

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SAN MARCOS
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

EDUC 364

The Role of Cultural Diversity in Schooling
Section 06 CRN 10136
Spring 2009

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DESCRIPTION

This course explores cultural and linguistic diversity as critical variables in achieving educational equity for all students. Major units include intensive theoretical and practical articulation of culture and cultural pluralism; educational issues of race, class, gender, language, ethnicity, and exceptionality; social, structural, programmatic and curricular issues; and effective teaching for diverse populations. This course is intended for students having an interest in diversity and educational issues and is a prerequisite for all teacher credential and graduate program candidates in education. Highly refined oral and written communication, information literacy, and appropriate use of technology are required of professional educators, therefore they are stressed as methods for completing course requirements.

OBJECTIVES

Students completing EDUC 364 will be able to demonstrate:

- understanding of various concepts of culture and their applicability to learning, teaching, curricular development and educational reform;
- understanding of the historical and contemporary contexts for multicultural and bilingual education;
- knowledge of the relationships between bilingual and multicultural instruction;
- familiarity with second language acquisition theory and the role of the primary language in second language learning;
- familiarity with various instructional methods and materials appropriate for use in multicultural and multilingual educational settings;
- ability to report, interpret analyze and synthesize complex information, and;
- University-level competence in information literacy, use of technology and oral and written communication.

Please note that this is a Hybrid course that involves face to face as well as online components. Students are expected to check WebCT for online components and announcements.

Mission Statement

The mission of the College of Education Community is to collaboratively transform public education by preparing thoughtful educators and advancing professional practices. We are committed to diversity, educational equity, and social justice, exemplified through reflective teaching, life-long learning, innovative research and on-going service. Our practices demonstrate a commitment to student-centered education, diversity, collaboration, professionalism, and shared governance. (*Adopted by COE Governance Community, October, 1997*).

In 1992, the College of Education voted to infuse Cross-cultural, Language and Academic Development (CLAD) competencies across the curriculum. The CLAD competencies are attached to the syllabus and the competencies covered in this course are highlighted.

The Governance Community of the College of Education adopted the following policy on 12/19/97:

Attendance Policy

Due to the dynamic and interactive nature of courses in the College of Education, all students are expected to attend all classes and participate actively. At a minimum, students must attend more than 80% of class time, or s/he **may not receive a passing grade** for the course at the discretion of the instructor. Individual instructors may adopt more stringent attendance requirements. Should the student have extenuating circumstances, s/he should contact the instructor as soon as possible.

The course deals with complex material processed in a variety of ways. Structured interactions, group processes, oral presentations, guided discussion of readings, and self-disclosure exercises are the norm. **Students are expected to have read assigned materials by the date indicated in the syllabus, and should be prepared to discuss readings individually or in variously structured groups.** The degree of your engagement in these processes forms the basis for points assigned. Due to the fast paced and highly interactive nature of the course, regular attendance and full participation are expected: teaching and learning is difficult (if not impossible) if one is not present for and engaged in the process. Therefore, College Policy is amplified as follows:

1. Missing more than 1 class meetings will result in the reduction of one letter grade. 2. Arriving late or leaving early on more than two occasions will result in the reduction of one letter grade. 3. Illness and emergency circumstances will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis. Students are expected to establish appropriate personal, academic and career-ladder priorities. These measures should not be considered punitive. Rather, they should be viewed as taking appropriate individual responsibility for one's own learning in a democratic, collaborative and reciprocal-learning environment.

GRADING

Grading Scale: A=90, B=80-89, C+=77-79, C=73-76, C-=70-72, D+=67-69, D=63-66, D-=60-62, F=59 or lower. Plus or Minus will be given at the discretion of the instructors. Students taking EDUC 364 as a prerequisite for teacher credential and graduate programs are reminded that the College requires completion of this course with a C+ or higher.

Submission Schedule: Work submitted within one week late will be reduced by one letter grade. Work received over one week late receives no credit.

Grading Emphasis: Each written assignment will be graded approximately 80% on content and context (detail, logic, synthesis of information, depth of analysis, etc.), and 20% on mechanics (grammar, syntax, spelling, format, uniformity of citation, etc.). All citations will use APA format.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Outcomes and Standards: The context for and scope of this course is aligned with standards for the Cross-cultural Language and Academic Development (CLAD) endorsement, as articulated by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, and as approved by the faculty of the College of Education. Further consideration has been given to the alignment of standards for multicultural education as articulated by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), the Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (INTASC), and the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). Emphasis is placed on learning outcomes (what you know and can demonstrate) rather than on inputs (putting in "seat time", meeting minimum criteria for assignments, checking off tasks and activities), and how these outcomes correspond to your potential to enhance student learning as a new teacher.

Writing: In keeping with the All-University Writing Requirement, all three unit courses must have a writing component of at least 2,500 words (approx. 10 pages) which can be administered in a variety of ways. In EDUC 364 this requirement is met through personal narrative and family tree essays, research paper, and outcome assessment essay.

