

Unit :- One

Introduction to curriculum

Explain different meanings of curriculum.

- 1.1. Curriculum as subject
- 1.2. Curriculum as courses of study and syllabus
- 1.3. Curriculum as experiences
- 1.4. Curriculum as objectives
- 1.5. Curriculum as plan of learning.

Concept of Curriculum

Means for achieving goals and objectives of education. Subject matter set out by teacher for to cover. organized knowledge. curriculum is applied branch of education and curriculum is a process which aims at reducing the gap between theory and practice as well as intention and reality.

❑ Meaning of curriculum

1. Etymological Meaning of curriculum
2. Narrow meaning of Curriculum
3. Wider Meaning of Curriculum

1. Etymological meaning of Curriculum

The term curriculum has been derived from a Latin word 'Currere' which means a 'race course' or a runway on which one runs to reach a goal. Accordingly, a curriculum is the instructional and the educative program by following which the pupils achieve their goals, ideals and of life. It is curriculum through which the general aims of a school education receive concrete expression. The traditional curriculum was subject- centered while the modern curriculum is child and life-centered. Modern education is the combination of two dynamic processes. The one is the process of individual development and the other is the process of socialization, which is commonly known as adjustment with the social environment.

a. Meaning of Curriculum:

1. Curriculum (Noun) the subjects comprising a course of study in a school or college.
2. In education, a curriculum is broadly defined as the totality of student experiences that occur in the educational process.
3. Etymological Meaning of Curriculum: The word "curriculum" began as a Latin word which means "a race" or "the course of a race"

1. **Cunningham** - "Curriculum is a tool in the hands of the artist (teacher) to mould his material (pupils) according to his ideas (aims and objectives) in his studio (school)".
2. **Monroe** - "Curriculum includes all those activities which are utilized by the school to attain the aims of education.
3. **Crow and Crow** - The curriculum includes all the learners' experience in or outside school that are included in a program which has been devised to help him developmentally, emotionally, socially, spiritually and morally".
4. **T.P. Nunn**- "The curriculum should be viewed as various forms of activities that are grand expressions of human spirit and that are of the greatest and most permanent significance to the wide world".

2. Narrow meaning of curriculum

- It is called course of study or list of content.
- Systematic set of courses for study.
- bookish knowledge.
- The course of study / syllabus is a refined detail of the curriculum at a particular stages of learning for a particular subject.
 - a. Course of study
 - b. List of content to be taught
 - c. Subject matter Curriculum is a systematic
- organization of course sequences of subjects required for graduation or certification in a major field of study

3. Wider meaning of curriculum

- The term curriculum in its broadest sense refers to those planned learning activities or experience provided by educational programme to the learners.
- It is an organized plan of teaching .
- learning experience to be imparted to students in order to attain the objectives of education.
- It is back bone of educational programme.
- The concept of curriculum is as dynamic as the changes that occur in society. In its narrow sense, curriculum is viewed merely as a listing of subject to be taught in school. In a broader sense, it refers to the total learning experiences of individuals not only in schools but in society as well.

Wider meaning of curriculum

1. Curriculum is totality of experiences of each learner under the influence of school. - **Sheffler**
2. Curriculum is planned action for instruction. -**Mac. Donald**
3. It is the toll in the hand of the artist to mould his materials(students)according to his ideal (Objectives) in his studio (school). - **Cunningham**
4. Curriculum is all of the learning of students which is planned by and directed by school to attain its educational goals . -**Tyler**
5. Curriculum is all of the activities that are provided for students by the school. - **Alberty and Alberty**

6. Curriculum is the total effort of the school to bring about desired outcomes in school and out of school situation. - **Alexander and Saylor**
7. Curriculum is all planned learning outcomes for which the school is responsible.- **Popham and barker**
8. Curriculum includes all those activities which are utilized by school to attains aims of education. - **Monroe**
9. Curriculum is a study programme designed to achieve the aim of education.- **NESP 2028 – 2032**

Different meanings of curriculum.

1. Curriculum as subject
2. Curriculum as courses of study and syllabus
3. Curriculum as experiences
4. Curriculum as objectives
5. Curriculum as plan of learning.

1.1 Curriculum As Subject

- Traditional concept of Curriculum. body of subjects or subject matter prepared by the teachers for the students to learn.
- In this view, curriculum as process of transmitter of knowledge.
- Syllabus or course of study.
- It emphasis on traditional textbook approach.
- Curriculum is the Body of knowledge.
- Curriculum must include an outline of the subject matters to be taught.
- Curriculum is a body of knowledge , content or subject .

In this concept of curriculum is limits planning to the selection and organization of information that learners are to acquire.

Some criticism of curriculum As Subject

1. Traditional Concept of curriculum.
2. Narrow concept of curriculum.
3. Negligence of creative Learning.
4. Emphasis on teacher cantered method.
5. Inadequacy to all round development of Student.
6. Negligence of hidden curriculum.

