Current Issues in Curriculum and Pedagogy

Education 820

Section: G001

Term: 2011 Fall

Instructor: Dr. Wanda Cassidy

Email: Cassidy@sfu.ca

Location: EDB 9511
Day & Time: Thursdays, 4:30 – 9:20 PM

Discussion Topics: This course provides students with an opportunity to critically examine current trends and issues related to the theory and practice of curriculum in schools, and to investigate selected pedagogical approaches. We will explore key influences that shape contemporary practices and consider the connections between curriculum and power, identity, knowledge and culture. The following topics are examples of what will be investigated through readings and discussion: the vision and purpose of education; education in a global age; differing conceptions of citizenship education; the role of the moral in education; spirituality and education; critical pedagogy; the ethics of care; alternate approaches to education; aboriginal perspectives; impact of technology and cyber-space (e.g. cyber-bullying); the place of the child and the teacher in curriculum.

Grading: Assignments will be outlined in greater detail during the first class.

1.\x09Double entry journal, based on select readings, response to guests, and in-class activities (15%)

2.\x09Oral presentation of current issue in the media/schools (15%)

3.\x09Small group presentation, based on one of the course topics (20%)

4.\x09Individual project or paper (40%)

Required Texts: Flinders, D.J. & Thornton, S. J. (Eds.), (2009). The curriculum studies reader, 3rd Edition.
New York & London: Routledge.

Richardson, G. H. & Blades, D. W. Eds. (2006). Troubling the canon of citizenship education.
New York: Peter Lang.

Te Riele, K. (Ed.), (2009). Making schools different: Alternate approaches to educating young people. Los Angeles & London: Sage Publications Ltd. (pbk).

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies:

Prerequisite/Corequisite:

Notes: Students in all Faculty of Education courses are responsible for knowing policies pertaining to academic integrity available on the website:

http://students.sfu.ca/academicintegrity/policy/index.html