

EDFN 3708 - Education and Society

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 05, CRN 42307,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Patrick Spearman

Email: ptspearman@ysu.edu

Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Associate Professor

Instructor Professional Qualifications: B.A. African American Studies University of Cincinnati (1992); Ed.M. Educational Foundations, University of Cincinnati (2000); Ph.D. Urban Education, Temple University (2004)

Instructor Office Location: Beeghly Hall 4409

Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-1934

Course Description

3708. Education and Society. School as a dynamic social institution. An analysis of how schools interact with diverse communities and with social, political, and cultural institutions and traditions. Field hours required. Prereq.: Fifty semester hours. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	The Light in Their Eyes	Sonia Nieto	1501314130
Required	The Education of Richard Rodriguez	Richard Rodriguez	0553272934
Optional	Pedagogy of the Oppressed	Paulo Freire	0345350685

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Course Schedule

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Syllabus	Introduction of Course	
8/31	Nieto: Prologue	Sociopolitical Context of Education	Discussion Card 1
9/7	Nieto: Chapter 1	Learning in Classrooms	Discussion Card 2
9/14	Nieto Chapter 2	Learning and Inequality	Discussion Card 3 Educational Autobiography
9/21	Nieto: Chapter 3	Culture and Learning	Discussion Card 4
9/28	Rodriguez: Prologue & Chapter 1	Aria	Discussion Card 5
10/5	Rodriguez: Chapter 2	Achievement of Desire	Discussion Card 6
10/12	Rodriguez: Chapter 3	Credo	Midterm Exam
10/19	Rodriguez: Chapter 4	Complexion	Discussion Card 7
10/26	Rodriguez: Chapter 5	Profession	Discussion Card 8 Essay on Culture
11/2	Rodriguez: Chapter 6 Nieto: pp. 101 - 113	Mr. Secrets Who does the Accommodating	Discussion Card 9
11/9	Nieto: pp. 114-129	Who does the Accommodating cont.	Discussion Card 10
11/16	Nieto: Chapter 5	Critical Pedagogy	
11/23	Nieto: Chapter 6	Teacher and Student Identity	Field Research Project

11/30	Nieto Chapter 7	Where do we go from here?	Field Research Project Presentation
12/7		Exam Week	Final Exam

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.