THE TEACHER AS PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR
AND
THE ADMINISTRATOR AS PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR

Department of Middle and Secondary Education

Course No. EF 591/691

Title of Course: History of American Education

Revised: Spring 2002

I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of the Course:

An examination of education in America from the colonial period to the present, focusing on educational ideas and practices in the context of American social and intellectual history. (3)

II. Prerequisite(s):

Graduate Standing for EF 691; Admitted to Alternative Certification for EF 591.

III. Purposes or Objectives of the Course:

A. To develop in the student an understanding of the growth of American education focusing on the school as the principal educational institution in the American culture

B. To investigate the social, economic, and political developments in American history and their effects on education

C. To examine the principal intellectual movements in American history and their influence on educational thought

D. To develop in the student an understanding of the relationship between the present and the past in the history of American education.

IV. Expectations of Students:

A. Read all assignments prior to class

B. Review one article and one book or four articles from the literature on the history of American education
C. Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the historical material examined in the course on two essay examinations.

V. Course Content or Outline:  

| A. Introduction: Why should we study the history of education? | 3 |
| B. Present and past: Issues in the history of American education | 6 |
| C. Education in pre-Colonial and Colonial America | 6 |
| D. Education in the Early National Period | 3 |
| E. Common schooling in America, 1820-1860 | 3 |
| F. Education in the American South, 1800-1900 | 3 |
| G. Schooling in the aftermath of the Civil War | 3 |
| H. Building the one best system, 1890-1929 | 6 |
| I. Depression, war, and education, 1930-1946 | 3 |
| J. American education, 1946-1960 | 3 |
| K. Education and the pursuit of equality and excellence, 1960-1994 | 6 |

VI. Textbooks:  


C. Additional readings on reserve in Kent Library:  


VII. Basis for Student Evaluation:

A. Reviews 33%

B. Examinations 67%

VIII. Knowledge Base


