

CENTER FOR MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT

**EDC&I 505 Seminar in Curriculum and Instruction:
Culture, Gatekeeping, and Learning Morale in Educational Settings**
3 credits, MTWThF 1:10 PM-4:30 PM
June 22-July 3, Summer 2015



Instructor: *Frederick Erickson*

George F. Kneller Professor of Anthropology of Education, Emeritus, UCLA

Culture has been conceptualized in differing ways. In schools various aspects of culture influence both the provision of instruction and the reactions of students to that instruction. Cultural judgments by educators can function for “educational gatekeeping,” as a means of judging and sorting students in ways that do not benefit them educationally; or cultural judgments can inform “learning morale building,” as a means of making learning environments maximally welcoming to and supportive of students. Relations between culture, gatekeeping, and learning morale in educational settings will be explored in the seminar through readings, lecture/discussion, and review of video examples. As a final exercise students will write a short reflective paper on major topics of the course.

Frederick Erickson received his bachelors and masters degrees in the history of music and his PhD in education at Northwestern University. His contribution to the field of anthropology of education has earned him numerous honors and awards including Spencer and Annenberg Institute for Public Policy fellowships, a Fulbright Award, and an Award for Scholarly Contributions to Educational Anthropology from the American Anthropological Association. Erickson’s writings on the microethnography of classroom and family interaction, and especially how this interaction affects disadvantaged students, continue to be ground-breaking and widely cited. His book, *Talk and Social Theory: Ecologies of Speaking and Listening in Everyday Life* (Polity Press, 2004) received an Outstanding Book Award for 2005 from the American Educational Research Association. He has twice been a fellow in residence at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University. In 2014 the Council on Anthropology and Education of the American Anthropological Association named its annual outstanding dissertation award in his honor.

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