Democracy and Education
FRE 348/ ECS 363/ HUM 358

Fall 2022-2023

Courses

T Th 01:30 pm - 02:50 pm

Instructor: Göran Magnus Blix

What’s the point of education? What should anyone truly learn, why, and how? Who gets to attend school? Is it a right, a privilege, a duty, an investment, or a form of discipline? Do schools level the playing field or entrench inequalities? Should they fashion workers, citizens, or individuals? Moving from France to the US, and from the Enlightenment to the present, we look at the vexed but crucial relationship between education and democracy in novels, films, essays, and philosophy, examining both the emancipatory and repressive potential of modern schooling. Topics include: Brown, class, meritocracy, testing, and alternative pedagogies.

Other Information: Taught in English. French concentrators and certificate students read French works in the original and submit written assignments in French.