

Course Description

MEDD6344 Aims of Higher Education

Course description			
<p>This course draws on the aims of higher education from both historical and sociological perspectives. It will consider the development of different higher education traditions, including liberal, civic and Humboldtian models, discuss the aims of higher education in the modern age, and explore what future university aims should be. The aims of higher education in the modern age will be considered in the context of the changing nature of the academic practice, such as massification, technological advance, and globalization. The course will also discuss controversial issues regarding the aims of higher education across institutional types and educational levels.</p> <p>Coursework / Examination ratio: <u>100</u> % Coursework, <u>0</u> % Examination</p>			
Course objectives			
<p>This course aims to understand the aims of higher education by reference to the history of the university and various theoretical perspectives on the aims and values of higher education. The course will help students understand different aims of higher education according to institutional types and levels of study.</p>			
Course learning outcomes			Aligned programme learning outcomes (PLOs)
1. To understand the historical and philosophical foundations of higher education			PLOs 1, 2, 3
2. To examine the changes of higher education aims/values across different contexts			PLOs 1, 2, 3
3. To apply the aims of higher education to organizational managements in higher education			PLOs 1, 2, 3
Course assessment methods			
Assessment method	Type of assessment (e.g. description of assignment)	Weighting (%)	Aligned course learning outcome(s)
Reflective essay	Individual	40	CLOs 1, 2, 3
Group projects	Group	40	CLOs 1, 2, 3
On-line discussion	Individual	20	CLOs 1, 2, 3
Course content and topics			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aims of higher education: an introduction; A definition and scope of higher education; A brief history of higher education • Higher education: Past, present, and future; Traditional ideas of university; The changing higher education environment and future university • Aims of undergraduate education (1): Employability, learning, or both? • Aims of undergraduate education (2): Citizenship and social participation • Aims of community college • Aims of postgraduate education: Master's education and doctoral education • Changing academic profession: teaching, research, and social engagement in future university 			
Required / recommended readings and online materials			
<p>Bok, D. (1974). On the purpose of undergraduate education. <i>Daedalus</i>, 103(4), 159-172.</p> <p>Barnett, R. (1990). <i>The Idea of Higher Education</i>. Buckingham: Society for Research into Higher Education/Open University Press.</p> <p>Barnett, R. (Ed.) (2012). <i>The future university: Ideas and possibilities</i>. Routledge.</p>			
Other additional course information			
<p><u>Impermissible</u>: MEDD6348 Higher Education Leadership</p>			