SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: The Adult Learner

CODE NUMBER: ED 230
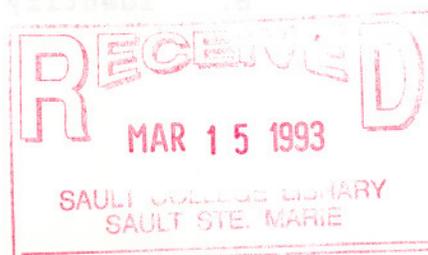
PROGRAM: Teacher of Adults

SEMESTER: Fall

DATE: September 1988

AUTHORS: Tony Hanlon, Mary Ellen Szadkowski, Susan Barber

K. DeRosario

NEW: _____   REVISION: _____

THE ADULT LEARNER
ED 230

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will explore the characteristics of adult learners and introduce participants to the complex set of emotional, physical, mental and social characteristics which can be involved in each adult learning situation. The factors which encourage adult learning and those which act as impediments to learning will be identified. Techniques for identifying adult learning styles and learning difficulties will be examined.

This course will count as three credits towards a Certificate in Adult Education and/or a Teacher of Adults Diploma.

OBJECTIVES:

THIS COURSE, THE ADULT LEARNER, WILL ENABLE THE STUDENT TO:

1. increase his/her understanding of adult motivation for learning;

2. increase his/her sensitivity to adult student experiences;

3. distinguish between formal and informal learning situations;

4. identify barriers to learning for various socioeconomic groups of adults;

5. develop an awareness of the physical, emotional, mental and social needs of adult students;

6. identify how adult learners differ from child learners;

7. identify the variety of learning styles demonstrated in a group;

8. identify and describe the developmental stages of adults.

RESOURCES:

Upon registration, you will receive a learning package consisting of:

> The Student Orientation Guide
> Module One
> The Learning Circle Guide

There is no textbook for this course. If you would like further information on the suggested readings mentioned in the course material, please contact the Distance Education Office.

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES:

This is a course that relies heavily on self study. The material has been designed to guide you through specific activities.

Each student will be assigned a tutor. Your tutor will help you determine the pace at which you should proceed through the material. He/she will also mark your assignments.

Since this course has been designed to be individual and self paced, you have some flexibility in completing the course requirements. We anticipate that it will take you approximately three months to complete this course, however you may complete the course more quickly if you wish. Your tutor will be able to assist you in this.

EVALUATION:

The possible grades are:

> A: 80 - 100%
> B: 70 - 79%
> C: 60 - 69%
> R (repeat): less than 60%

There are 12 assignments in this course. Each assignment will be worth 5%. (12 X 5% = 60%) For the Sault College course, you will be required to complete ALL assignments.

The final competency assignment will be worth 40%.

Note**   The final competency assignment used by Sault College is not the one contained in the Module you received. The Sault College version of the final competency will be forwarded to during the course.

INFORMATION FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION STUDENTS

INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURE:

1. The initial teleconference will occur at your local Contact North site. If your town does not have a Contact North site (see the attached brochure), you will either call from a local College campus, High School, or your own home. If we do not contact you with specific instructions, please call the Distance Education Office at Sault College.

    At the initial teleconference, you will receive information about the course and how it is being offered at Sault College. You will also receive the name of your tutor.

2. During the next week, your tutor will call and review with you your plans for the course and answer any questions you may have. During this initial call, you should discuss how and when future calls should be made.

3. If you are having problems contacting your tutor at any time during the course, call the Distance Education Office at Sault College (phone (800) 461-6819 or (705) 759-6774, ext 612). We'll try to get a message to him/her for you.

4. Your completed assignments can be sent in one of three ways (to be determined by discussion between you and your tutor).

    1. <u>Mail</u> your assignment to the Distance Education Office, Sault College, 443 Northern Ave, Sault Ste. Marie P6A 5L3

    2. <u>Use UPS, Purolator or other courier</u> to send your assignment to the Distance Education Office, Sault College.

Larger assignments (more than 5 pages or so) can be mailed or sent by courier. Mail takes up to a week. Courier takes from overnight to three days, depending on location. The cost will vary from 37 cents for a light letter to a few dollars for heavier packages or courier delivered packages.

3. "Fax" your assignment from the Contact North site or College campus in your local community to the Distance Education Office, Sault College ((705) 759-1319).

Small assignments (less than 5 pages or so) can be sent through the facsimile machine quite easily. There is no charge to use the facsimile machines through Contact North. The tutor receives a copy of the assignment, the student keeps the original. Assignments should be written with black ink.

Always be sure your name and your tutor's name are clearly marked on each page of your assignment.
Also, make a copy of your assignment before you send it to your tutor, in case it gets lost in transit.

5. Sault College is offering many Distance Education courses, however, this is the first time we have used a tutor directed, individualized self study method of delivery. We are very interested in your comments and feedback related to this experience.

Periodically you will be asked to complete a questionnaire (on yellow paper in your material). Please return these questionnaires to the Distance Education Office. At the completion of the course you will be asked to complete a final evaluation. **Please keep this in mind as you progress through the material. Your responses to a great extent determine what changes are made to the course material and delivery method.**

6. Good luck! Enjoy your learning experience.

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