

Educational Philosophy and Ethics

EDU 509 – 60 2 (3 credits)

Fall 2008, Curtis 206

Tuesdays 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

August 28th – December 8th

Dr. James Mauch

Office: 227 Curtis

Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:15 – 3:15 p.m.; Thursdays 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Email: jwmauch@cedarcrest.edu

Office Telephone: 610.606.4666 Ext. 3420

Cell Telephone: 570.204.2906

www.cedarcrestonline.net – this is the cyberspace for this course

Course Description:

Students will explore the impact of philosophy on educational thought, practices and ethics from Plato and Aristotle to the present. Emphasis will be placed on an ethical exploration of educational practices and policy. Students will be encouraged to explore and rethink their own educational philosophies.

For the current semester, EDU 509 has been developed as a hybrid course. To this end, we will hold class on the following Tuesday evenings: 8/26, 9/9, 9/23, 9/30, 10/28, 11/4, 11/25 and 12/2. Other scheduled evenings will incorporate eCollege as a platform for online discussions of assigned readings.

Course Outcomes:

1. The ability to identify, define, and debate the merits of the substantive philosophies of educational theory and practice.
2. An understanding of how educational philosophy guides practice.
3. The ability to clearly articulate a personal educational philosophy, present the philosophy to a group of peers, and answer questions about/defend the philosophy.
4. The ability to examine current and past school methods, practices, and pedagogies and determine how methods, practices, and pedagogies change as educational philosophies evolve.
5. The ability to analyze the reasons for, and results of, philosophical conflicts between various stakeholders in the educational process.

Textbooks Required:

Dewey, J. (2001) *The School and Society*. New York: Dover Publications.

Ozmon, H, Craver, S. (2008) *Philosophical Foundations of Education*.
Boston: Pearson Education.

Course Requirements:

1. Actively and intelligently engage in in-class and online discussions.
2. Work cooperatively with teammates to develop and facilitate an online discussion of a philosophical “school of thought”.
3. Develop a written personal philosophy of education, share your philosophy with your classmates, and answer a number of questions regarding your beliefs.
4. Assume the persona of a philosopher of your choice and be able to articulate your understanding of what the philosophical position(s) your philosopher would likely hold concerning a number of current educational issues.
5. Write a paper (final exam) that is grounded in our philosophical explorations in which you articulate how your education philosophy has changed as a result of our readings and discussions and be prepared to informally share your conclusions with your classmates.
6. Attend all classes, arriving on time and staying for the duration of class.

NOTE: For any assignments that include documentation of sources, students are required to use APA style.

Course Assessment:

Grades are based on the following assessments:

Personal Philosophy of Education: 5%

Quizzes on Readings: 10%

Online Participation in Group/Discussions/Responses: 30%

In Class Participation: 15%

Philosopher: 20%

Final Exam: 20%

Attendance/Lateness/Leaving Class Early (Departmental Policy):

Your attendance at all class meetings is expected and a vital part of the learning process. If vacations, athletic activities, professional duties, medical appointments, or any other conflicts prevent you from ***fully attending all*** classes, *you are strongly encouraged to take this course during another semester*. If an illness or emergency occurs during the semester, you are responsible for contacting the course instructor to make up work missed. Due to the interactive nature of this course, however, ***there will be assignments that you will not be able to make up if you are absent***.

Late Submission of Assignments:

Assignments are to be submitted on the due date to receive full credit for the work. If you are having difficulty completing an assignment, please speak to me.

Honor Philosophy:

The formal honor philosophy adopted by Cedar Crest College as outlined in the college course catalogue and student handbook is strictly followed in this class. Appropriate classroom behavior, the generation of original work, proper citation of sources consulted and used, and the creation and maintenance of a courteous, respectful classroom environment and a classroom free from distractions is implicit in the CCC honor philosophy.

The *Cedar Crest College Student Guide* includes the following under *Honor Philosophy, Community Standards for Academic Conduct, Classroom Protocol*:

Appropriate classroom behavior is implicit in the Cedar Crest Honor Code. Such behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations, and any other behavior that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise students' access to their Cedar Crest College education.

Plagiarism:

Is regarded as a failure to comply with the college honor code. If it is determined that a student has used the work of another person and has not cited that person in APA style as the source of the idea(s), a grade of "0" will be earned for that paper.

Class Cancellations:

College-wide class cancellations are announced on the regular media outlets and on the college inclement weather hotline (610-606-4629). In the rare event I must

cancel an individual class, every effort will be made to notify students via e-mail of the class cancellation. I collect contact information at the start of the semester for this purpose. If a class is cancelled, we will complete all of the work scheduled during our next meeting.

Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Advising Center.

Final Examination Policy:

Your obligations for this course include attendance at the final exam, on the day and time scheduled by the Registrar's Office. You should not make travel arrangements until the final exam schedule is published; if you must make plans early, you should schedule your travel after the last final exam day.

Course Schedule:

Class 1: August 26 th	Course introduction and overview Review of syllabus Assignment overview <u>Assignment:</u> Read Pages 1- 5. Peruse book for Philosopher to represent. Prepare a 1 page (maximum) personal philosophy of education and post to eCollege by midnight 8/30.
Class 2: September 2 nd	Online Session. Read 3 of your classmates' posts <u>Assignment:</u> Write 4-5 questions you have designed to seek clarification or to challenge beliefs per review. Post on eCollege prior to midnight 9/6. Read Chapter 1
Class 3: September 9 th	Quiz Pages 1-5 and Chapter 1 Class Discussion of Chapter 1 Discussion of Personal Philosophies, Q & A Session <u>Assignment:</u> Read Chapter 2 and participate in online sessions. Begin Reading Dewey.
Class 4: September 16 th	Online Session Covering Chapter 2 <u>Assignment:</u> Prepare for quiz 9/23 on Chapter 2. First 3 Philosophers are to Present 9/23. Prepare questions. Continue Reading Dewey.
Class 5: September 23 rd	Quiz, Chapter 2

- Class Discussion, Chapter 2
First 3 Philosopher Presentations and Q&A.
Assignment: Continue Reading Dewey.
Philosophers 4-9 Prepare for 9/30. Prepare Questions.
- Class 6: September 30th Philosophers 4-9 Presentations and Q & A.
Assignment: Read Chapter 3 and participate in online sessions. Continue reading Dewey.
- Class 7: October 7th Online Session Covering Chapter 3
Assignment: Read Chapter 4 and Participate in Online Sessions. Continue Reading Dewey.
- Class 8: October 21st Online Session Covering Chapter 4
Assignment: Continue Reading Dewey. Philosophers 10-12 Prepare for 10/28. Prepare Questions.
- Class 9: October 28th Quiz, Chapters 3 & 4
Class Discussion, Chapters 3 & 4
Philosophers 10-12 Presentations and Q&A
Assignment: Finish Reading Dewey. Philosophers 13-17 to Present 11/4. Prepare Questions.
- Class 10: November 4th Philosophers 13 – 17 Presentations and Q & A.
Jigsaw Activity on Dewey
Assignment: Read Chapter 5 and Participate in Online Sessions.
- Class 11: November 11th Online Session Covering Chapter 5
Assignment: Read Chapter 6 and Participate in Online Sessions.
- Class 12: November 18th Online Session Covering Chapter 6
Assignment: Begin working on final exam.
Philosophers 18 – 22 to Present on 11/25. Prepare Questions.
- Class 13: November 25th Quiz, Chapters 5 & 6
Class Discussion, Chapters 5 & 6.
Philosophers 18 – 22 Present, Q & A Session.
Assignment: Work on Final Exam Project
- Class 14: December 2nd Final Exam Project Presentations