EPE 555 COMPARATIVE EDUCATION
(Spring, 2000)

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Required Texts
Non-Western Educational Traditions (1996), Timothy Reagan; Education and the Rise of the Global Economy (1998), Joel Spring. Plus, as we will be having four or five guest speakers, additional readings will be assigned later.

Attendance, Etc., Etc.
As a graduate level class, I will not be taking attendance. Please make arrangements to turn in all assigned work at or before class in any manner you can devise. Late papers will be penalized.

Assignments and Grade Distribution

Education and Culture Paper (midterm assignment) 20%
Midterm Examination 30%
Education & Development Paper 20%
Second Examination 30%

Education and Culture Paper: There are two primary paradigms or guiding conceptualizations in this class. One is organized around the concept of Culture and we focus in this class partly upon how education and/or schooling in a society is dedicated to maintaining or enhancing native culture and social belief/practice. Within this paradigm we focus upon cultural processes and social stability. And we dwell on the particular. Within this paradigm each student will choose a country or society to study and write about. Choose an educational system, set of practices or institution and discuss how the educational process is "functional" to the culture it helps to sustain. Also, analyze the differences and similarities between "theirs" and "ours." Pay particular attention to the definition(s) of culture you use in your discussion.

Education & Development Paper: Another major theme we will study in our readings is the notion of economic and/or social development and the role of education. Many argue that social change is universal in the world today, and it affects any and all social institutions in the world, including schools. From any comparative literature base you can find, identify and discuss the theme of education and development in a country or world region. Please pay attention to the stated and unstated economic and social goals of schooling articulated in your readings, talk about why/how the schools are seen as problematic in your source, and discuss the educational reform strategies proposed in the paper's discussion.
Getting Help

I understand that presenting material in class and having to synthesize materials with which you are unfamiliar may be difficult for you. Please come see me to talk over the readings or go over your essays if you’re having a hard time (or even if you’re not). This class is reading and writing intensive, ask for help if you need it!

Tentative Course Outline

Jan 24:      Topic: Competing Perspectives in Comparative Education: Case studies versus development?

Jan 31      Topic: Soviet and post-Soviet Schooling
Guest Speaker: Dr. Galina Valyayeva
Reading: Redefining schooling and community in post-Soviet Kazakhstan

Feb 7       Topic: Ancient China; Modern China
Guest Speaker: Dr. Guichan Zong
Readings: Reagan, Chapters 1 and 5

Feb 14      Topic: Hispanic, Latino, Multicultural Schooling
Guest Speaker: Dr. Jesus Garcia
Readings: Reagan, Chaps 3 and 4; handout

Feb 21      Topic: Africa and Afro-centric education
Guest Speaker: Ms. Sandra Cairo
Reading: Reagan: Chapter 2; Spring Chapter 1

Feb 28      Topic: Colonialism and post-Colonialism
Guest Speaker: Dr. Beth Goldstein
Reading: Spring, Chapter 3

March 6     Topic: Schools and schooling in Ghana
Guest Speaker: Dr. Angene Wilson
Reading: tba

March 13    No Class: Spring Break

March 20    Topic: Eastern Philosophies of self and education
Readings: Reagan, Chapters 6-9.

March 27    MIDTERM EXAM
FIRST PAPERS DUE

April 3     Topic: Germany and the European Union
Guest Speaker: Dr. Christine Ortmann
Reading: Spring Chapter 4

April 10  Topic: Human Capital and Economic Growth
Reading: Spring Chapters 5 and 2

April 17  Topic: International Measures of Achievement
Guest Speaker: Dr. Skip Kifer
Reading: Spring Chapter 6; tba
Student Country Reports

April 24  Topic: Education and Human Rights
Guest Speaker (tentative): Dr. Linda Levstik
Reading: Spring Chapters 7 and 8.
SECOND PAPERS DUE

May  1   Final Exam
Feb  3  Topic:  Ethnicity and Education

    Readings: CP, Chaps 3 & 5; Handout (DeYoung)

Feb 10  Topic:  Schooling And Gender (Dr. Linda Levstik)

    Readings: CP, Chapter 4; EIE, Chap. 17; handout?

