

Semester 96-1

EDUC 341 - 3 LITERACY, EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Section: E1.00

Scheduled Final Exam: Y

Instructor: K. Egan

Office: 8668mpc

Tel: 291-4671

Fax: 291-3203

E-mail: Kieran_Egan@sfu.ca

PREREQUISITE

60 credit hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introduction to the study of literacy from an interdisciplinary perspective. We shall explore the origins of western literacy, the conditions of which favored its development and the role of literacy in social evolution, the economic and cultural values of literacy, and the effects of literacy on cognitive processes. Of particular interest is the reliance on formal educational institutions for the mass transmission of literacy. We will be looking in some detail at the varying conceptions of literacy that educators have traditionally valued, and we will be looking at some of the current research and scholarship that attempts to explain, justify and prescribe educational practices intended to increase literacy.

OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, students should be able to identify, analyze, and justify or criticize the aesthetic, communicative, cognitive and socially-transformative consequences attributed to or associated with the acquisition of literacy. They should know something of its history and be aware of the range of definitions traditionally currently given to literacy. They should have some understanding of the distinctive contributions of conceptual study and empirical research into literacy, and understand both the capacities and limitations of each of these approaches to literacy, research and practice.

REQUIREMENTS

TBA

READINGS TBA

EDUCATION 341-3 LITERACY, EDUCATION AND CULTURE

An introduction to the study of literacy from an interdisciplinary perspective, one which explores the role of literacy in social development, the economic and cultural values of literacy, and the effects of literacy on cognitive processes. The particular concern of this course is with the formal transmission of literacy in educational institutions. The course will especially address the varying conceptions of literacy that educators have traditionally valued, and the research that aims to explain, justify, and prescribe educational practices intended to increase literacy. This course is required for the Certificate in Literacy Instruction.

PREREQUISITE: 60 credit hours.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

DeCastell, S., Luke, A., & Egan, K. (eds.) (1986) *Literacy, Society and Schooling: A Reader*. Cambridge University Press.

Kingten, E., Kroll, B., & Rose, M. (eds.) (1988). *Perspectives on Literacy*. Southern Illinois University Press.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Four assignments.

EDUCATION 341-3 LITERACY, EDUCATION AND CULTURE

An introduction to the study of literacy from an interdisciplinary perspective, one which explores the role of literacy in social development, the economic and cultural values of literacy, and the effects of literacy on cognitive processes. The particular concern of this course is with the formal transmission of literacy in educational institutions. The course will especially address the varying conceptions of literacy that educators have traditionally valued, and the research that aims to explain, justify, and prescribe educational practices intended to increase literacy. This course is required for the Certificate in Literacy Instruction.

PREREQUISITE: 60 credit hours.

REQUIRED TEXT:

DeCastell, S., Luke, A., & Egan, K. (eds.) (1986) *Literacy, Society and Schooling: A Reader*. Cambridge University Press.

Kington, E., Kroll, B., & Rose, M. (eds.) (1988). *Perspectives on Literacy*. Southern Illinois University Press.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Four assignments.