

Course Title: Contemporary Educational Issues

Course No. Ed.541

Nature of course: Theory and Practical

Level: M. Ed

Credit Hours: 3 cr. Hrs

Semester: 4th

Teaching Hours: 80 hours

1. Course Introduction:

This course aims to provide students with opportunities to identify explore and understand issues relevant to the school education in Nepal. The course enables the students to review the educational policies, research reports and theoretical literature and helps them draw theoretical/conceptual concepts related to the issues. This course also helps students directly link their knowledge with the current practices in the educational sector. The course allows students to write and present comprehensive seminar paper based on the analysis of the selected educational issues comparing, relating and drawing upon the theoretical perspectives, policy provisions and research findings.

2. General objectives of the course

- To assist the students to identify contemporary educational issues.
- To prepare a proposal for undertaking review study and writing the seminar paper.
- To review the **theoretical literature, policy documents and research reports.**
- To develop critical perspectives about the selected educational issue(s).
- To write a comprehensive seminar paper in the given format.
- To disseminate the report in a seminar organized in the campus.

3. Course Outlines

Part I: Theoretical understanding of educational issues

Specific objectives	Contents
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To get oriented about different issues within school education in Nepal• To develop critical insight/perspectives on each issue	<p>Unit 1. Theoretical understanding of educational issues</p> <p>1.1 Language (medium of instruction, language as a subject, bilingualism/multilingualism)</p> <p>1.2 Access, Equity and inclusion (gender, caste/ethnicity, socio-economic status, geography)</p> <p>1.3 Classroom teaching, learning and assessment</p> <p>1.4 Free and compulsory education</p> <p>1.5 Modes of schooling (private, community, non-formal, open and religious)</p> <p>1.6 Shadow education</p> <p>1.7 Teacher development (Teacher professional development, Teacher career development, Teacher management)</p>

	<p>1.8 School governance and community participation</p> <p>1.9 ICT in education</p> <p>1.10 Relevance of curriculum at school level (curriculum implementation, curriculum materials, local vs central curriculum)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore and identify the provisions related to the above issues in different educational policies in Nepal • To analytically review the policy documents from the perspectives of the identified issues • To relate theoretical/conceptual perspectives (sociological, psychological, curricular, learning, management theories etc.) studied in the previous semesters with the particular educational issue/s in order to undertake document-based study. 	<p>2.1 Discussion of above Issues and problems addressed in/by</p> <p>2.1.1 School Sector Reform Program (SSRP),</p> <p>2.1.2 Equity strategy</p> <p>2.1.3 National Curriculum Framework</p> <p>2.1.4 Education Act and Regulations</p> <p>2.1.5 Scholarship guidelines</p> <p>2.1.6 Non-formal Education policy/guidelines</p> <p>2.1.7 Early Childhood Development policy/guidelines</p> <p>2.1.8 TPD guidelines (Available at NCED Website)</p>
Part II. Practical understanding of educational issues	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop plan and strategy to study about the selected educational issue(s). • To review and finalize the proposal upon approval of the department/mentor. 	<p>Unit 3. Practical understanding of educational issues</p> <p>1. Proposal development</p> <p>1.1 Introduction/context</p> <p>1.2 Objectives of the study</p> <p>1.3 Rationale</p> <p>1.4 Methodology</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake the theoretical review on the related issues • Review policy and research report exploring the educational issues 	<p>2. Review work</p> <p>2.1 Theoretical review</p> <p>2.2 Policy documents</p> <p>2.3 Research report/dissertation review</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a seminar paper in the given format. • Present the seminar 	<p>3. Writing and presenting the seminar paper</p> <p>3.1 Introductory part: Writing the context, objectives, and methods of the study and</p>

paper individually	limitations, if any, of the review work (500 to 700 words) 3.2 Main body: Writing a comprehensive seminar paper based on the analysis of the selected educational issues comparing, relating and drawing upon the theoretical perspectives, policy provisions and research findings.(2000 to 3000 words) 3.3 Conclusive part : Writing major arguments, findings, perspectives, implications (500 to 600 words) References (APA format)
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4. Modes of Instructional Delivery and Techniques

The following modes of delivery and instructional techniques can be used by the teacher besides general lecture modes as instructional strategies in the classroom.

4.1 Part I: Lecture, discussion and document review:

- Present and discuss different educational issues in the classroom.
- Organize seminars with the involvement of guest lecturers from the concerned fields.
- The teacher will divide the class into different groups for review work as mentioned in the content.
- They will locate, collect and review the materials in relation to the contemporary educational issues mentioned in unit I.

4.2 Part II: Review study and writing seminar paper(practical)

- The students will prepare a proposal for writing seminar paper with the help of the teacher concerned.
- They will locate, collect and review the materials: theoretical literature, policy documents and research reports.
- Students will write comprehensive seminar paper analyzing the selected educational issues by comparing, relating and drawing upon the theoretical perspectives, policy provisions and research findings along with empirical evidences.
- The students will present the seminar paper in the class.

5. Evaluation

5.1 Internal Evaluation 40%

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| 1) Attendance and Participation in learning activities | 10 points |
| 2) Review works | 10 points |
| 3) Seminar paper | 10 points |
| 4) Presentation | 10 points |

Total = 40 points

5.2 External Evaluation 60 %

- Theoretical 30 % (written examination =30 points
- Viva of seminar paper 30% (External from Dean Office) =30 points

Examination Division, office of the Dean, Faculty of Education will conduct final written examination at the end of semester.

Time for written examination: 1 hr. 30 minute

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| 1) Objective type questions (multiple choice questions 10×1) | 10 points |
| 2) Subjective questions (4 questions $\times 5$ points) | 20 points |

Total = 30 points

Part I: Theoretical understanding of educational issues **Unit 1. Theoretical understanding of educational issues** **Unit 2. Reviewing the issues based on the policy/plan documents** *Part II. Practical understanding of educational issues*

Unit 3. Practical understanding of educational issues

3.1. Proposal development

- 1.1 Introduction/context
- 1.2 Objectives of the study
- 1.3 Rationale of the study
- 1.4 Delimitation of the study
- 1.5 Methodology
 - a) Research design: Examples Quantitative, Qualitative, etc
 - b) Population and sample
 - c) Sampling procedure
 - d) Data collection tools
 - e) Validation of data collection tools
 - f) Data collection and analysis process

3.2. Review Work

- 2.1 Theoretical Review
- 2.2 Policy Documents
- 2.3 Research Reports/Dissertation review

3.3 Writing and presenting the seminar paper

3.1 Introductory Part

- 3.1.1 Introduction and background of the study
- 3.1.2 Objectives of the study
- 3.1.3 Rational of the study
- 3.1.4 Delimitation of the study
- 3.1.5 Review work (if any)
(500 to 700 words)

3.2 Main body: (Analysis and interpretation of information)

Writing a comprehensive seminar paper based on the analysis of the selected educational issues comparing, relating and drawing upon the theoretical perspectives, policy provisions and research findings.

(2000 to 3000 words)

3.3 Conclusive part : Findings and conclusions

Writing major arguments, findings, perspectives, implications

(500 to 600 words)

References (APA format)

Appendix

Outline of seminar paper

Cover page

Abstract

Table of contents

- 1.Introduction / Background of the study
2. Objectives of the study
3. Rationale of the study
4. Delimitation of the study
5. Methodology
- 6.Review of related literature
- 7.Analysis and interpretation of information
- 8.Conclusion and suggestions

References

Appendices