

## Selected Questions and Issues in Education

Education 100W

Section: E100

Term: 2011 Spring

Instructor: Professor Helene H. Leone

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Tuesday & Thursday 4:30-6:20 pm AQ 5060

Discussion Topics: This course is an introductory course offering students the opportunities and the means to explore, analyze, and critically evaluate the complexities and interplay between the diverse dimensions of education. This course aims to encourage students to improve their analytical and critical thinking skills, challenging them to reflect upon their own personal assumptions and to reconsider stereotypes and varying theoretical perspectives in the field of education. The course objective is to stimulate students's examination of their beliefs about education, and to help students develop the conceptual background and the language to evaluate public discourse and to communicate their views effectively as professionals and scholars.

A theme that will run throughout the course is the understanding of broader forces influencing policy and practice, and theory and ideology originating from a variety of individuals and organizations. Students will be introduced to the theory and methods of research in an effort to address some of the methodological concerns in the process of inquiry and study. This course will aim to prepare students who are knowledgeable, skillful, flexible, and passionate in their professional and scholarly practice, and who will be guided by a sense of social and ethical responsibility in relation to their peers and the wider society.

This course is a writing intensive course; it emphasizes the importance of improving learning and writing skills, as well as stimulating inquiry-based learning.

Grading: Class Participation: 10%

Group Presentation/Written Component: 30%

Journal Entries: 30%

Final Essay: 30%

Required Texts: Course readings will be made available and assigned throughout the semester.

A photocopy fee will be determined at the beginning of the semester.

Recommended Texts:

Materials/Supplies:

Prerequisite/Corequisite: None

Notes: Students in all Faculty of Education courses are encouraged to review policies pertaining to academic

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integrity available on the Undergraduate Programs website:  
[http://www.educ.sfu.ca/ugradprogs/student\\_resources/index.html](http://www.educ.sfu.ca/ugradprogs/student_resources/index.html)

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