

Selected Questions and Issues in Education

Education 100W

Section: D100

Term: 2014 Spring

Instructor: Instructor: Dr. Michael Ling

Office: EDB 8546

Phone: 778.782-4168

Email: gling@sfu.ca

Tuesdays: 2:30-4:20 pm; Thursdays 2:30-4:20 pm

Office Hours: TBA

Discussion Topics: What is education, and what does it mean to get an education, or to be educated? What is schooling? Are schooling and education the same thing? Is there a connection between education and the desire to live a good life? What do education and schooling look like when seen from an evolutionary, a cross-cultural, and a historical perspective?

This course is aimed at anyone interested in the idea of education, whether you are seeking to become a teacher or not, whether you are simply intrigued or curious about what education is and has been, or, frankly, if you have been puzzled or even frustrated by your own educational experiences.

We will be applying three lenses to the study of education: an anthropological, a historical, and a personal one. Which is to say, we will be looking at what education has been in other cultures and other times, what it has been in our national context, as well as what education has been in our own lives, in light of our own experiences.

As this is a "W" course (writing-intensive), the course will also be an opportunity to hone your writing skills. There will be various activities and exercises to support this. Most particularly, students will be asked to identify a burning question that they want to pursue, which they will develop, expand upon, and explore throughout the course.

Course Objectives: The primary aim is for students to develop an informed and critical perspective on education that draws on contemporary, historical, and anthropological understandings, and to apply that perspective to one's own life, hopes, and aspirations

Grading: Requirements:

\x09

Attendance and Participation in Class: 10%

Commonplace Book/Writing Journal: 30%

Group Presentation: 15%

Final Essay Project: 45%

Required Texts: 1. Neil Postman (1996) *The End of Education*.

2. John Taylor Gatto (2002) *Dumbing Us Down*, 2nd revised edition.

Selected Questions and Issues in Education

Additional readings and other media will be obtained through the SFU Library online system, or through various other open-sources.

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies:

Prerequisite/Corequisite: None

Notes: Students in all Faculty of Education courses are encouraged to review policies pertaining to academic integrity available on the Undergraduate Programs website:
http://www.educ.sfu.ca/ugradprogs/student_resources/index.html

This outline is derived from a course outline repository database that was maintained by SFU Student Services and the University's IT Services Department. The database was retired in 2014 and the data migrated to SFU Archives in 2015.