**Special Topics in Higher Education: EDU 199**

**Monsoon 2013**

**Issues in Higher Education**

**Credits (L:T:P)** = 3 (2:1:0); UWE

**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Coordinator/Instructor:** Gitanjali Sen

**Objective:** The course should help students understand the current issues in Higher Education all around the world with stronger focus on issues relevant to India. It should help students explore, participate, question the current practices in the higher education followed across the world. It should encourage students to engage in guided discussions towards analyzing those issues, and encouraging them towards further participation in research, policy studies in areas of economic development, economics of education, higher education, educational policies and such.

**Overview:** The course will start with an overview of development of Indian higher education system and the related issues, followed by the study of issues all around the world. Are there any common concerns across the globe? What are the difference between developed and developing countries in that respect? How the higher education has evolved over the years in India, who are the stakeholders, what is the purpose of the college or university, whom are they serving, how is the academic scenario changing in a multicultural society, who should be in college, the quality versus quantity dilemma and such questions will be discussed in class.

The pedagogy will be through a combination of lecture sessions on conceptual areas, and discussions of related research papers as given in the list of readings at the beginning. Throughout the semester students will be encouraged to choose areas of their interests for preparing term paper. The students will be divided in groups and one common area will be selected by all group members for the term paper. The group should discuss the theme with instructor before finalizing the area. All groups will present their term paper during in-class sessions to be scheduled during the semester.

**Pre-requisite**: None

**Readings:**

Majority of the readings will include papers published in peer-reviewed journals, books.

Research papers- the list of papers will be distributed in class and well in advance, before discussing a particular topic, so that students can come prepared to participate in the discussion sessions. In-class participation in the discussion of selected readings is the primary requirement for successful completion of the course.

**Assessment:**

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| Methods of assessment | % weightage |
| Class participation + Reading assignments | 30% |
| Mid-term exam | 30% |
| Group Presentation + Term paper | 40% |

**Expected Learning Outcome:** By the end of the semester students will have enough understanding of the concepts related to issues in higher education across the globe. They should acquire some specific skills to understand the concepts and to analyze the issues. By the end of the term, students should be able to select at least one area of his/her interests to study further in the field of economic development, higher education, educational studies, educational policies, or public policies, if they intend to.