Feb 17  Topic:  Cross-National School Studies

    Readings: EIE, Chaps. 12, 13 & 18

Feb  24 Topic:  Secondary and Higher Education in Ghana
          (Dr. Emmanuel Okorlay)

    Readings: TBA

March  3  Topic:  Colonialism and Post-Colonialism

    Readings:  EIE, Chaps. 11 & 12; CP, Chap. 11

    (MIDTERM ABOUT HERE)

March 10  Topic:  Modernization and Human Capital Theories

    Readings: DTP, Chaps 1-3; EIE, Chap. 8
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<td>March 17</td>
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| March 24 | Topic: Higher Education and National Development: The Case of Malaysia (Dr. Beth Goldstein)  
Readings: EIE, Chap. 3. |
| March 31 | Topic: Soviet and Post-Soviet Schooling in Azerbaijan (Julia Abdoullavea) |
| April 7  | Topic: Education and World Systems Theory                             
Readings: DTP, Chap. 4; EIE, Chaps. 4, 5 & 9                           |
| April 14 | Topic: IEA Studies and their Implications for the US                  
(Dr. Skip Kifer)                                                     
Readings: EIE, Chap. 16; handout                                     |
| April 21 | Topic: Structuralist Educational Reform Movements                      
Readings: EIE, Chaps. 14 & 15; CP, Chap. 7                            |
| April 28 | Topic: Education and Empowerment                                      
Readings: DTP, Chap. 6; CP, Chap. 11; EIE, Chaps 7, 9 & 10.            |
| May 5   | Student Work (ALL ASSIGNMENTS DUE)                                    |

(Second Exam About Here; SECOND PAPER DUE)
1. Ballantine text: Chapters 5 and 6
2. Ballantine reader: Gamoran and Dreeben; Lortie; Flaming; Scott and Meyer.

1. Ballantine text: Chapter 3:
2. Ballantine reader: Wagenaar; Persell and Cookson; Pincus; Owen; Velez.

Mar 3 Topic: Conflict Traditions in the Sociology of Education
1. Gerhard Lenski, A Theory of Inequality
2. Ballantine: Collins; Page and Clelland;
   Spring.

Mar 10 Topic: Education and Social Class
1. Ballantine text: Chapter 4
1. Ballantine reader: Kane; Colclough and Beck; Carnoy and Levin; Grant.

(FIRST EXAM ABOUT HERE)

Mar 17 No class (spring break)

Mar 24 Symbolic Interactionism
1. The Social Psychology of G.H. Mead (Meltzer, handout); The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life (Goffman, handout).
2. Sociology and the School (Peter Woods, handout)

Mar 31 Cultural Reproduction Theories and the School
1. Ballantine reader: Apple and Weis; Willis;
April 7  Comparative Education Systems

1. Ballantine text: Chapter 10
2. Ballantine reader: Chapter 9

April 14  No class

April 21  The Politics of Educational Change


April 28  Student reports

SECOND EXAM ABOUT HERE

Date  Class Topic  Readings

Jan 13  Introductions and Directions

Jan 20  What is Comparative Education?  EIE 1-22, CP: 1-56


Sept. 29  National Education & the State  EIE 143-162, CP 211-238, 301-322  Synthesis

Oct. 6  National Education & Difference  EIE 107-122, CP 79-92, 119-142  Synthesis/Proposals


Oct. 20  Science & Technology  CP 169-186, R#3 Wang, TBA  Synthesis

Oct. 27  Open Topic  TBA  Synthesis

Nov. 3  Literacy & Empowerment  EIE 283-294, R#3 Marshall, R#4 Freire  Synthesis

Nov. 10  Development & Education  EIE 57-74, 267-282, R#5 Palmer  Synthesis

Nov. 17  Development & Education  Seagulls Don't Fly

Nov. 24  Development & Education  Seagulls Don't Fly  Seagulls Paper Due
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Dec. 1 Presentations  Final Projects Due
Dec. 8 Presentations