

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

EDUCATION 230-3

INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

Fall Semester, 1989  
Tuesday & Thursday  
11:30 - 12:20 p.m.  
Location: AQ 3154

Instructor: Dr. Cornel Hamm

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**Course Description**

This course is an introduction of education. As such it is intended to provide prospective teachers as well as others interested in education an opportunity to examine a variety of educational problems from a philosophical perspective. The central concern of the course is to elucidate the nature of education as a phenomenon distinguishable from such activities as training, schooling, and socialization. It should enable one to think more clearly and critically about a host of problems, issues, and concepts in education. There are no pre-requisites for the course. A brief course outline follows:

- A. The Nature of Philosophical Issues in Education
  - 1. What are philosophical problems in education?
  - 2. What role does philosophy have in solving educational problems?
- B. The Language of Education
  - 1. Meaning and definitions in education
  - 2. Slogans and metaphors in education
  - 3. Problems of vagueness, ambiguity, and emotive uses of language
- C. The Nature of Education
  - 1. The concept 'education'
  - 2. The concepts 'teaching' and 'learning'.
  - 3. Cognitive education and education of the emotions
  - 4. The aims of education
  - 5. Education, curriculum, and the nature of knowledge
  - 6. The means-ends
- D. Moral Dimensions of Education
  - 1. Freedom and authority in education
  - 2. Discipline and punishment in education
  - 3. Conditioning and indoctrination
  - 4. The justification of content in education
  - 5. Values and moral education

**Course Requirements**

- 1. Tutorial participation
- 2. Examination on required readings
- 3. One or more short papers

**Texts**

P.H. Hirst & R.S. Peters. (1970). The Logic of Education. RKP.  
C.M. Hamm. Philosophical Issues in Education: An Introduction. (Copies available from instructor.)