

Bank Street College



Graduate School of Education

Catalogue 2010 – 2011



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Bank Street College of Education,

established as the Bureau of Educational Experiments in 1916, began preparing teachers in 1930. The credo below is a living statement that continues to inspire the students, faculty, and staff at Bank Street today.

Our Credo

What potentialities in human beings—children, teachers, and ourselves—do we want to develop?

- A zest for living that comes from taking in the world with all five senses alert
- Lively intellectual curiosities that turn the world into an exciting laboratory and keep one ever a learner
- Flexibility when confronted with change and ability to relinquish patterns that no longer fit the present
- The courage to work, unafraid and efficiently, in a world of new needs, new problems, and new ideas
- Gentleness combined with justice in passing judgments on other human beings
- Sensitivity, not only to the external formal rights of the "other fellow," but to him as another human being seeking a good life through his own standards
- A striving to live democratically, in and out of schools, as the best way to advance our concept of democracy

Our credo demands ethical standards as well as scientific attitudes. Our work is based on the faith that human beings can improve the society they have created.

— Lucy Sprague Mitchell
Founder of Bank Street College



Dear Current or Prospective Student:

Welcome to Bank Street College of Education. In reading this catalogue you will gain information about our many programs for students interested in the education professions: teaching, learning, and leading. Whether you are just starting out, already in the field, or preparing to advance in your career, Bank Street has much to offer. Here you will not only develop the skills to provide children with mastery of the materials at hand, but you will also develop an ability to create learning environments, inspire children, and guide them toward a lifelong love of learning.

For close to a century, Bank Street has been seeking to understand the conditions under which children best learn and develop—cognitively and psychosocially. We work with adults to help create those conditions. We engage families and draw upon the remarkable cultural and linguistic diversity of the New York metropolitan area. In our onsite School for Children and Family Center, we serve children from infancy through adolescence. These frameworks for learning are tested and refined through our work in schools, hospitals, museums, and other settings throughout metropolitan New York City and in other cities in the United States and abroad.

The cornerstone of a Bank Street graduate education is advisement, a special process in which students in small groups of six to ten are mentored in their field experiences. In advisement, students integrate theory and practice, emerging as promising professionals. It is this distinctive component of Bank Street's program that led the Carnegie Corporation of New York to name Bank Street as one of its eleven partners in Teachers for a New Era, a national initiative to model excellence and improve the field of teacher preparation.

It has long been held that one of the best measures of a society is the value it places on children. At Bank Street, we welcome you to join with us in becoming professionals seeking to improve our society, one child, one class, one school at a time.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth D. Dickey".

Elizabeth D. Dickey
President, Bank Street College of Education

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