Spring 2010
3 credits
Lecture, Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:55
168 Noland
&
Discussion Sections,
  Wednesday 1:20 [Disc. 304] 58 Bascom
  1:20 [Disc. 306] 2101 Humanities
  Thursday 8:50 [Disc. 301] 4017 Vilas
  11:00 [Disc. 303] 553 Noland
  12:05 [Disc. 305] 579 Noland
  Friday 9:55 [Disc. 302] 2112 Chamberlin

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Office Hours: Mondays, 1:00-2:30; Wednesdays, 11:15-12:30 & By Appointment
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Teaching Assistants, 216 Rust
  Office Hours:
    Robert Gross (Monday 12:00-2:00)
    Campbell Scribner (Monday 11:00-12:00 and Tuesday 8:00-9:00)

Course Description:

Welcome to EPS/History 412, The History of American Education. This class
concentrates on the history of mass education, focusing especially on the history of
public education below the college and university levels. We will examine educational
developments and trends from the 17th century colonies to the recent past, from the
Puritans to contemporary efforts to improve the nation’s public schools.

Throughout the course, we’ll explore the tension between educational ideals and
practices, and how various groups of citizens tried to shape and reform education in the
past. We’ll also study the influence of religion, economics, gender, race, and ethnicity upon education and schooling in different periods of American history.

There are several required paperbacks for the course, available at the University Bookstore. Copies may also be available at local used book stores or via the Internet.

1. Thomas Hine, The Rise and Fall of the American Teenager
2. Margaret Nash, Women’s Education in the United States
3. Carl F. Kaestle, Pillars of the Republic
4. David Adams, Education for Extinction

**Student Responsibilities:**

Class attendance is expected. Students are also expected to read and reflect upon the assigned readings, which together with material from lectures will help shape the quality of classroom discussions. 20% of the final course grade will be based upon the quality of your contributions to your discussion section. Missing class will seriously weaken your participation grade. This grade will also be determined by your achievement on one page, double-spaced papers that will be due approximately every other week. The assignments will be distributed one week before the papers are due. These one-page papers must be submitted in **hard copy only**, and late papers will not be accepted.

There will be two in-class examinations: a Mid-Term and a Final. These examinations will each be worth 40% of your final evaluation; they will be half essay question, half short answer and identification items. The Mid-term will cover lectures, reading assignments, and class discussions during the first half of the semester; the Final exam will not be comprehensive but will cover the material for the second half. More information on these exams will be provided later.

The Mid-term will be on two days--March 1 & 3--(Monday and Wednesday). The Final is on May 12, 12:25-2:25. Check your schedule when you enroll in the course to ensure that you do not have a conflict.

*Graduate students will complete a 5-7 page paper, due on April 21—please ask for a copy of the instructions for this paper at the beginning of the course.*
To recap: 20% Discussion section & class participation including papers
40% Mid-term Exam
40% Final Exam

Grading Scale:
A (93-100); AB (88-92); B (83-87); BC (78-82); C (70-77); D (60-69); F, below 60

If you are ill or otherwise have a legitimate reason to miss a scheduled examination, it is your responsibility to contact me or one of the teaching assistants before the test. Missing an exam without prior permission will lead to an automatic F. If you are experiencing any difficulty with the course, or with your schooling generally, please come to see me or the other instructors. We would be very happy to help.

Computers and Electronic Devices
Please turn off all electronic devices including cell phones and store them away before the beginning of class. Computers may only be used to take notes. Computers may not be used for email, internet browsing, or other purposes during class, so turn off the wireless application.

Teacher Education Standards
This course is approved for Department of Public Instruction and Minority Group Relations Teacher License Requirements: DPI Standards 2, 5, 13, and 14, and Minority Group Relations 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. In order to meet these standards, teacher-education students must earn a final grade of “BC” or better. If you do not receive such a grade, you must take a different course to meet these standards.
WEEK-BY-WEEK SUMMARY

Week 1   Jan. 20   Introduction to the Course


Week 2   Jan. 25 & 27   The Protestant Reformation & Puritan New England in the 17th Century


Week 3   Feb. 1 & 3   Education and Social Change in the 18th Century


Week 4   Feb. 8 & 10   Education in the Early Republic

The Origins of Public Schools


Week 5   Feb. 15 & 17   The Origins of Public Schools


Week 6   Feb. 22 & 24   The Origins of Public Schools

Review

Reading: Hine, *Rise and Fall*, chapters 5-6.
Week 7     March 1 & 3    **Mid-Term**

Week 8     March 8 & 10  Romanticism and the Origins of Progressive Education
                     Separate and Unequal: Race and Reconstruction
                     

Week 9     March 15 & 17  Progressivism
                     

Week 10    March 22 & 24  Progressivism
                     
                     Reading: Reading: Hine, *Rise and Fall*, chapters 7-10; and Joseph L. Tropea, “Bureaucratic Order and Special Children: Urban Schools, 1890s-1940s,” *History of Education Quarterly* 27 (Spring 1987): 29-53. (This article is accessible electronically from JSTOR via MADCAT).

Week 11    March 29 & 31  **Spring Break, March 27-April 4**

Week 12    April 5 & 7    John Dewey and American Education
                     American Education and the Great Depression
                     

Week 13    April 12 & 14   School and Society in the 1950s
                     
Week 14  April 19 & 21  The Great Society and the 1960s


*Graduate students: paper due April 21.*

Week 15  April 26 & 28  The Great Society and the 1960s

From the Great Society to *A Nation at Risk*


Week 16  May 3 & 5  Reagan to “No Child Left Behind”

Review


***Final Exam: 12:25 Wednesday May 12***

Room to be determined