

## EDPL 301 Outline

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Office Hours: (Benjamin 3112d) MW-12:15-1:30 or by appointment

**Required Text:** Joel Spring, *The American School*, 1642-2004. ISBN # 0-07-232274-6

**Course Description:** This course explores the social context and the conflicts over educational philosophies, values, and goals that are reflected in educational institutions in our pluralistic society. It also examines the educational profession, and the structure, operation, and function of our school systems. Its goal is to help teachers become reflective, critical thinkers about issues and problems that they face and the choices that they make. Students are encouraged to consider class discussions, activities, readings and assignments in the context of their own lives as teachers and students.

**Course Structure:** The course is structured around class discussion based on the readings. To guide your class discussion and preparation for examinations, a study guide is provided. The study guide can be located on the Education Policy and Leadership website: <http://www.education.umd.edu/edpa/courses>. It is also important to stress that class attendance and participation is important.

**Examinations and Grading:** There will be four chapter examinations (Including the final). Each examination is worth 30 points. Class attendance is taken, and you will receive one point for each meeting that you attend. It is the student's responsibility to check with the instructor in the case of an expected excused absence. Examination times will be announced.

**Accommodation of Disabilities:** If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Religious Observances:** Students will not be penalized because of observance of their religious beliefs. Students will be given the opportunity, whenever possible, to make up within a reasonable time any academic assignment that is missed due to individual participation in religious observances. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of intended absences for religious observances as soon as possible.

**Statement on Code of Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity is the foundation for learning. All students are expected to observe and honor the provisions of the University Code of Academic Integrity. Academic dishonest includes cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, or facilitating academic dishonest. Academic dishonest is a serious offense that may result in suspension or expulsion from the University. The full text of the code is available on the web at <http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/index.html>.