

Foundations of Curriculum: Final Assignment

Due date: **Friday, April 11th, 2014 at 12 noon**

This assignment is designed to be a “free” assignment, in that students will have choice in the expression of ideas and presentation for grading. Any format of presentation is permitted; for example, essay, short story, documentary, short film, project-style (variety of formats submitted in a binder). If you are unsure about your choice of presentation, please speak with your TA.

It is essential that the core content (as listed below) is addressed.

Core Content: Section A (30 Marks)

Construct your own theory of curriculum using the material you’ve learned in the course. Your theory of curriculum must address each of the following major concepts listed below.

- a) Ground your theory in one of the four major **philosophies**: Describe your basic fundamental belief about knowledge and curriculum (idealism, realism, pragmatism, or existentialism). Explain why you have chosen this philosophy. (5 marks)
- b) Major **educational philosophy**: Describe your educational philosophy. Identify the educational philosophy your theory of curriculum is rooted in (perennialism, essentialism, progressivism, reconstructionism). Identify the main components of the philosophy that you are using in your own theory and explain how they fit within your personal curriculum theory. (5 marks)
- c) **Your curriculum theory**: Describe and explain your own theory of curriculum. You may refer to specific theories and/or specific theorists that inform your personal theory. Identify the main components of the theory(ies) that you are using, or that overlap with your own theory. You should consider and include the larger aspects of the source of curriculum, the nature of knowledge, the aim of education, your beliefs about childhood, the role of the teacher, and the role of assessment and evaluation. ** While this section should include material from the course (lectures, readings and seminars), it must also include your own thoughts and ideas – your own curriculum theory. (20 marks)

Core Content: Section B (30 Marks)

In this section you will connect your personal theory of curriculum to the Ontario Curriculum Expectations. You may use the information posted on your Isaak forums to help you with this section, and/or you may consult the documents themselves.

- a) Pick 5 of the Ontario specific expectations. These must come from at least 3 different subjects, but you can use any of the grade(s) you wish.
- b) For **each of the 5** expectations, explain how your personal curriculum theory will inform your teaching of the expectation. (10 marks)
- c) Provide a descriptive example of what this would look like or what you would do for each of the expectations. This descriptive example might be the overview of lesson (not the full plan), and should answer some (or all) of these questions: why, what, how, where, and when. (20 marks)

Quality of Execution (assessed according to style): 10 marks

Total Marks: 70