

COURSE TITLE: The Art, Science, and Craft of Teaching and Learning

OBJECTIVES

The course provides opportunities for educators to review and reflect upon their teaching or administrative practices and to envision new and coherent alternatives. The course's pedagogy is aimed at developing an inquiry based, self-generative, constructivist ethos, in a contemplative setting of mutual respect, self-understanding and shared learning. Topics include: (1) qualitative research; (2) dialogue and reflective enquiry; (3) compassionate communication; (4) classroom as culture; and (5) teacher development using models of teaching and learning as art (creative), science (inquiry) and craft (skill and practice).

METHODOLOGY

The methodology of the course is based on inquiry and dialogue, action research models and project based learning. The course will be conducted using lectures, group dialogues, field activities, guest speakers and applied learning projects. Participants are provided with hands-on experiences to observe (simulated and recorded) teaching and classroom interactions.

WHO IS THE INTENDED AUDIENCE?

Educators and those interested in alternative, progressive and holistic education and the educational philosophy of J. Krishnamurti.

REQUIRED TEXT

- 1) Education and the Significance of Life. Krishnamurti, J. (1953). San Francisco, CA: Harper.
- 2) The Whole Movement of Life is Learning (Letters to the Schools). Krishnamurti, J. (2006). Brockwood, UK: KFT.
- 3) What Time Is It, Dennis? Asking Known Information Questions in Classroom Discourse. Theory into practice, Vol. 18, No.4. Mehan, H. (1979). Philadelphia, PA: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates (Taylor and Francis Group).
- 4) Culture against man: Golden rule days: American schoolrooms. Henry, J. (1963). New York, NY: Random House.
- 5) Punished by Rewards. Kohn, A. (1999). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin.

Note: The instructor provides all texts and photocopied material.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PARTICIPATION/STANDARDS FOR GRADING

- Class participation and ongoing projects

TOPICAL OUTLINE

- (1) Qualitative research: Developing observation and listening skills Collecting, analyzing and synthesizing pre-interpretive data Applying data (what works) to teaching practice

- (2) Dialogue and reflective inquiry Understanding the nature of dialogue, "listening" and meaning-making Working beyond known information protocols

- (3) Compassionate communication: Developing tools of non-evaluative observation
Understanding and exercising emotional literacy Considering conflict resolution strategies Identifying familial/cultural conditioning and related issues

- (4) Classroom as culture Understanding cultural grammar its preservation and change Designing effective learning environments Developing learning style profiles and rubrics for relationship dynamics

- (5) Teacher development: Building self-reflective teaching practices Extending teaching beyond the course content Considering mutuality: the teacher as learner, the learner as teacher Researching while teaching Generating teacher education models

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course content addresses teaching practices and their application in various settings. The course provides opportunities to develop skills in dialogue and compassionate communication, models of teaching approaches as a self-reflective learning process and hands on experiences to develop the art, science and craft of teaching.

Topics include:

- Qualitative research
- Dialogue and reflective inquiry
- Compassionate communication
- Classroom as culture
- Teacher development using models of teaching and learning as art (creative), science (inquiry) and craft (skill and practice).

COURSE COORDINATOR

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CLASS DATES AND TIMES

Orientation and Introduction: Sunday August 2nd (4:00-600pm). Monday through Friday, 5 sessions, daily, 9:00-10:30am, 11:00-12:30pm, 1:30-3:00pm, 4:00-5:30pm, 7:30-9:00pm. Final presentations and closing: Saturday August 8th (9:00-noon).

TOTAL CLASSROOM HOURS/UNITS - POST-GRADUATE CREDIT

Total class time = 42.5 hours = 4 quarter units

LOCATION OF CLASS

Oak Grove Educational Center and Retreat, 1098 McAndrew Road, Ojai, CA 93023.