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. Reading Compendium TBA
2. See WebCT Resources
3. *Spring, J. (2003). *Deculturalization and the Struggle for Equity (4th Edition)*. New York, NY: The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.

COMPETENCIES

Teacher Performance Expectation (TPE) Competencies

This course is designed to help teachers seeking the Multiple or Single Subject(s) Credential to develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to assist schools and districts in implementing an effective program for all students. The successful candidate will be able to merge theory and practice in order to realize a comprehensive and extensive educational program for all students. The course objectives, assignments, and assessments have been aligned with the CCTC standards for the Multiple and Single Subject(s) Credential. You can incorporate artifacts from this class into your final comprehensive portfolio. The following TPE is addressed in this course:

TPE 15: Social Justice and Equity

Teacher candidates will be able to identify issues of social justice and equity in the classroom to ensure equal outcomes for diverse students. They will be familiar with ideas, definitions, and major theorists in the fields of multicultural education, social reconstruction, and democratic education. Pluralism and divergent perspectives on educating students will be the foundation of designing effective lessons and instructional practices for diverse students. Candidates will understand when and how to collaborate with others, especially curriculum specialists, community leaders, and parents on preparing relevant and appropriate instructional activities, curricular units, and school structures that would provide equitable outcomes for students from different linguistic, cultural, and socio-economic backgrounds.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Assignments:

All assignments are due on the dates indicated. Assignments must be typewritten/word processed, double-spaced and with standard margins. It is expected that all assignments will reflect university-level composition and exposition. Use of electronic spelling and grammar checking is encouraged. Assignments may be submitted via e-mail as text messages or enclosures. If you choose to submit your work electronically, please send it to the e-mail address indicated, to ensure timely receipt and response. Text should be readable by MS Word 97 minimum (Windows 95 minimum). If submitting in paper form, submit 2 copies of all work - one will be returned to you with comments and the other will be retained on file.

1. Personal History and Family Background Assignment: Examining your own culture (20 points).

Write a narrative essay about your own life, describing the experiences that have shaped your views of race, culture, and issues of diversity. Reflect on your own experiences in terms of your cultural reference, your family background, your interactions with others unlike yourself, and other factors determined by your own circumstances and your upbringing. In this assignment, you will explore within yourself, and commit to written form, (1) your identity as a learner, (2) how this affects your potential as a teacher, (3) and your identity as a member of a particular cultural/racial/ethnic group. Include SPECIFIC examples of events and situations that you feel shaped your views on these issues. Be sure to situate your examples in the context of assumptions about schooling and education. To the extent possible, relate your experiences to the theory and praxis in readings, class discussions and activities.

By researching and studying one's own background it is possible to gain an appreciation about ways in which we share many similarities and differences. In this assignment you are to construct a family 'tree' that includes as much information as you can gather about your family background including religious affiliation, ethnicity, culture, language(s), country of origin, education/occupation and any other information you think is of interest and value. The format you use to illustrate the information is up to you. It can be as formal as genealogical tree or informal as a narrative. Of course the depth of this report is somewhat limited by time constraints, personal resources and any information you may have collected prior to this assignment. Please indicate these limitations on your report.

2. Research Paper and Panel Presentation. Examining multicultural/multilingual issues selected by each group (40 points written/15 points oral).

In heterogeneous groups the students will develop, as a group, a multicultural research paper, which you will formally present. Your research should include at least 3 sources from the ERIC database, at least 3 sources from

the Internet, at least 3 print media sources, and at least one of the texts used in class. References must be exclusive of one another. Your paper will include:

1. a cover page listing the title, a 2-3 paragraph/200 word abstract, full names of all group members
2. a narrative that describes the issue, including its historical context,
3. a description of why the issues is significant in the field of education,
4. your position on the issue and why you have taken that position,
5. a defense (rationale) for taking the position with appropriate references,
6. a conclusion regarding the issue, with recommendations for action,
7. an annotated bibliography of all references consulted, and
8. attachments such as your visual aids for the presentation, graphic organizers, or any supplementary material developed to enhance student learning.

The length of the paper is determined by the degree to which you articulate the requirements outlined above. Depth of analysis is more important than providing in-depth description. In other words, your paper should answer WHY and HOW, more importantly than WHO, WHAT, WHEN, or WHERE. The paper should be stapled together, and not placed in any kind of binder. Please put your effort into articulating the issue, not developing some time consuming cover on the computer. All papers are due on the last day of class.

Your panel presentation will be 20 minutes in length. You will present a synopsis of your issue, accompanied by appropriate visual, aural and or tactile aids. The mode of presentation may include skits, simulations, debate, Socratic dialogue, or some other form of multi-modal presentation. You are cautioned NOT to read from the text of your paper. In addition to the 20 minute presentation, you will plan to respond to questions for no more than 10 minutes. Therefore, your group should be prepared to be "on" for 1/2 hour. It is a group responsibility to practice and time the presentation and Q & A session: presentations which are more than 3 minutes long or short of these parameters will have the grade reduced appropriately (refer to the grading rubric to be distributed separately). At the time of your presentation, you will provide each classmate and the professor with a stapled handout, which includes Items 1, 7 and 8, above. Peer assessment of presentations will be incorporated into the grading process.

