



**Department of Educational Studies**

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**EDST 596 Philosophy and Educational Policy: Neo-liberalism**

EDST 596 introduces students to the economic and political rationalities of *neo-liberalism* in relation to competing practices of *education policy*. The seminar begins with a historical review of these two rationalities and then surveys contemporary neo-liberal expansions into schooling, curriculum, teaching and learning, and higher and adult education. The seminar intersects with literatures on ‘globalizing educational policy’ and reviews some of the processes and effects of neo-liberal education policies related gender, sexuality, race and ethnicity, age, dis/ability, language, mobility, and class (e.g., access, knowledge). The seminar notes how neo-liberalism has constructed policy mechanisms to enforce its economic and political philosophies (e.g., rankings, accountability), including the (re)development of educational discourses related to choice, equity, freedom, performance, and self-development or self-determination. Depending on student interest, other topics might include: educational markets; knowledge capitalism; ethnic commodifications; enterprising subjects; public/private partnerships; policy networks; audit, performative, and surveillance cultures; the marketing of recognition and the privatization of difference.

The course welcomes students from all fields and disciplines, and there are no prerequisites.

Tuesday and Thursdays  
May 14 - June 25  
4:30 - 7:30pm  
West Mall Annex 216

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