



Education and Social Work

EDUC 113 : Current Issues in Education (15 POINTS)

Course Prescription

Educational issues are pressing concerns in our society. The course will help develop understanding of the background of today's public debates around schooling and will introduce ways in which educational thought and research address big topics.

Course Overview

In Aotearoa New Zealand, education has and continues to serve several purposes within our society. What form and function publicly funded schooling should serve in addressing societal needs and demands, are hotly debated issues. This course acts as an introduction to some of these debates, and the ways in which educational thought and research can be used to understand and critically assess various solutions proposed to addressing enduring concerns in society and schooling.

Particular attention is given to the ways in which schooling serves to reproduce and/or challenge existing patterns of inequality in society. Various “isms”—classism, racism, sexism, ableism—are interrogated in terms of how they might be (de)constructed through schooling. As part of this, scrutiny is given to how contemporary educational structures and systems have and continue to be reformed through policymaking, and through the actions of educational professionals working in schools. Through this course, you will gain a stronger understanding of how and why education remains a matter of significant public concern, and a subject of ongoing, intense political debate.

Course Requirements

Restriction: EDUC 118

Capabilities Developed in this Course

- Capability 1: Disciplinary Knowledge and Practice
- Capability 2: Critical Thinking
- Capability 3: Solution Seeking
- Capability 4: Communication and Engagement
- Capability 5: Independence and Integrity
- Capability 6: Social and Environmental Responsibilities

Graduate Profile: [Bachelor of Arts](#)

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand and apply sociological concepts, ideas and theories to articulate the competing expectations individuals, communities and society place on education today. (Capability 1.1, 2.1 and 4.1)
2. Identify underlying ideologies which have shaped the form, function and purpose of public education in New Zealand today (Capability 2.1 and 6.1)
3. Identify and critically evaluate the merits and limitations of various solutions proposed over time to endemic challenges faced within public education, and make reasoned judgements of the most effective solutions to addressing these challenges moving forward. (Capability 2.1, 3.1 and 5.2)
4. Understand how to meaningfully engage in addressing some of the identified issues facing our education system, either through their own future professional engagement in the system, or as members of society. (Capability 3.1, 4.1 and 4.2)
5. Discuss and interpret the ways in which the Treaty of Waitangi and new demands faced by the country's increasingly diverse population have on public education moving forward. (Capability 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3)

Assessments

Assessment Type	Percentage	Classification
Quizzes	25%	Individual Coursework
Essay	25%	Individual Coursework
Exam	50%	Individual Examination
3 types	100%	

Assessment Type	Learning Outcome Addressed				
	1	2	3	4	5
Quizzes	✓	✓			✓
Essay	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Exam	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Students must complete all components of the Assessment Tasks to achieve an overall pass on this course. Completion to the satisfaction of the examiners means that students must achieve at least 50% for the course and sit the final exam.

Workload Expectations

Students are expected to spend on average 10 hours per week for a 15 point course such as this.

In this course, you will be expected to attend a total of 24 hours of lectures (2 hour lectures, weekly) and 10 hours of tutorials (one hour tutorial immediately following the lecture). You should also expect to spend on average 3 hours per week completing the assigned reading and thinking about the content and an additional 3 hours of work on assignments and/or test preparation.

Delivery Mode

Campus Experience

Attendance is expected at scheduled activities including tutorials to complete components of the course.

Lectures will be available as recordings. Other learning activities including tutorials will not be available as recordings.

The course will include live online events including tutorials.

Attendance on campus is required for the exam.

The activities for the course are scheduled as a standard weekly timetable.

Learning Resources

Course materials are made available in a learning and collaboration tool called Canvas which also includes reading lists and lecture recordings (where available).

Please remember that the recording of any class on a personal device requires the permission of the instructor.

Student Feedback

At the end of every semester students will be invited to give feedback on the course and teaching through a tool called SET or Qualtrics. The lecturers and course co-ordinators will consider all feedback and respond with summaries and actions.

Your feedback helps teachers to improve the course and its delivery for future students.

Class Representatives in each class can take feedback to the department and faculty staff-student consultative committees.

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As a result of previous feedback from students in EDUC 113, the following changes have been made:

1. Greater support and scaffolding of expectations in regards to the writing assignment, which will largely occur within tutorial time.
2. Encouragement for students to come to lecture having completed the readings through the introduction of online reading quizzes.
3. Ensuring an adequate break of approximately 15 minutes is given between the lecture and tutorial which immediately follows.
4. Maximising opportunities for all students to participate in the lecture by establishing forums for whole class and smaller group discussions during the lecture itself.

Digital Resources

Course materials are made available in a learning and collaboration tool called Canvas which also includes reading lists and lecture recordings (where available).

Please remember that the recording of any class on a personal device requires the permission of the instructor.

Academic Integrity

The University of Auckland will not tolerate cheating, or assisting others to cheat, and views cheating in coursework as a serious academic offence. The work that a student submits for grading must be the student's own work, reflecting their learning. Where work from other sources is used, it must be properly acknowledged and referenced. This requirement also applies to sources on the internet. A student's assessed work may be reviewed against online source material using computerised detection mechanisms.

Inclusive Learning

All students are asked to discuss any impairment related requirements privately, face to face and/or in written form with the course coordinator, lecturer or tutor.

Student Disability Services also provides support for students with a wide range of impairments, both visible and invisible, to succeed and excel at the University. For more information and contact details, please visit the [Student Disability Services' website](http://disability.auckland.ac.nz) <http://disability.auckland.ac.nz>

Special Circumstances

If your ability to complete assessed coursework is affected by illness or other personal circumstances outside of your control, contact a member of teaching staff as soon as possible before the assessment is due.

If your personal circumstances significantly affect your performance, or preparation, for an exam or eligible written test, refer to the University's [aegrotat or compassionate consideration page](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/students/academic-information/exams-and-final-results/during-exams/aegrotat-and-compassionate-consideration.html) <https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/students/academic-information/exams-and-final-results/during-exams/aegrotat-and-compassionate-consideration.html>.

This should be done as soon as possible and no later than seven days after the affected test or exam date.

Learning Continuity

In the event of an unexpected disruption we undertake to maintain the continuity and standard of teaching and learning in all your courses throughout the year. If there are unexpected disruptions the University has contingency plans to ensure that access to your course continues and your assessment is fair, and not compromised. Some adjustments may need to be made in emergencies. You will be kept fully informed by your course co-ordinator, and if disruption occurs you should refer to the University Website for information about how to proceed.

Student Charter and Responsibilities

The Student Charter assumes and acknowledges that students are active participants in the learning process and that they have responsibilities to the institution and the international community of scholars. The University expects that students will act at all times in a way that demonstrates respect for the rights of other students and staff so that the learning environment is both safe and productive. For further information visit [Student Charter](https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/students/forms-policies-and-guidelines/student-policies-and-guidelines/student-charter.html) <https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/students/forms-policies-and-guidelines/student-policies-and-guidelines/student-charter.html>.

Disclaimer

Elements of this outline may be subject to change. The latest information about the course will be available for enrolled students in Canvas.

In this course you may be asked to submit your coursework assessments digitally. The University reserves the right to conduct scheduled tests and examinations for this course online or through the use of computers or other electronic devices. Where tests or examinations are conducted online remote invigilation arrangements may be used. The final decision on the completion mode for a test or examination, and remote invigilation arrangements where applicable, will be advised to students at least 10 days prior to the scheduled date of the assessment, or in the case of an examination when the examination timetable is published.