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Moral Dimensions of Education

ELC - 604

Syllabus

I. Outline of course

Jan. 14 Introduction of course: definitional issues; video on Cain and Abel.

Jan. 21 Discussion of concepts of good and evil. Video tape.

Jan. 28 Discussion of moral responsibility. Video - My Lai Massacre.

Feb. 4 Historical perspectives on American public education. Discussion of Scheffler article.

Feb. 11 Moral education. Discussion of Gilligan, Kohn, Kohlberg, Lickona, and Noddings articles.

Feb. 18 Discussion of text, chapters 1-3.

Feb. 25 Discussion of text, chapters 4&5.

Mar. 4 SPRING BREAK

Mar. 11 Discussion of text, chapters 6&7.

Mar. 18 Discussion of The Scarlet Letter.

Mar. 25 TBA

April 1 Guest Speaker

April 8 Student reports

April 15 Student reports

April 22 Student reports

April 29 Film Weapons of the Spirit

II. Readings

A. Texts

1. Nathaniel Hawthorne The Scarlet Letter
2. David Purpel The Moral and Spiritual Crisis in Education

B. Articles on Reserve

1. Carol Gilligam Woman's Place in a Man's Life Cycle
2. Lawrence Kohlberg Moral Stages and Mobilization: The Cognitive Developmental Approach
3. Alfie Kohn How Not to Teach Values: A Critical Look at Character Education
4. Thomas Lickona The Case for Character Education
5. Nel Noddings Care and Moral Education
6. Israel Scheffler Moral Education and the Democratic Ideal

III. Assignments

1. Reaction paper to the Scarlet Letter, due March 18th.
2. Research paper due April 29th.
3. Discernment exercise.

IV. Suggested Readings

Bellah, Robert, et. Al. The Good Society

Bowen, C.A. Elements of Post Liberal

Educational Philosophy

Bloom, Allen	<u>The Closing of the American Mind</u>
Brueggemann, Walter	<u>The Prophetic Imagination</u>
Cox, Harvey	<u>Religion and the Secular City</u>
Delbanco, Andrew	<u>The Death of Satan</u>
Eliade, Mircea	<u>The Sacred and the Profane</u>
Fox, Matthew	<u>A Spirituality Named Compassion</u>