

ED 507 Cultural Foundations of Education II: Ethics and School Practices  
(3 Credits)

Course Description:

This course is designed to study/discuss the social and economic context of schooling in America. As one of the major social institutions in the United States, schooling provides a context for understanding features of the broader social/economic context in which schools exist—as well as understanding how schools and the broader society interact and affect each other. Issues relevant to this study include, but are not limited to the origin/transmission of cultural beliefs, social morality/ethics, transitions from the “information age” to the “conceptual age” along with the challenges of a rapidly changing global economy—and how intersecting reforms impact systemic planning for education in America.

Goals of the Course:

Enable educators to explore major social, cultural and economic impacts affecting the nature of schooling in American society.

Enhance the understanding of how current co-existing conceptual frameworks interrelate to define how Americans think/act to provide an education for all students from birth to adulthood.

Explore the impact of current socioeconomic and cultural trends which are causing a “consciousness-awakening” examination of left/right brain thinking—and how this can impact teaching/learning strategies and learner outcomes.

Interrelate the impact of the concepts/actions/trends noted above with America’s current/future workforce development transitions to predict future expectations of educational outcomes for America’s youth.

Required Texts/Reading:

Sacks, Peter. *Generation X Goes to College: An Eye-Opening Account of Teaching in Postmodern America*. Chicago: Open Court, 1996. ISBN: 0-8126-9314-0

Pink, Daniel H. *A Whole New Mind*. New York: Riverhead Books, 2006. ISBN: 1-57322-308-5

National Center on Education and the Economy. *Tough Choices or Tough Times*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2007. ISBN: 13:978-0-7879-9598-0

ADA Statement:

If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please

inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Disability Service Office at 2001 Hedgcock (227-1700; TTY 227-1543). Reasonable and effective accommodations and services will be provided to students if requests are made in a timely manner, with appropriate documentation, in accordance with federal, state and University guidelines.