

Fall 2004, 3 credit hours

University of Manitoba
Department of Sociology
077:712 L01

SEMINAR IN SOCIOLOGY OF EDUCATION
TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE
MONDAY 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
ROOM 335 ISBISTER BUILDING

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. J. Kwong
OFFICE: 301C Isbister
TELEPHONE: 474-6396
OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday, Friday, 10.30-11.30 a.m, or by appointment

We have spent close to fifteen years of our life in school and probably feel quite comfortable within this institution. The primary objective of this course is to critically examine this social environment we have taken for granted for so long so that we can better understand ourselves, this institution, and its relationship with society. Furthermore, with globalization, countries are drawn closer together; this development inevitably has an impact on education and those going through the system. Our second objective is to look at the educational changes resulting from these developments and how they are affecting our schools and ourselves.

This course examines the educational institution from a sociological perspective. The emphasis is on the growing global business presence and how it shapes the organization, curriculum and climate in universities and schools. It begins with a critical examination of the sociological theories of education and examines educational issues with particular focus on Canada - education and culture, global economy and labour market, accountability and testing, racism and multiculturalism, parental choice and charter schools, gender equity and inclusiveness, issues of educational equality, and others. This course description is tentative, other relevant issues of interest to students may be included.

REQUIRED TEXT

A. H. Halsey et al., Education: Culture, Economy and Society, New York: Oxford University Press 1997

The text is a collection of classical pieces in the field; readings on Canadian education will be assigned.

ACADEMIC ETHICS

All assignments have to be carried out individually unless otherwise stated. Students are reminded that plagiarism or any form of cheating on term papers or assignments are serious breaches of academic regulations and those found guilty are subject to serious academic penalty, including suspension or expulsion from the faculty or university. Students are advised to read the university regulations on academic ethics. The Faculty of Arts also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Students are expected to attend class and read the assigned chapters/articles ahead of time so that they can participate intelligently in class discussions. Students will be required to present the readings in class and provide critical comments on the readings.
2. Students are required to do two term papers. Each term paper is about 15-20 double-spaced typed pages. The topics have to be approved by the professor. Students should use the referencing style in Education: Culture, Economy and Society. Each paper is worth 35 percent. The first paper has to be submitted on November 8, and the second on December 8. **LATE ASSIGNMENT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

To facilitate discussion and exchange of ideas, a draft of the first paper should be available for distribution to members in the class by October 25, and the draft of the second paper available by November 29.

Class participation/presentation	30 percent
Term papers	35 percent each

The following letter/percentage scale will be used:

A+	90-100	Exceptional
A	80-89	Excellent
B+	76-79	Very good
B	70-75	Good
C+	66-69	Satisfactory
C	60-65	Adequate
D	50-59	Marginal
F	49 & below	Failure

November 17, 2004 is the last date for voluntary withdrawal without academic penalty.