

# **EFND 7040 – History of Education in the United States Spring 2008**

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## **Purpose of Course:**

This course is designed to examine the changing forms, philosophical orientations, and operations of education in the United States from its colonial origins to the present. The course focuses on both formal and informal education, though the emphasis is on formal institutions. The course encompasses issues in education from early childhood through various forms of adult education, and education of majority and minority populations.

## **Course Objectives:**

1. Understand the range of formal and informal schooling in U. S. education.
2. Analyze major educational ideas, movements, practices, and leaders in U.S. education.
3. Evaluate alternative ideas, movements, practices, and leaders in U. S. Education.
4. Examine political, economic, and social contexts in which formal and informal education grew, withered, or changed in the U. S.
5. Compared educational opportunities afforded groups in the U. S. according to their social class, gender, race and ethnicities.
6. Evaluate the relationship between unequal educations and unequal social power in U. S. education.
7. Analyze the impact of evolving forms of schooling in U. S. education on individuals and society.
8. Articulating a historically and ethically grounded vision of contemporary educational possibilities in the U. S.

## **Required Texts:**

Watras, Joseph (2008). *A History of American Education*. Boston: Pearson.  
Schultz, Fred (2008). *Education* (4<sup>th</sup> Edition). New York: Dushkin.

## Course Requirements:

- A. **Leading Class Discussions:** You will sign up to lead the class discussions of one or more of the chapters in the Schultz text/additional readings. More details on the nature of these assignments will be given out later. These activities will count *20% of your final grade.*
- B. **Book Report.** You will select a reading related to American Education and prepare both an oral presentation for class and a written critique. Details on the exact nature of the report will be given later. This activity will count *20% of your final grade.*
- C. **Individual Project:** The project involves exploring an Issue or topic of interest to you about the History of American Education and making an oral presentation to the class and writing a formal paper on the Issue or topic. Again, more details on the exact nature of the project will be given later. This activity will count *40% of your final grade.*
- D. **Final Exam:** A take-home final examination will be given during the last week of classes and due on the final exam day. The examination grade counts *10% of your final grade.*
- E. **Participation:** Class participation (in terms of attendance, participating in discussions, reading and discussing additional materials, and completing homework assignments) will count *10% of your final grade.*
- F. **Completing Assignments on Time:** Due dates for assignments are fixed. Late assignments will be subject to grade reduction unless prior permission for tardiness is obtained.
- G. **Grading:** Grading will be based on the plus/minus system. Below is the system used in the course based on the traditional 100 point system:  
*A = 93 and higher   A- = 92-90   B+ = 89-87   B = 86-83   B- = 82-80*  
*C+ = 79-77   C = 76-73   C- = 72-70   D+ = 69-67   D = 66-63   D- = 62-60*  
*F = 59 and below*
- H. **Electronic Devices:** Cell phones, I-Pods, Laptops and any other electronic devices are to be turned off during class. If you use your laptop to take notes, you need to notify your instructor. If you must have your cell phone on for some reason, discuss the reason with your instructor and put the phone on vibrate.
- I. **Academic Honesty Policy:** The University of Georgia's honor code will be upheld in this course. The student honor pledge is: "I will be academically honest in all of my academic work and will not tolerate academic dishonesty of others." See: [www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic\\_honest/culture\\_honesty.htm](http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honest/culture_honesty.htm)
- Note:** *Work in assigned groups will be graded accordingly; otherwise you will work alone. Consider that "authorized assistance" constitutes only that allowed by the instructor.*

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### Tentative Course Schedule – Spring 2008

Date	Topic	Assignment
1/10	Introduction to Course	
1/17	Globalization, Education in Colonial America and the Common School Movement	Watras Chaps. 1 - 4
1/24	Expanding Education Opportunity and Modernization of American Education	Watras Chaps. 5-8
1/31	Progressivism and the Science of Teaching	Watras Chaps. 9 & 10
2/7	<b><i>Individual Meetings to Discuss Book Reports and Final Projects</i></b>	
2/14	Nationalizing the Curriculum	Watras Chaps. 11 & 12
2/21	International Impacts on and Current Issues about American Education	Watras Chaps. 13 -16
2/28	Work on Reading Presentations	
3/6	Discussion of Readings – Part I	Schultz Text
3/13	<b>Spring Break</b>	
3/20	Discussion of Readings – Part II	Schultz Text
3/27	Book Report Presentations	
4/3	Book Report Presentations	
4/10	<b><i>Work on Individual Projects</i></b>	
4/17	Presentation of Individual Projects	
4/24	Presentation of Individual Projects	
5/1	<b><i>Final Examination – Due – 7PM</i></b>	