3. Outcome Assessment. Your opportunity to examine your own learning (25 points).

You will select the most important learning or closely related sets of learning you have acquired during the course. You will write in detail:

- (1) what you learned,
- (2) how you knew you were learning something of significance (assessing your own learning),
- (3) how this will shape your attitudes and demonstrated behaviors as a teacher or in future intercultural interaction, and
- (4) how you will demonstrate overall "cultural competence" (as this definition is developed in class)

Emphasis is placed on your ability to synthesize data around the topic you select, your depth of reflective analysis, your ability to articulate the cognitive, behavioral and affective domains of your learning, and the relationship of this topic to your future growth and professional practice. This paper is due on the last day of class.

4. Participation. (15 points) Reflections, Quickwrite activities and other assignments are counted as part of the participation points.

NOTE: This is a hybrid course, which means that part of it is delivered face to face and part of it is delivered through online assignments. It is expected that each student will check WebCT for online sessions and that each assignment will be submitted in a timely manner.

Possible Topics for Panel Presentations EDUC 364

1. Are two-way models effective in terms of bilingual education?
2. Should we educate the children of undocumented workers? Why?
3. Why would education that is multicultural and social reconstructionist be more appropriate than other models of multicultural education in today's society?

4. Is multiculturalism a better approach to diversity than cultural assimilation?

5. What are the goals and benefits of the “English plus” movement?

CSUSM Academic Honesty Policy

“Students will be expected to adhere to standards of academic honesty and integrity, as outlined in the Student Academic Honesty Policy. All written work and oral presentation assignments must be original work. All ideas/materials that are borrowed from other sources must have appropriate references to the original sources. Any quoted material should give credit to the source and be punctuated with quotation marks.

Students are responsible for honest completion of their work including examinations. There will be no tolerance for infractions. If you believe there has been an infraction by someone in the class, please bring it to the instructor’s attention. The instructor reserves the right to discipline any student for academic dishonesty in accordance with the general rules and regulations of the university. Disciplinary action may include the lowering of grades and/or the assignment of a failing grade for an exam, assignment, or the class as a whole.”

Incidents of Academic Dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students. Sanctions at the University level may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

As an educator, it is expected that each student will do his/her own work, and contribute equally to group projects and processes. Plagiarism or cheating is unacceptable under any circumstances. If you are in doubt about whether your work is paraphrased or plagiarized see the Plagiarism Prevention for Students website <http://library.csusm.edu/plagiarism/index.html>. If there are questions about academic honesty, please consult the University catalog.

Use of Technology:

Students are expected to demonstrate competency in the use of various forms of technology (i.e. word processing, electronic mail, WebCT6, use of the Internet, and/or multimedia presentations). Specific requirements for course assignments with regard to technology are at the discretion of the instructor. Keep a digital copy of all assignments for use in your teaching portfolio. All assignments will be submitted online, and some will be submitted in hard copy as well. Details will be given in class.

Electronic Communication Protocol:

Electronic correspondence is a part of your professional interactions. If you need to contact the instructor, e-mail is often the easiest way to do so. It is my intention to respond to all received e-mails in a timely manner. Please be reminded that e-mail and on-line discussions are a very specific form of communication, with their own nuances and etiquette. For instance, electronic messages sent in all upper case (or lower case) letters, major typos, or slang, often communicate more than the sender originally intended. With that said, please be mindful of all e-mail and on-line discussion messages you send to your colleagues, to faculty members in the College of Education, or to persons within the greater educational community. All electronic messages should be crafted with professionalism and care.

Things to consider:

- Would I say in person what this electronic message specifically says?
- How could this message be misconstrued?
- Does this message represent my highest self?
- Am I sending this electronic message to avoid a face-to-face conversation?

In addition, if there is ever a concern with an electronic message sent to you, please talk with the author in person in order to correct any confusion.

Appeals: Every student has the right to appeal grades, or appeal for redress of grievances incurred in the context of any course. Disputes may be resolved informally with the professor, or through the formal appeal process. For the latter, consult the COE Associate Dean.

Ability: Every student has the right to equitable educational consideration and appropriate accommodation. Students having differing ability (mobility, sight, hearing, documented learning challenges, first language/English as a second language) are requested to contact the professor at the earliest opportunity. Every effort will be made to accommodate special need. Students are reminded of the availability of Disabled Student Services, the Writing Center, technology assistance in the computer labs, and other student support services available as part of reasonable accommodation for special needs students.

**Panel Presentation Evaluation
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Panel Statement: _____

1. **Was the panel topic clearly defined?**

2. **Did all group members have a significant role?**

3. **Was the presentation convincing? Did it cover the main arguments necessary to persuade the audience of the topic statement?**

4. **Did the panel presentation demonstrate effective communication strategies?**

Group Evaluations

Group #	Points Item 1	Points Item 2	Points Item 3	Points Item 4	Totals
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					

5. **Other comments per Group # (Use back of sheet)**