

2008-2



**EDUCATION 883(G032)  
Comprehensive Examination  
(Enroll #6891)**

Summer Semester 2008	Instructor:	Dr. Michael Ling
Meeting Dates: July 18, 19, 20	Office:	EDB 8560.4
Times:	Telephone:	778-782-4168
Location: SFU Harbour Centre	Email:	gling@sfu.ca
Room: July 18 (rm 2050) July 19 & 20 (rm 2200)		

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**ACADEMIC HONESTY AND STUDENT CONDUCT**

Plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, is a form of academic dishonesty that can lead to a failing grade for the course and to suspension from the University. As defined in SFU policy (<http://www.sfu.ca/policies/teaching/t10-02.htm>) “plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty in which an individual submits or presents the work of another person as his or her own.” Plagiarism involves taking the words, ideas, or research of another without properly acknowledging the original author. Students need to become familiar with the many different forms that plagiarism can take, including accidental and intentional plagiarism. For more information, see <http://www.sfu.ca/policies/teaching/t10-03.htm> or [http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/hot\\_topics/academic\\_integrity.php](http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/hot_topics/academic_integrity.php) or the section entitled Academic Honesty and Student Conduct in the General Regulations of the SFU Calendar.

Le plagiat, intentionnel ou non intentionnel, est une forme de malhonnêteté académique qui expose à des sanctions, comme l’ajournement à un examen ou l’exclusion de l’université. L’université de SFU (<http://www.sfu.ca/policies/teaching/t10-02.htm>) définit le plagiat comme “une forme de malhonnêteté académique où un individu soumet ou présente le travail d’autrui comme étant le sien”. Le plagiat signifie s’approprier les mots, les idées et la recherche d’autrui sans mention d’emprunt à l’auteur initial. Les étudiants doivent se familiariser avec les différentes formes de plagiat, intentionnel ou non intentionnel. Pour plus d’informations, se référer aux documents en ligne suivants: <http://www.sfu.ca/policies/teaching/t10-03.htm> ou [http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/hot\\_topics/academic\\_integrity.php](http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/hot_topics/academic_integrity.php) ou la section intitulée *Academic Honesty and Student Conduct in the General Regulations* du Calendrier de SFU.

## **COURSE RATIONALE**

The Comprehensive Exam is both the culminating component *and* event of your 2 year M. Ed. journey. The name ‘comprehensive *exam*’ is a bit of a misnomer. It is not an exam as such, but rather, more accurately and concisely, “a demonstration of your learning,” an expression and presentation of significant understandings about education that you feel you have gleaned and that you have determined will have (or already have had) a profound effect on your thinking and practice.

In a sense the ‘comp’ is a crystallization or condensation of what has emerged to be of key importance to you, those ideas and insights which will now influence your thinking and practice. The comp project is intended to be a concrete demonstration of your systematic, critical, creative, and reasoned thinking about educational issues as applied to your own practice.

It is also, importantly, a celebration and capstone of your work, your growth, and your time together as colleagues.

## **FORM**

The Comprehensive Exam will consist of two parts:

1. A written document articulating some key idea, a line of research or an inquiry you have undertaken, which is, in effect, a crystallization of your learning. This can take the form of a standard scholarly paper of a philosophical or a research nature, a reflective essay, a narrative, or some combination of these, and/or other writing forms. The paper should be in the range of 20-30 pages. It will be reviewed by me and a second reader, who will be chosen from the instructional team we’ve had (schedules permitting). The paper should be submitted *at least* two weeks prior to the Comp Day, so as to allow the readers adequate time to review it.
2. A 20 minute oral presentation at the Comp Day event, outlining the central ideas of your work, followed by approximately 10 minutes of discussion and questions with colleagues, reviewers, and others in attendance. The form and manner of the presentation is negotiable we’ll talk together about examples and options.

The Comprehensive Exam is graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis. If there are any revisions or clarifications required by the reviewers, the candidate will have two weeks following the Comp Day to make those changes and have the document reviewed once again.