

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**  
**EDUCATION 240**  
**SOCIAL ISSUES IN EDUCATION**

Spring Semester, 1991  
(January 7 - April 5)  
Monday & Wednesday  
3:30 - 4:30, Tutorials  
Location: C 9002

Instructor: Celia Haig-Brown  
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291-3395 Messages

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**PREREQUISITES** - None.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course examines the functions of schools within social and historical contexts, and the role of education in socialization. Social, cultural, political and economic influences on schools and on the practices of education are topics of consideration. Examinations of functionalism, conflict theory and interpretive approaches to the sociology of schooling will be integrated into the discussions of schooling. Students' own experiences of schooling and their relationship to the course topics will be a focus.

**OBJECTIVES**

The central goal of this course is to engage students in informed critical discussions of the purposes and practices of schooling. Students will be introduced to a variety of perspectives on schooling and the influence of history on current social issues.

**OUTLINE OF TOPICS**

Education as a social process; streams of sociological thought applied to education; politics of education; racism, sexism, class bias in education; and educational change.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

Brand, Dionne and Bhaggiyadatta, Krisantha Sri, 1986. Rivers Have Sources, Trees Have Roots: Speaking of Racism. Toronto: Cross Cultural Communication Centre.

Feinberg, Walter and Soltis, Jonas F. 1985. School and Society. New York: Teachers College Press.

Gaskell, Jane; McLaren, Arlene and Novogrodsky, Myra. 1989. Claiming an Education: Feminism and Canadian Schools. Toronto; Garamond Press.

And one of the recommended texts available in the bookstore.