

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
Educational Leadership & Policy Studies/Foundations

ELPS 455
Comparative Education

E. H. Epstein
Fall 1999

Course Outline

I. Description

This course provides an overview of comparative education, a field concerned with schooling in a variety of countries. Education is examined within social contexts, and the course focuses on various aspects of society that relate to schools. Comparative education has occasionally been pursued in terms of the methods, concepts, and techniques of history, philosophy, or one of the social sciences (such as sociology, anthropology, political science, or economics). Alternatively, comparative education has been viewed as a field employing concurrently the research tools of more than one discipline. Here the assumption is made that few if any educational subjects can be treated adequately when limited to a single set of concepts and methods. Indeed, problems in the field are often seen as best treated from several disciplinary vantage points. This course will explore these approaches as well as examine such cross-national themes as institutional transfer, democratization, social stratification, and the selection and achievement of knowledge.

II. Text

E.H. Epstein, ed., *Readings for ELPS 455* (Fall 1999).

III. Requirements and Evaluation

A. Class Discussion (20 percent). Discussion will cover assigned readings and, ordinarily, a brief film to be shown in class. Students will also give a 10-12 minute presentation on a research paper near the end of the term (see below). Students are expected to be thoroughly familiar with the readings and prepared to discuss them in class.

B. Research Paper (40 percent). Prepare a 3,000-4,000 word paper relating to a topic covered in this course. Close attention should be paid to writing with clarity, the logic of your arguments, and effective use of supporting evidence. You should use a standard and consistent method of citing references (e.g., MLA, Turabien, Chicago, etc.). For details, refer to the attached "Guidelines for Research Paper."

C. Examination (40 percent). An examination will test your knowledge of the assigned readings (and any readings you do that go beyond those assigned) and ideas gained in class discussion. The examination will be long-essay type. It will have three questions, out of which two must be answered. One of these questions must be answered by all students. The questions will test your knowledge of the subject matter, but also your ability to synthesize and analyze material from a wide spectrum of the readings and discussions.

IV. Schedule

August 31: Introduction

Reading Assignment: M.H. Germain, *Worldly Teachers: Cultural Learning & Pedagogy*.
VHS: "Education: A Change for a Better World"

September 7: Development of the Field

Reading Assignment: E.H. Epstein, "Comparative and International Education: Overview and Historical Development," *International Encyclopedia of Education*; R.G. Templeton, "The Study of Comparative Education in the U.S.," *Harvard Educational Review*; L. Bu, "International Activism and Comparative Education: International Institute, Teachers College, Columbia University," *Comparative Education Review*; D.N. Wilson, "Comparative Education and International Education: A Preliminary Genealogy of Our Twin Fields," *Comparative Education Review*.

September 14: Theoretical Approaches

Reading Assignment: I.L. Kandel, "The Study of Comparative Education," *Educational Forum*; H.J. Noah & M.A. Eckstein, "Toward a Science of Comparative Education," in *Doing Comparative Education*; V.L. Masemann, "Ways of Knowing: Implications for Comparative Education," *Comparative Education Review*; E.H. Epstein, "The Problematic Meaning of 'Comparison' in Comparative Education," in *Theories & Methods of Comparative Education*.

September 21: Methodological Approaches

Reading Assignment: E.H. Epstein, "Review of *Children of the Revolution*," *Comparative Education Review*; C.A. Anderson, "Methodology of Comparative Education," *International Review of Education*; E.H. Epstein, "Cross-cultural Sampling & a Conceptualization of 'Professional Instruction'," *Journal of Experimental Education*; V. Mallinson, "The Purpose of Education," in *Comparative Education*; D.N. Plank, "The Politics of Basic Education Reform in Brazil," *Comparative Education Review*; V.D. Rust et al., "Research Strategies in Comparative Education," *Comparative Education Review*.

September 28: System Models: Western Europe

Reading Assignment: K. Sharpe, "The Protestant Ethic & the Spirit of Catholicism," *Comparative Education*; M. Osborn et al., "Social Class, Educational Opportunity and Equal Entitlement," *Comparative Education*; L. Wylie, "School," Chapter 4 in *Village in the Vaucluse*.
VHS: "Sango Malo".

