University Foundations 100:  
The History and Future of Education  
Sections 007, 008, 009 Fall 2013  

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**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**  
- Computer with very good Internet access. This course makes use of many video and audio files that will not be accessible through most dial-up providers. Remember that you can use computers on BSU campus; they will have the necessary speed and access. Many public library branches also have computers with good internet access for public use.  

**CLASS PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE:** Boise State's Foundations Program provides undergraduates with a broad-based education that spans the entire university experience. *UF 100: Intellectual Foundations* satisfies three units of the Foundation Program's University Foundations Courses requirement. It supports the following University Learning Outcomes, along with a variety of other course-specific goals:  

2. Communicate effectively in speech, both as speaker and listener.  
3. Engage in effective critical inquiry by defining problems, gathering and evaluating evidence, and determining the adequacy of argumentative discourse.  
4. Think creatively about complex problems in order to produce, evaluate, and implement innovative possible solutions, often as one member of a team.  

*UF 100: Intellectual Foundations* is intended to introduce incoming students to the university environment and help them see interdisciplinary connections while exploring large questions. This course helps to achieve the goals of the Foundational Studies Program by focusing on the following course learning outcomes. After successful completion of this course, students should be able to:  

1. Read and summarize a variety of texts that present multiple perspectives on complex issues related to education.  
2. Articulate and defend their own opinions about the purposes of education by placing them within a larger historical and philosophical context.  
3. Work effectively as a team to discuss and apply class concepts.  
4. Produce text-based and digital projects that apply educational concepts creatively to real-world questions.
COURSE SET-UP:
Blackboard: This is a hybrid course with the online component delivered through Blackboard, at blackboard.boisestate.edu. If you have any trouble using Blackboard, please contact Blackboard Assistance at 426-2583, by e-mail at blackboard@boisestate.edu. Don't be overly concerned when the Blackboard course site is not working. This happens occasionally and, in almost all instances, is only a temporary situation. The best advice is just to wait and try again later or try a different browser. For reasons known only to the Blackboard gods, Google Chrome plays much more nicely with Blackboard than Internet Explorer. Information on the technical features of the course, including suggestions for resolving common technical problems are available through the Help icon at the top of any Blackboard page, as well as through the Help tab on our course site.

Weekly Lecture: Physical attendance at the lecture is required and will be worth 10 points each week.

Weekly Discussion Group: You will meet once a week in the Discussion Group sections where you will be assigned to teams for major projects. Attendance is required.

Weekly Quiz on Blackboard: Each week you will have a multiple-choice quiz over the assigned readings. All quizzes are open-book, so take the time to find the correct answers in your reading.
The quiz will be available on the class Blackboard site each Friday morning the preceding week no later than 9:00. Please contact us immediately if you have any trouble accessing the quizzes. You may take the quiz up to two times, and the highest grade will be recorded. You must complete all attempts each week by Monday at 9:00 AM (MST). This is to ensure that students have read the assignments before attending discussion groups. Each quiz is worth 10 points.

Weekly Discussion on Blackboard: Each week you will participate with your Discussion Group classmates in a discussion about the themes of the week’s readings. This will take place in a discussion forum on the class Blackboard site. You can participate on your own schedule, right up to the deadline for each activity. You may complete the online activities from wherever you choose -- from home, from work, or from a campus computer lab. You will have until Sunday at 11:59 PM (MST) to complete the entire discussion, both your initial post and responses to classmates. Your Discussion Group Leader will read all of your postings, but will rarely respond individually. These discussions are each worth 20 points. Please see the Discussions folder in Course Documents for details about how to proceed and how you will be graded.
Please consult the Netiquette Guidelines under the Blackboard site’s Course Documents to see the standards of courtesy we expect in all online communications.

PROCEDURES, POLICIES, AND REQUIREMENTS

Student Responsibility: This is a demanding course, in terms of the amount of reading and the level of thought it requires. Pace yourself so you can keep up with the reading all the way through. The amount of learning you get out of this course will depend to a large extent
on your preparation and participation. If you need help managing your course load or tutoring with specific subjects, please contact the BSU Academic Support office (linked in the Blackboard site under Support Services).

**Late Work Policy:** We will not accept any late work for this course. If you miss a deadline on an assignment, you will receive no points for that assignment. If you do not attend a discussion group or plenary, you will receive no attendance points. Please contact your Discussion Group Leader in case of a true emergency. (Note: our definition of a “true emergency” is when a person’s life or health at risk. A death or health emergency in the family is a true emergency. A flat tire or poor planning is not.)

**Grades: There are 1000 points possible in the class.**

- **Quizzes:** 10 @ 10 points = 100 (none Weeks 7, 9,13,14,15)
- **Blackboard Discussions:** 14 @ 20 = 280 (none Week 15)
- **Midterm Project:** 150
- **Final Project:** 200
- **Participation:** 270.
  - (Lecture attendance: 15 weeks @ 10 pts = 150
  - Discussion Group Teamwork: 12 weeks @ 10 points =120 points)

We will compute your grade as follows:

- 934-1000: A
- 900-933: A-
- 867-899: B+
- 834-866: B
- 800-833: B-
- 767-799: C+
- 734-766: C
- 700-733: C-
- 600-699: D
- 0-599: F

There is no rounding up of points to reach a certain grade. (And we really hate it when students nag us to do that.) Keep track of your points throughout the semester through the My Grades feature on Blackboard. It is best not to go by the percentage Blackboard gives; rather, consider that you are building points toward a grade.

**Plagiarism:** We expect honesty in your work. Plagiarism means using anyone else’s words, ideas, images, or thoughts without giving proper credit. For our purposes, this includes using your own work from previous courses. Please cite all sources for borrowed material. Even if the idea is in your own words, you must give credit for borrowing it from someone. Plagiarism is dishonest, and it warrants failure for the assignment and perhaps for the whole course. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated and may result in failing the
course and expulsion from BSU. Please consult the Student Code of Conduct under Course Documents for more information.

**Disability Services:** Any student who feels that he or she may need accommodations based on the impact of a disability should contact us privately to discuss your specific needs. You will also need to contact the Disability Resource Center (208-426-1583, Administration Building, Room 114) to meet with a specialist and coordinate reasonable accommodations for any documented disability.

**Online Privacy:** Please read through the Online Privacy Notice under Course Documents, which outlines your rights and university policies about online work.