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CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT IN LANGUAGE STUDIES

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ABSTRACT

In this paper the field of language curriculum development is defined as encompassing the processes of needs analysis, goal setting, syllabus design, methodology and evaluation. Then the different factors affecting modern curriculum in today's world is discussed in detail. Needs analysis is discussed in relation to an important facet for language program planning. Different approaches to the planning of program objectives in language teaching are also talked about. Some ideas to fit in modern language curriculum are also discussed.

KEYWORDS: curriculum, curriculum development, factors affecting , needs analysis , target population , communication skills , ideas implementation , teaching method , syllabus designing.

INTRODUCTION

For proper curriculum development, we should first have a proper conception of what curriculum is and how it can be decided upon.

Curriculum may be defined as

- A plan for achieving goals;
- Dealing with the learners' experiences;
- System for dealing with the society, field of study with its own foundations, theories, principles, and specialists;

Curriculum development is an essentially practical activity to improve the quality of language teaching through the use of systematic planning, development, and review practices in all aspects of a language

program. This is a very important event because with every passing time , there are changes around us in the environment , with the people and even their needs, therefore the development in the curriculum should be done in such a way which is beneficial to an individual in all aspects throughout his/her life.

FACTORS AFFECTING CURRICULUM TODAY

Several factors affect curriculum development while meeting the needs of 21st century learners. Some factors affecting curriculum development include government norms, which in turn brings other factors into the process. Valid curriculum development requires awareness of the diversity of the target community socially, financially and psychologically.

1. Political

Politics affect curriculum development in numerous ways because directly or indirectly all institutions depend on funding and that comes from the political influencers.

2. Economic

. Nations financing education expect an economic return from educated students and therefore the authorities will always want to set the curriculum according to their wishes.

3. Technological

Technology-driven curriculum development is the norm of the 21st century and therefore it always plays a key role.

4. Diversity

Curriculum development is affected by diversity that opens learning opportunities. Social diversity includes religion, culture and social groupings. These affect curriculum development because they can influence the types of topics and methods for teaching information

6. Environment

Environment issues also affect curriculum development. For instance, world awareness and action toward reversing and ending pollution continues to affect curriculum development. degrees.

. NEEDS ANALYSIS AS AN IMPORTANT FACET OF CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Needs analysis is a procedure used to collect information about learners' needs. It is a distinct necessary phase in planning educational programmes. In this analysis we focus on the necessities and needs the learners have in their lives, so that curriculum development becomes beneficial to each and every one. In these cases we always consider target population.

The **target population** in a needs analysis refers to the people about whom information will be collected.

CERTAIN IDEAS WHICH CAN BE IMPLEMENTED FOR BETTER CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

One most important fact which the modern world demands from every person is **proper communication skills**. It may happen that a person is very good in his writing skills and writes fabulous

English language but when it comes to speaking and demonstrating his written words, he fails in this endeavour. Therefore it is very necessary for curriculum development where the focus can slightly shift to speaking skills apart from writings.

Thus certain activities have to be inculcated in the curriculum for proper functioning of the system.

Some may be listed as follows:

- Accuracy versus fluency practices.
- Regular debates
- Group discussions
- Teachers and students should always communicate to each other only in English
- Preferable if the individual even practices the language at his home
- To attend different lectures in that language
- To show videos and even movies in that language so that students can even understand the expression of each sentence
- Activities including critical and creative thinking.

CONCLUSION

Nowadays it is very necessary for frequent development of curriculum because the world is changing too fast and this job becomes easier by the following ways.

Teaching method: Teaching methods have often been regarded as the most important factor in determining the success of a language program, and advances in language teaching have sometimes been seen as being dependent on the adoption of the latest method. Moreover it is only teachers who can make an individual fluent in a particular language by their rigorous practices.

Syllabus designing: Curriculum designing is the process of developing a syllabus. A syllabus is a specification of the content of a course of instruction and lists of what will be taught and tested. The syllabus has to be decided very cautiously based on the present needs of the world.

REFERENCES

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