



Multicultural Civic Education: The Case of Israel

Course number: 34598

Dr. Aviv Cohen

Course Summary

This course's goal is to raise awareness towards issues of diversity and multiculturalism as part of the civic education process. We will first read theoretical writings that highlight the importance of dealing with different types of diversity as part of education in a democratic state. Following, we will examine the Israeli educational system as a case study that deals (for better or for worse) with such issues, examining the following topics: national diversity, religious diversity, racial diversity, gender diversity, and linguistic diversity. Finally, we will explore several pedagogical approaches that enable teachers and practitioners to address such topics in the classrooms. Throughout the course, students will be asked to reflect on their personal stances and roles in this regard.

Objectives

1. Raise students' awareness to the topics of multiculturalism and diversity as part of the civic education process
2. Enable students to examine different educational theories of multicultural civic education in regard to the Israeli context
3. Expose students to pedagogical practices

Topics

1. Theoretical background of multicultural civic education
2. Types of diversity – national, religious, racial, gender, and linguistic.
3. Israel as a case study
4. Pedagogical practices
5. Personal and professional reflection

Requirements

1. Attendance and participation – 10% of the final grade
2. Personal narrative reflection paper – 20% of the final grade
3. Lead classroom discussion - 20% of the final grade
4. Final paper – 50% of the final grade

Course Plan and Readings

Meeting #	Topics	Readings
1	Introduction	Yonah, 2005
2	Multiculturalism Debates	Walzer, 2003 Tamir, 1995
3-4	Multicultural and Diversity Civic Education	Banks, 2008 Adams, Bell, & Griffin, 2007 Bekerman & Cohen, forthcoming
5	National Diversity	Agbaria, Mustafa, & Jabareen, 2015
6	Religious Diversity	Gross, 2003
7	Racial Diversity	Dahan & Levy, 2000
8	Gender Diversity	Mickelson, Nkomo, & Smith, 2001
9	Linguistic Diversity	Ben-Rafael, Shohamy, Hasan Amara, & Trumper-Hecht, 2006
10-11	Fieldtrip (Details TBD)	
12	Pedagogical Practices	Delpit, 2006 Ladson-Billings, 1994
13	Personal and Professional Reflection	Quashigah & Wilson, 2001