7. Rigid concept of curriculum.

In this way, the course can be identified as follows:

1. Perennialist concept of curriculum
2. Essentialist concept of curriculum
3. curriculum as structure of discipline

Perennialist concept of curriculum

- oldest & most conservative
- much of colonial & post colonial American education, up to 19th century.
- propounded by Hutchins, Who is American Education.
- He said that: Curriculum should consist principally of the permanent studies such as the rule of Grammar, Reading, rhetoric & logic, mathematics particularly for the elementary level and Secondary level of schooling and the greatest books of the Western world mainly beginning.
- in this philosophy the aim of the educational system is the same in every age and every society where such a system can exist, it is to improve a man as man.

Essentialist's concept of curriculum

- This is the thought of educationist W. Bagely and W. Bennett.
- Essentialists believe that there exists a critical core of information and skill that an educated person must have.
- Essentialism is a uniquely American philosophy of education which began in the 1930s and 1940s.

Curriculum as Structure of Discipline

- propounded by Joseph J. Schwab & Phenix.
- 1950s to 1970s
- Phenix said: the curriculum should consist entirely of knowledge which comes from the disciplines.

1.2 Curriculum as course of study / syllabus

- The course of study / syllabus is a refined detail of the curriculum at a particular stage of learning for a particular subject. A part of curriculum.
- Its objectives: To provide theoretical and subjective knowledge and information on the basis of curriculum.
- Emphasis on subject efficiency and subjective test or exam.
- Usually, classroom teaching and lecture oriented.
- Knowledge, skill and attitudes can be developed in line with the credit hour mentioned in the curriculum.
- It is led by subject specialists, teacher and professors.
- Stresses learning and memory as well as verbal and theoretical aspect of content.

1.3. Curriculum as experience

- curriculum is the series of things which children and youth must do and experience by way of developing ability to the things well that makes up the affair of adult life .
- curriculum plan must be based on consideration of all elements in the experience of the learner .
- it is learner centered Approach .
- Determination of learning experience to be learned by student.
- The notion curriculum as experience gives priority to the learners' need and interests rather than subject or subject matter that comes from established disciplines. So, curriculum is considered as the set of experiences.

Some definitions of Curriculum as an experiences

- Curriculum means entire world of experience pupil under the direction of school. - **B . N . Dash**
- curriculum is all experience that learner has achieved under the guidance of the school. - **Kerney N.C.**
- In conclusion, this notion tries to make the curriculum more relevant by relating the it to the need of students' life situations.

In this way, to identify the course as an experience

1. Child - Centered vs Subject centered rationals
2. curriculum as guided Learning Experience
3. curriculum as Guided Living
4. Extra class Activities.

Criticism of curriculum as an Experience

- **Abstract concept of curriculum**
- **As unclear concept of scope of curriculum.**
- **Organizational problem of curriculum .**
- **need of competent & Efficient person.**
- **Differential problem of curricular and no- curricular activities.**

1.4. curriculum as objectives

- Objective are expressed in term of changed learner behavior derived from an analysis of objectives are phrased precisely.
- Objectives are close and quite visible.
- In words of objective can be short term may cover a lesson a day, a week , a term or a semester .
- it is used classroom teacher individually groups of teachers some curriculum.
- profounder are : R.W. Tyler , Hilda Taba, Johnson . popham , Alkin, Backer & Skinner etc.

- According to Hilda taba :- curriculum is the total effort of the school to bring about directed outcomes in school and out of school situation. Likewise ,
- Johnson :- curriculum is a series of intended learning outcomes.

Some Definitional issues of curriculum as an objectives:

- (i) Emphasis on Learning outcomes
- (ii) Negligence of other elements of curriculum
- (iii) objective as a means of curriculum
- (iv) Emphasis on Mechanical Learning Process
- (v) Emphasis on differences between curriculum and teaching learning process

1.5 Curriculum as plan of learning

- All the means(Plan) employed by the school to provide students with opportunities for desirable learning experience.
- content, course of study and list of subject and courses to all the experience which are offered to learners under the auspices (OR5fPsf]) or direction of the school.
- it seems reasonable to conclude that the curriculum, as a blueprint for education , consists ultimately of the experience that it is planned for learners to have.
- Planned activities and for learning.
- curriculum is a plan for learning.- Hilda taba(1962).
- Curriculum is a plan for providing set of learning opportunity for person to be an educated - Saylor, Alexander & Lewis'
- profounder: Hilda taba , R.W. Tyler, Saylor & Alexander , Murray print, Beauchamp , c. v. Good etc
- curriculum is a plan for action, and which guides to instruction.

Some Definitional issues Related to curriculum As a plan.

- I. A rigid & Closed Nature concept of curriculum.
- ii. Negligence of Hidden curriculum.
- iii. Negligence of creative aspect of student.
- iv. Unable to show the difference between curricular plan and instructional plan.
- v. Unilinear thought of curriculum.