

The University of Wisconsin
Departments of History and of Educational Policy Studies

HISTORY/EPS 412

Fall 1987

The History of American Education
Professor Jurgen Herbst

Course Description: The course introduces students to the role education has played in the life of the American people. It pursues as its theme the different ways in which Americans have provided schooling and education for the young. It focuses on issues of and debates over educational policy. It proceeds chronologically and emphasizes the social setting of schooling at various times in the past. It discusses public schools, colleges and universities, and the rise of education as a discipline.

The course meets twice weekly for 75 minutes for discussions and a lecture given by the instructor.

Course Requirements: Requirements consist of a mid-term examination on October 22, a final examination during the examination period, and a paper of from five to seven double-spaced typed pages. Students must have discussed their paper topic in conference with Professor Herbst before November 5. The paper is due in class on November 24. Students also have an opportunity to prepare and offer class presentations and lead class discussions.

Evaluation: The final grade will be based primarily on the two exams and on the paper. Students who have prepared and offered presentations or led discussions in class will thereby have a chance to improve their grade. Conventional A-F grades will be given.

Codes and Standards: The course offers Human Relation Codes 3 and 4. It also intends to meet the Department of Instruction Standards 1 (study of historical, philosophical, and social foundations), 2 (study of legal, political, and economic aspects), 3 (understanding of diverse family, cultural, and socio-economic backgrounds of pupils) and 14 (study of the profession). The Standards will go into effect in the fall of 1988.

Required Readings: Benjamin Franklin, The Autobiography (any edition); Carl Kaestle, Pillars of the Republic, David Tyack, The One Best System, and selected documents (available at Kinko's).

Recommended text for students who prefer to use a textbook: Robert Church, Education in the United States: An Interpretive History.

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Syllabus

	9/03 Introduction
9/08 Theme: Our Children and the Children of the Others	9/10 Two Models of Colonial Education
9/15 Benjamin Franklin and the Leather Apron Men	9/17 Thomas Jefferson and the Revolution
9/22 The Dartmouth College Case	9/24 The Yale Report and the Old-Time College
9/29 The Schools of Boston	10/01 Pluralism in New York City
10/06 The Whigs Take Control	10/08 Feminization
10/13 Educational Missionaries	10/15 Up from Slavery
10/20 Science: Academic and Popular	10/22 Traditions of Teacher Education
10/27 Midterm Examination	10/29 Education in Wisconsin
11/03 Discussion of Kaestle and Tyack	11/05 Rise of the High School
11/10 Specialization and Vocationalism	11/12 Industrial Education for Minorities
11/17 The New Universities	11/19 The Cardinal Principles
11/24 Charles W. Eliot and John Dewey	11/26 Thanksgiving Break
12/01 Progressivism in Education	12/03 The Science of Education
12/08 From Depression to Sputnik	12/10 Movie : "Sixteen in Webster Groves"
12/15 Current Issues	