

Reflection – EDUC 894
Seminar in Multicultural Education
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The purpose of this course was supposed to examine the knowledge base, policy issues, and curricular and instructional features of multicultural education in United States and other countries. When I started this course, I expected that I would learn about different aspects of multicultural education; I had some experience with multicultural education because of my current and previous teaching experiences. But as the course progressed, I came to the conclusion that I would learn less about multicultural education because of the climate created in the class.

Early on, several members of the class had issues with the professor. I, myself, found that my opinions were sometimes discounted and that perhaps it was felt that I could not speak with knowledge of multicultural education because my background is not as diverse as the students I often teach. Because the course was required for the international education specialization at the time, I decided to work within the readings, taking what I could from them for my interest areas of teacher education and my dissertation interest, International Baccalaureate (IB).

The final paper requirement for this course was to produce a “publishable” paper. For this assignment I chose to look at university perceptions of college readiness and the IB Diploma Programme. This was along the lines of what I wanted to work on for my dissertation and it would give me a good start at looking at some of the literature related to college readiness, an area that up until that point I had not spent a lot of time looking at. The paper was divided into three parts – an overview of the IB Diploma Programme (IBDP) with details of the attributes it develops in students that makes them more attractive to college admissions offices, a comparison of the IBDP to the Advanced Placement Program in regards to college credit and skills development with specific attention to English and then finally some suggestions for future research. It is this paper I have included as the artifact for this course.