Fall 9-1-2006

C&I 407E.03: Ethics and Policy Issues

Bob Brown

University of Montana, Missoula

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C&I 407 Ethics and Policy Issues  
Room ED 215  
Section 3: Tuesday-Thursday ~ 2:10-3:30 p.m.  
Autumn 2006

Instructor  
Bob Brown, MILS 210, 243-7717, brown@crmw.org  
Office hours are TTh 4:00-5:00 p.m.; F 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, and by arrangement

Course Purpose  
This applied ethics course helps pre-service teachers prepare to act in a professionally appropriate manner in a school setting. We will study American public schooling and the ethical behavior of teachers within historical, political, and sociological contexts. Major policy topics include governance, finance, equity, and law.

Required Readings  
• Course Pack, in the UC Bookstore.  

Course Objectives  
Upon completion of the course, if you have been an active participant, you should be able to:  
• Demonstrate a commitment to the obligations of the teaching profession;  
• State the ethical responsibilities and apply the ethical standards of practice of the teaching profession;  
• Demonstrate entry-level knowledge of the governance, financing, and legal principles of American education;  
• Identify the operation and purpose of American education within its political and historical frameworks; and  
• Show entry-level understanding of the issues of class, race, gender, and culture as they relate to equality of educational opportunity.

Instructional Notes  
Lecture, case study, and discussion are the primary means of instruction used in this class. The success of our work, particularly our discussion, depends on your reading assigned materials in preparation for class. I try to be aware of the special needs of individuals as well as the needs of the group. Let me know of any accommodation you may require.

Graduate Students  
The Graduate School assumes that graduate students are taking this course for graduate credit. Please see me to discuss the graduate project required for graduate credit. If you do not want graduate credit, see Laura Riddle in the Graduate School immediately to make the necessary changes in your registration.
Course Requirements

- **Attendance and active participation.** Forty points possible. I keep track of who is on time, engaged, participating, and volunteering in discussion.
- **Two exams.** The exams are intended to evaluate understanding of major concepts presented and discussed in class. The format may include multiple choice, identification of key concepts, true/false correct the false statement, and short essay. The first exam is scheduled for **October 10.** The second exam is not comprehensive and is scheduled during finals weeks: **Wednesday, December 13, 3:20-5:20 p.m.** Each exam will count a maximum of 50 points.
- **Case Analysis.** I will provide a detailed outline of how to complete this assignment. Due by 3:30 p.m., **November 9,** this assignment will count a maximum of 60 points. I accept late papers but with one letter grade deducted for each day late.

**Grading**

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<td>Case analysis</td>
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Course Schedule

**August 29 – September 5:** purposes and history of American education


**September 7 – September 21:** governance and finance


**September 26 – October 3:** demographic changes and diversity


**October 10:** exam

**October 12 – November 9:** professional ethics


November 9: Case analysis due

November 14 – December 5: legal issues


November 23: Thanksgiving holiday – no class

December 13: Final exam, 3:20-5:20 p.m.

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321.