

Components of Curriculum

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Unit-1

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COMPONENTS OF CURRICULUM

Objectives:-

After the study of e-content, students will be able to

- Explain the various components of curriculum.
- Differentiate various components of curriculum
- Understand the need of components of curriculum

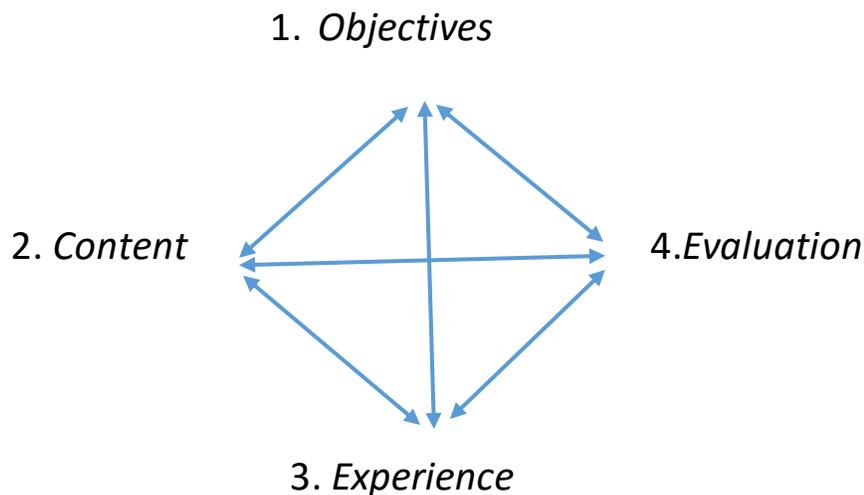
Introduction:-

The concept of curriculum is very broad. It consists of totality of experiences that a pupil receives through the manifold activities that go on in the institution, in a classroom, library, laboratory, workshop and playground and in the numerous contacts between the teachers and the pupils. Curriculum plays an important role in an educational system. It is some how a blueprint which leads the teacher and the learner to reach the desired objectives.

The teaching activities are planned or designed by the teacher in view of four components- teaching – learning objectives, teaching content or subject matter, teaching methods and evaluation of learning outcomes. Curriculum depends upon level of students, need of the

society and the nation. Nature of content is therefore very important factors. These factors are essential in identifying the objectives of teaching – learning. Several types of teaching objectives are attained by the same content. Thus, a content has its own structure. The specific objectives are realized by organizing specific teaching tasks and activities. Thus there are four elements of curriculum, which are essential and interrelated to each other:

- 1) Curriculum Aims and Objectives
- 2) Curriculum Content or Subject Matter
- 3) Curriculum Experience
- 4) Curriculum Evaluation



Relationship between elements of curriculum

1).Curriculum Aims and Objectives:

- Aims and objectives are decided at all the levels central, state, and local considering philosophy, sociological and psychological foundations.

- Aims and objectives can be simplified as “what is to be done”.
- The subject’s content structure, levels of students, and type of examination components are considered in the identification of objectives of teaching and learning.
- These objectives are specific and written in behavioral terms so as to develop learning structures and conditions.
- It tries to capture what goals are to be achieved, the vision, the philosophy, the mission statement and objectives.

2). Curriculum Content or Subject Matter:

- It clearly defines the purpose and what the curriculum is to be acted upon and try what to drive at.
- In the same manner, Curriculum has a frame work guideline. Here, it contains information about all the aspects to be learned in school.
- It is an element or a medium through which the objectives are accomplished.
- A primordial concern of formal education is primarily to transmit organized knowledge in distilled form to a new generation of young learners.
- In organizing the learning contents, balance, articulation, sequence, integration and continuity form a sound content.
- The content of any subject is usually broad. It is analysed into sub-content and further into its elements.
- This elements are arranged in a logical sequence.
- The behavioural objectives are written with the help of these elements of the content.

- It is also known as logic of teaching.

3).Curriculum Experience:

- Curriculum experience means what Instructional strategies, resources and activities will be employed in teaching- learning.
- The specific objectives of teaching are attained with the help of appropriate teaching strategy.
- These instructional strategies and methods will put into action the goals and use of the content in order to produce and outcome.
- These would convert the written curriculum to instruction.
- The behavioural objectives provides the awareness and insight about the specific learning conditions.
- The strategy is employed for providing learning experiences and bringing desirable behavioural change.
- Moreover, mastery is the function of the teacher direction and student activity with the teacher supervision.

4).Curriculum Evaluation:

- For the fourth elements, the curriculum evaluation is an element of an effective curriculum.
- Curriculum evaluation means what methods and instruments will be used to assess the results of the curriculum.
- It identifies the quality, effectiveness of the program, process and product of the curriculum.
- The level of students attainment is evaluated by employing criteria referenced test.

- It shows the effectiveness of strategy of teaching and other components.
- The interpretation of evaluation provides the feedback to the curriculum and its components.
- Curriculum evaluation is also important so that one could assess whether the objectives and aims have been met or if not, he could employ another strategy which will really work out.
- Curriculum evaluation is an empirical basis for the 'curriculum development'

Summary:

- ❖ The elements of a curriculum are distinct but interrelated to each other. These four components should be always present in a curriculum.
- ❖ One can say that these are essential ingredients to have an effective curriculum. For example, in a curriculum, evaluation is important so one could assess whether the objectives and aims have been met or not.
- ❖ Curriculum experience could not be effective if the content is not clearly defined.
- ❖ The aims, goals and direction serve as the anchor of the learning journey, the content or subject matter serve as the meat of the educational journey, curriculum experience serves as the hands-on exposure to the real spectrum of learning and finally the curriculum evaluation serves as the Barometer as to how far had the learners understood on the educational journey.

Review Questions:

- Write long answer -

What is meant by curriculum? Explain the elements of curriculum.

➤ Write short notes on –

- Objectives of curriculum
- Content of curriculum
- Curriculum experience
- Curriculum evaluation