

## **COURSE INFORMATION GUIDE**

### **CHYS 4P22: Critical and Postmodern Theories of Childhood and Youth**

**Important:** The information contained in this guide is not equivalent to the course syllabus. It is intended to provide students with more information about scheduled courses than is provided through the undergraduate calendar. Keep in mind that it is prepared well in advance of the final courses preparation and merely provides an early idea about course objectives, content, and structure. In some cases this guide may be based on a previous year's course and not be reflective of the coming year's offering. Do not purchase texts or acquire readings based on the information guide.

**Instructor:** Dr. Hans Skott-Myhre

**Course Description:** This course focuses on issues related to the social construction of childhood and youth. It examines key theorists and practitioners whose work is oriented towards critiquing and changing society as a whole. The course focuses on the study of childhood and youth as a radical and potential emancipatory field of study with implications for the practices of teaching, counseling, social work, youth work, advocacy as well as child and youth care. It draws on examples from current events and issues for young people to bring theory and practice together.

**Course Objectives:** This course has four main objectives, including: (1) to provide an overview of key critical and postmodern theories in the field of child and youth studies, (2) to examine the major methodological, and empirical issues related to these theoretical frameworks, (3) to explore some of the philosophical and practical implications of these theories for those choosing to work with children and youth, and (4) to enhance students' critical thinking skills through discussions and reflective learning. By the end of this course students will have developed and applied the following: an understanding of the array of theories designated as critical and postmodern; an appreciation of the role postmodern and critical theory in the field of child and youth studies; the links and gaps between theory and practice.

**Course Evaluation:**

Final Paper	45%
Topic paper	25%
Facilitation	35%

**Additional Information:** This course tends focus more on lecture and discussion. Sakai is used.