

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
Education 230-3
PHILOSOPHICAL ISSUES IN EDUCATION

Fall Semester, 1991
(September 3–November 29)

Instructor: J. Morgan

Location: Fort St. John and Dawson Creek

COURSE DESCRIPTION

If I were to employ a subtitle for this course it would be "Thinking Seriously and Clearly About Education." For while nearly everyone is occasionally required to think about what is done in our schools, the fact is that few of us do so very well. We are going to think seriously and clearly about several issues related to the educational enterprise. To help us do so we are going to learn to think philosophically about education, which means that we are going to learn to examine the language we use to make claims about education, and to assess the arguments which some educators employ to support their views. It is hoped that by the end of the course students will have gained an increased appreciation of the worth of both education and philosophizing about it.

COURSE EVALUATION

Students will be asked to write five short papers and a final examination.

Five short papers

I, II, & III (500 words each).....	10% each
IV & V (1,000 words each)	20% each
Final Exam	30%

COURSE TOPICS

1. Philosophizing about education
2. The concept of education
3. Knowledge and its role in curriculum construction
4. Curriculum integration
5. The concepts of teaching and learning
6. The school in society
7. Educational authority
8. Discipline and punishment
9. The education of the emotions
10. Critical thinking and creativity
11. The concept of indoctrination
12. Moral education

REQUIRED TEXT

Hamm, Cornel. (1989). *Philosophical Issues in Education: An Introduction*.
New York: The Falmer Press.