

Liverpool John Moores University

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Title: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS
Status: Definitive
Code: **6104EDSTUD** (117344)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2020
Owning School/Faculty: Education
Teaching School/Faculty: Education

Team	Leader
Peter Wood	Y
Diahann Gallard	

Academic Level: FHEQ6 **Credit Value:** 24 **Total Delivered Hours:** 48
Total Learning Hours: 240 **Private Study:** 192

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	48

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	2,000 words	50	
Portfolio	AS2	Portfolio	50	

Aims

This course provides students with a critical understanding of current issues in primary schools. The role, work and identity of the primary school teacher and primary school leaders are explored within the context of policy-driven change and government reforms.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Reflect on and critically analyse the changing nature of teachers' and leaders' work, identity and professionalism.
- 2 Analyse and evaluate the controversies surrounding the primary curriculum.
- 3 Recognise and discuss enduring trends and patterns.
- 4 Reflect on and analyse the current curricula in terms of educational and political ideologies.
- 5 Explain shifts in influence and power in education and changing policy relationships.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Assignment 1	1	2		
Assignment 2	3	4	5	

Outline Syllabus

Key developments in primary education, particularly those perceived as "controversial"

Educational change and the impact upon primary schools

Current policies for primary schools

The nature and control of the curriculum

The role of teachers and leaders in primary schools

Primary teachers' work

Teacher professionalism

School governance and leadership

Behaviour and the primary classroom

Working in partnership

Learning from observation

Planning and assessing for learning

Creativity

Inclusion

Learning Activities

Lectures, seminars, group exercises/work and Blackboard activities, reading, private study, group presentations on assigned topics.

Notes

The course offers a critical comprehensive analysis of primary schools in the early

21st century. The course considers the shift towards a managerial, performative culture in primary schools, changes to their governance of schools and the impact of incessant reforms on those who teach/work and learn in primary schools.