Course Purposes

1. To understand the historical debate over the school’s part in the shaping of values, morals, character, virtues, conduct.

2. To understand the present conflicts in schooling around issues of gender, culture, religion, sexuality, race.

3. To explore curricular attempts to teach morality

Course Sequence

Jan. 17: Introduction: Values, Morals, Schooling

Jan. 24: Teaching as a Moral Problem (Moran, Showing How, Intro, chap. 1, 2)

Jan. 31: Languages of Teaching (Moran, SH, chap. 6; Bain)

Feb. 7: Morality and Schools (GL 2) (Moran, SH, chap. 7)

Feb. 14: Grammar of Morality (GL 3) (Moran SH, chap. 8)


Feb. 28: School’s Responsibility (GL 6, pp. 153-65; Moran, Responsible to...)

Mar. 8: Conflicts in Schooling (GL 6, pp. 165-75; GL 7 183-206)

Mar. 21: The Issue of Gender (Gilligan, Nussbaum, Sullivan, Degler))

Mar. 28: Issues of Culture and Religion (Moran, Is Religious... Nord, Religion)

Apr. 4: Teaching Values through Literature (GL, 107-9, 175-82; Jackson)

Apr. 11: Truthfulness, Honesty and Cheating (Moran, Truth...; Bonhoeffer)
Course Requirements

Reading:


2. The additional readings are online: www.nyu.edu/classes/gmoran

3. Bibliographies that relate to each topic are also online

Writing

1. There will be a written exercise each week at the beginning of class. I will comment on the writing but not grade it. I will return it the following week. Save the 13 exercises and the final exam will be taken mainly from that source.

2. A longer paper on a topic of your own choosing. Do something that really interests you within the general scope of the course. The length is not important but develop the substance of the topic. As an example, you might consider as a project studying one of the current curricula, discussed in Goodman and Lesnick, pp. 118-122. Consult the links at the bottom of the page.

Due Feb. 14:

   a. The topic or title

   b. A one paragraph description

   c. 2 to 5 bibliographical references

Mar. 7: First draft of paper

   I will comment and return it Mar. 22
Apr. 11: Final draft of paper

I will return it on Apr. 18 and we will discuss them in class

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If after the first class discussion about the content and procedure of the course, you have suggestions, send them to gm3@nyu.edu. Please do so by Monday, Jan. 22.

CLASS PARTICIPANTS