

HBCSE - Summer Elective Course

Title: Creativity in education (a readings course)

Instructor: Sachin Datt

Credits: 2

Duration: May 18 to July 31, 2016

Contact sessions: The first class will be held on Wednesday May 18, 2016 at 11.30 am followed by twice-weekly sessions in May, June and July on Tuesdays and Fridays 11.30-1.30 pm.

Course contents:

The course will begin with an overview of perspectives on creativity. An attempt will be made to focus on specific aspects of creativity that are relevant in school education. Some of the focus questions we will attempt to explore are: what are the various views about creativity available in literature? How is creativity different from aspects of education that focus on gaining knowledge and understanding of natural world and human society? What is the relationship between imagination and knowledge, the seeming contraries? Is creativity inherent or can it be acquired in the process of development? Is creativity a necessary requirement in education of every individual or it is an option that is relevant only for a few artistically inclined individuals? What are the necessary elements required for introducing creativity in classrooms?

1. *Explaining Creativity: The Science of Human Innovation*, R. Keith Sawyer, Oxford University Press, 2006
2. *Imagination and Creativity in Childhood* by Lev Semenovich Vygotsky, Journal of Russian and East European Psychology, Vol. 42, No. 1, January–February 2004, pp. 7–97.
3. *Creativity and Reason in Cognitive Development*, edited by James C. Kaufman and John Baer, Cambridge University Press, 2006
4. *Play, Imagination and Creativity: A Brief Literature Review* by Kuan Chen Tsai, Journal of Education and Learning; Vol. 1, No. 2; 2012

The course will be structured around readings that students should have read before the class. Assessment will be based on classroom participation, written assignments and presentations.