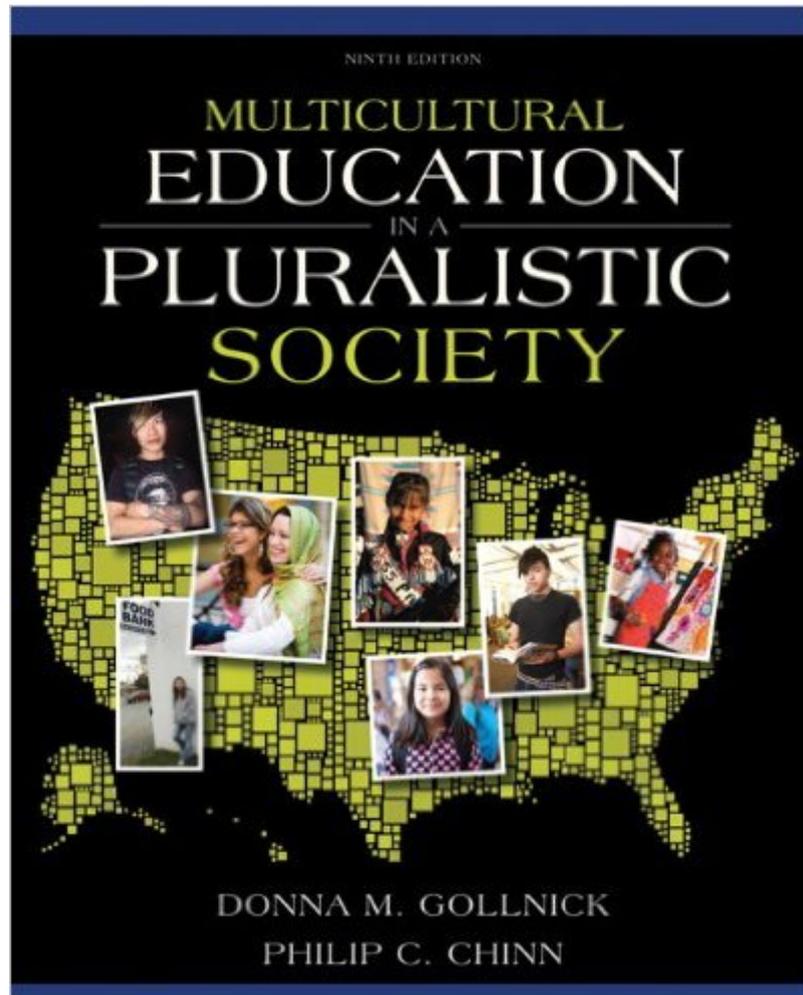


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Multicultural Education In A Pluralistic Society (9th Edition)



Synopsis

This best-selling text offers a balanced approach to issues as it explores today's multicultural landscape and how to prepare teachers to use equitable and reflective decision making in their multicultural classrooms. The ninth edition of *Multicultural Education in a Pluralistic Society* was designed to introduce prospective teachers to the different cultural groups to which students and their families belong. In this time of extensive standardized testing, we must remember that students are the center of teaching. We have to understand and build on their cultures and experiences to help them learn at the highest levels. In this regard, this book provides background on the diversity of the nation's students, explores the social and educational issues faced by teachers in diverse classrooms, and guides the reader to think critically and reflectively about their decisions as a teacher in a multicultural education classroom.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Certainly, the assignment of this book in a graduate level course must be covered under the Geneva Convention. Not only is it poorly written, but it is intellectually shallow -- nothing but an assemblage of hackneyed cliches about how horrible the "dominant culture" in America is. I cannot believe that I have been assigned this trite tome as the sole text in a GRADUATE level course. What's even worse, it provides virtually no guidance for current or prospective educators about how to effectively teach a classroom full of students of disparate races, cultures, religions and socio-economic backgrounds. What a shame that is, since this is such a very real need in education

today. Thank goodness this is only for a 4-week summer intersession. That this book is in its 5TH EDITION is simply beyond comprehension.

While this book may contain some good information on multicultural education I find it difficult to get past the bias presented in it. Based on statements like "A crucial fact in understanding racism is that whites see themselves as superior to persons and groups of color, and as a result exercise their power to prevent people of color from securing the prestige, power, and privilege held by whites." and "Whites go through a developmental stages as they develop their racial identity and abandon racism." The authors seem to presume that all whites are racist, power hungry, pigs. Knowing that such a generalization is patently false how can I trust the content describing peoples of other cultural backgrounds.

It is bad enough that this is a poor book with no balance, but to require it as a text in post-graduate studies in education almost brings on apoplexy. It is a secular humanist apologia for multiculturalism in education. It is singular in point of view, never straying from the thesis that multiculturalism is good and schools must support it; hardly the sort of reference work for a university level discussion of the issues. The philosophy behind the book is that people are hardly more or less than those cultural elements which have been socialized into them with little responsibility for their beliefs or actions. The main text is that every culture is equally valuable in society, forgetting that "society" is essentially American culture with its own priorities. They go into great detail on the virtues of immigrant cultures and the vices of the American culture, hardly accepting that it has a right to exist as well. The most difficult aspect of this is the authors' almost laughable inability to get outside of their point of view and treat the issues with something approaching objectivity. The book is unbearable in its "holier than thou" attitude. I don't know if this is typical of the ilk but if so, it is hardly a wonder that the multicultural mavens have difficulty selling their point of view

This book is terrible. Conceptually these are ideas that educators need to be aware of. But this book clearly presents them as issues with right and wrong answers. They frequently form conclusions without providing evidence. The careful reader can pick up on these trends and more. The not so careful reader will finish this book with a head filled with the authors' (sometimes racist ethically questionable) opinions. This book is not your friend! (Unless you are not an individual and prefer to take directions blindly from others.)

Hated it. Could not believe I was forced to endure this text for an entire course. Totally insulting and biased.

The author contradicts them self by using opinions and not facts to slander those that don't fit the profile in the chapters discussed. I felt insulted at points, as an Anglo-Saxon female teacher reading comments about how I'll never be able to teach a student of a different race, class, sex, nationality, etc. to the fullest potential because I will never understand those students. It would be different if facts backed every degrading statement. I would accept researched declarations and statistics (which does happen for some topics and are great resources to trust), but most are not backed. So thank you for making me feel inferior and bad about myself for being something out of my control. As if there wasn't already enough garbage out there to make me feel bad about myself, I didn't need a book used for a master's level program also to bring me down.

To start, I consider myself to be a moderate on the political spectrum. I have a bachelor's in history and my focus was on Soviet history. And let me tell you, this is it baby, communism right here. I had to read this for a class pursuing my masters in teaching and barely passed because the content is so divisive and ugly. From cover to cover it labels and generalizes every single possible social group and spends almost no time at all mentioning anything people have in common. It presents opinions on what is right and wrong and is highly critical of ideas like individualism and merit. It also assumes that being a member of the majority means you are closed off and don't care about other groups and everyone needs to be forced out of a shell. The only parts of this book I appreciated seemed like really common sense that mom and dad should have taught you about tolerance and empathy, not college course material.

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