This course examines through an interdisciplinary framework sociological and historical issues and concerns associated with the relationship between education and public life. The course analyzes education as a form of cultural power, addressing its political and ideological effects. Emphasis will be placed upon the social and historical meanings and purposes assigned to education, especially as it pertains to questions of race, gender, sexuality, and the political economy of class.

SCU 335 | YOUNG ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT IN CONTEXT | 4 quarter hours
(Undergraduate)
This course considers how race/ethnicity, gender, social class, and sexuality inform teachers’ perceptions of early adolescent development. It also examines middle grades teaching practices and has students analyze how those practices shape the growth and educational/learning experiences of early adolescents. It promotes a broad understanding of social, cultural, and historical conceptions of adolescence, and critically examines the complexities of the physical, social, intellectual, and emotional processes of growth and change of young adolescents. It explores the range of social contexts, interpersonal relationships, and societal views, which influence and give meaning to the development and learning of middle grade youth. This course uses observational experiences, reflective inquiry and interdisciplinary theories to prepare middle grades teacher candidates to design classroom experiences that reflect and are sensitive to the socio-cultural contexts and realities of diverse middle grades learners. ***The course meets in the afternoon and integrates community and/or after school field experience with young adolescents into coursework. Co-requisite for this course is MGE 300. In this course, students will: 1. Junior standing is a prerequisite for this class.

SCU 336 | ADOLESCENT AND ADULT GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT | 4 quarter hours
(Undergraduate)
Theories of development throughout adolescence including current issues of problems and growth crises in attaining maturation. The course also includes adult and aging life span considerations. Emphasis is placed on the role of the early childhood professional in interaction with adults in the lives of young children (i.e., parents, grandparents).

SCU 337 | HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT | 4 quarter hours
(Undergraduate)
This course is an introduction to the study of the process of human development from conception to old age. Through a range of theories, the periods of childhood, adolescence, and adulthood are examined with particular attention to the role of culture, gender, and class as they inform the contextualized process of growth and change across the life span.