

Department of Educational Studies



EDST 507D - Topics In The History Of Education: International And Global History Of Education

Dr. Jason Ellis

Ponderosa F, Room 201

Winter Term 1, Wednesday, 4:30 - 7:30

COURSE DESCRIPTION

EDST 507 examines the educational aspects of globalization. Since the nineteenth century, education has been enmeshed with the history of imperialism and colonialism, history of capitalism, and histories of resistances and adaptations to Western hegemony. Theoretical discussions of imperialism and colonialism, capitalism, and globalization treat these phenomena as timeless. A basic premise of EDST 507, however, is that these concepts cannot be properly defined or deconstructed except by reference to the specific sets of historical circumstances where each was developed. Thus EDST 507 “historicizes” each of these concepts in turn, locating its origins in the period from approximately 1800 to the present, and examines its many relationships to education. Indeed -- as this course will show -- education has historically borne a very close relationship to imperialism and colonialism, capitalism, and globalization -- but a close relationship as well to efforts to resist and modify these forms of Western hegemony.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course employs five case studies:

- From Missionaries to Colonialism: Educating Indigenous People in Western Canada, 1800-1920;
- “Greed and Goodwill”: American Imperialism and Education in Cuba, the Philippines, Haiti, and Puerto Rico, 1898-1950;
- From The Scramble for Africa to Decolonization: Education in Nigeria, the Congo, and South Africa, 1880-1994;
- Between Tradition and Modernity: Education in China, 1911-present;
- World History of Capitalism and Education since 1945: From the Marshall Plan to PISA.

Students will prepare one of the five case studies as a seminar presentation. A second assignment asks students to develop a research essay that compares the historical development of education in one of the countries featured in the case studies against the development of education in another country or context of the student’s choosing, but that is not examined in the course.