October 5: System Models: East Asia

Reading Assignment: W. Cummings, "Asian Values, Education and Development," *Compare*; D.M. Hoffman, "Models of Self & Culture in Teaching & Learning," *Educational Foundations*; E.H. Epstein & W-F Kuo, "Higher Education," in D.C. Douglas, ed., *The Confucian Continuum: Educational Modernization in Taiwan*.
VHS: "Preschool in 3 Cultures" (044-02839, MCL).

October 12: System Models: Communist States

Reading Assignment: H. Jahn, "USA/USSR: Two Worlds Apart," *Comparative Education Review*; B. Sautman, "Politization, Hyperpolitization, and Depolitization of Chinese Education," *Comparative Education Review*; C.A. Torres, "The State, Nonformal Education, and Socialism in Cuba, Nicaragua, and Grenada," *Comparative Education Review*.
VHS: "A Day at School in Moscow."

October 19: **Mid-semester Break**

October 26: **System Models: The U.S.**

Reading Assignment: A.C. Lewis, "As Others See Us," *Phi Delta Kappan*; E. H. Epstein, "Social Paradoxes of American Education," *Oxford Review of Education*; A. Menlo et al., "Teaching Practices in the U.S. in the Context of Comparison with Practices in Four Other Countries," *Comparative Education*.

VHS: "Heart of the Nation."

November 2: **System Transfer**

Reading Assignment: J. Wilinsky, "The Educational Mission," Chapter 4 in *Learning to Divide the World: Education at Empire's End*; S. Karsten & D. Majoor, "Under Western Eyes," Introduction to *Education in East Central Europe: Educational Changes after the Fall of Communism*; E.H. Epstein, "The Peril of Paternalism: The Imposition of Education on Cuba by the U.S.," *American Journal of Education*.

VHS: "Africa: #7 — The Rise of Nationalism" (044-01630, LSC).

November 9: **Selection & Achievement of Knowledge**

Reading Assignment: J. Lauwerys, "General Education in a Changing World," *International Review of Education*; N.K. Shimahara, "Socialization for College Entrance Examinations in Japan," *Comparative Education*; A. Inkeles, "National Differences in Scholastic Performance," *Comparative Education Review*.

VHS: "Mistaken Identity" (Millenium) (044-02490, LSC).

November 16: **Class & Gender Stratification**

Reading Assignment: I. Epstein, "Issues of Class and Educational Reform in Comparative Perspective," Chapter 30 in P.W. Cookson, A.R. Sadovnik, & S.F. Semel, *International Handbook of Educational Reform*; R. H. Turner, "Modes of Social Ascent through Education: Sponsored and Contest Mobility," *American Sociological Review*; Heidi Ross, "Female Education and Development in Asia," *Comparative Education Review*.

VHS: "Women in the Third World."

November 23: **Research Report Presentations.**

November 30: **Ethnic, Religious & Linguistic Stratification**

Reading Assignment: E.H. Epstein, "Peasant Consciousness under Peruvian Military Rule," *Harvard Educational Review*; D. Simel, "Exclusionary Christian Civil Religion for Jewish and Islamic Students in Bavarian Schools," *Comparative Education Review*; R. Phillipson, "The Colonial Linguistic Inheritance," Chapter 5 in *Linguistic Imperialism*.

VHS: "Ocamo is my Town" and "Children's Magical Death/Yanomano" (001-00893, WTC).

Submission of Final Research Reports.

December 7: **Democratization**

Reading Assignment: A. Benavot, "Education & Political Democratization: Cross-national & Longitudinal Findings," *Comparative Education Review*; N.F. McGinn, "Education and Democratization in an Era of Globalization," *Comparative Education Review*; E.H. Epstein, "Filtering Democratization Through Schools," in *Vergleichende Erziehungswissenschaft*.

VHS: "Americas: #2 — Capital Sins: Authoritarianism & Democratization" (044-03475.B, WTC).

Take Home Examination.