EDST 520 (Section 021) **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION** (PERSPECTIVES ON ADULT EDUCATION PRACTICE)
Winter II, Wednesdays 4:30 to 7:30pm, WMAX 110
Instructor: Shauna Butterwick
Professor's Office: WMAX 102
Email: shauna.butterwick@ubc.ca
PH: 604-822-3897

What is Continuing Professional Education (CPE)? Chances are that if you are a health professional, a school teacher, or an educational administrator you've attended and perhaps even planned a CPE program. To maintain a license to practice, many professionals are required to engage in CPE. Many professional organizations are directly involved in delivering CPE programs and for other workers, CPE is something they must organize and pay for themselves. CPE involves significant resources and many different stakeholders are concerned with the design, delivery and evaluation of CPE including individual workers, government ministries, and professional organizations. CPE is thus a significant and contested site of learning where debates about what counts as knowledge, how professionals learn, and what are the most effective and teaching methods are played out.

The purpose of this course is to bring attention to CPE and critically explore the debates about knowledge, accountability, and so on. The question of who is responsible for CPE and how best to deliver CPE are questions now crossing national and professional boundaries. In this course a number of themes including, but not limited to, the following will be explored: professional designation and identity; professional learning; professional accountability; philosophical assumptions about professional knowledge; and the culture and organization of professions.

At the end of the course students will develop an understanding of CPE as an important and contested field of adult learning and education. Bringing a critical perspective, students will learn to identify taken-for-granted assumptions about how professionals learn and what is the best approach to organizing and delivering CPE. Guest speakers from different professionals fields involved with various CPE activities will be invited to the course. Possible assignments include critical reading journal, case study of CPE, and focused literature review of a key issue in CPE.