education

Spring Semester 1978

Instructor: Dr. C.M. Hamm

COURSE GUIDE

I. General Information

This course, open to all undergraduates, is intended to provide students who have a general interest in educational studies an opportunity to examine critically a variety of contemporary educational problems from a philosophical perspective.

The central concern of the course is to elucidate the nature of education together with an attempt to assess the extent to which the modern school fulfills its function as an educational institution.

II. Brief Course Outline

- A. The Nature of Philosophical Issues in Education
- B. Conflicting Perspectives on Education
- C. The Nature of Education
 - 1. The aims of Education
 - 2. The means-ends model in Education
 - 3. The concept 'Education'
 - 4. Education and the development of mind
 - 5. Education and the nature of knowledge
- D. Moral Dimensions of Education
 - 1. The nature of punishment and authority
 - 2. Freedom and respect for persons
 - 3. Conditioning and indoctrination
 - 4. Moral education

III. Course Requirements

- A. Students will be expected to attend two one-hour lecture-discussion sessions and one one-hour tutorial each week.
- B. Papers
 - 1. A short paper of about 500 words will be due in January
 - 2. A longer paper of about 2000 words will be due in March (Suggested essay topics and supplementary bibliography will be distributed on assignment guide sheets).
- C. Examinations - There will be a 1 hour mid-term examination in February and a 1 hour final examination in April based on the lectures and the required readings.
- D. Readings Text
 - 1. Required - Hirst, P.H. and Peters, R.S., The Logic of Education, Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1970.
 - 2. Recommended - Scheffler, I., The Language of Education, Charles C.

Thomas Publisher, Springfield, Ill., 1960.

Woods, G.R. & Barrow, R., An Introduction to Philosophy of Education, Methuen & Co. Ltd., London, 1975.

Articles

- Required
1. Dearden, R.F., "'Needs' in Education" in British Journal of Educational Studies, XIV, #3 (Nov., 1966) pp. 5-17.
 2. Hirst, P.H., "The Logic of the Curriculum" in Journal of Curriculum Studies, 1969.
 3. Kazepides, A.C., "The Grammar of 'Indoctrination'", Philosophy of Education, 1973.
 4. Oakeshott, M., "Education: The Engagement and its Frustration" in British Journal of Educational Studies, Vol. V, #1 (Jan., 1971).
 5. Peters, R.S., "The Nature of Authority" in Peters, R.S. Authority, Responsibility and Education, London, George Allen and Unwin Ltd., 1966, Ch. 1.
 6. Peters, R.S., "What is an Educational Process" in Peters, R.S. (ed.) The Concept of Education, Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1967, Ch. 1.

(These articles will be obtainable on short term loan from the office of the Teaching Assistant).

E. Supplementary Readings

Students will be expected to do some additional reading in the area of their essay topics (see note III B above) and to supplement lecture topics. Key books and articles recommended for this purpose will be placed on reserve. Additional copies of some of the main articles will be obtainable from the office of the T.A. (A list of these materials will be made available for all students).