

Q. No. Unit-1 (1) :-

Define Curriculum. Write the characteristics of Curriculum.

Ans. to the Q.No. Unit-1 (1) :-

Title :- 'Define Curriculum and the characteristics of Curriculum.'

Introduction :-

In the Paper-09 i.e. 'Foundation of Curriculum Development', I got the assignment-topic, 'Define Curriculum and the characteristics of Curriculum?'. First of all, I want to explain the meaning and definition of 'Curriculum'.

Meaning of Curriculum :-

The term curriculum is derived from the Latin word 'Currere' which means run and it signifies a runway or

'a course' which one runs to reach a goal." In education, it is generally identified with a course of study or subjects prescribed for a course. In fact, subjects form only a part of curriculum means the total situation selected and organized by the institution and made available to the teacher to operate and translate the aim of education into reality.

Curriculum is the heart of the education. There are two type concept i.e traditional concept and Modern concept of Curriculum.

Traditional concept - The curriculum was subject-centered while the the modern curriculum is child and life centered. Modern curriculum is the combination of two dynamic process.

## Main Discussion :-

### Definition of Curriculum :-

Curriculum includes all courses and experiences that can prepare a man for life. Curriculum should focus on whole man. The definition of curriculum are —

According to 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)."

According to A. Bestor (1956),

The curriculum must consist essentially of disciplined study in five great ideas : (i) Command of mother tongue and the systematic study of

grammar literature, and writing,  
(ii) mathematics, (iii) Science, (iv) history  
(v) foreign language.

According to Bell (1971),

The offering of socially valued knowledge, skills and attitudes made available to students through a variety of arrangements during the time they are at school, college or university.

According to Caswell and Campbell,  
"Curriculum is composed of all of the experiences children have under the guidance of the teacher."

According to Ralph Tyler,

"The curriculum is all of the learning of students which is planned by and directed by the school to attain its educational goals."

## The Characteristics of Curriculum :-

A curriculum is the instructional and the educative programme by following which the pupils achieve their goals, ideals and aspiration, domains of curriculum and the theoretical and practical principles of curriculum. Curriculum is the heart of the education.

The characteristics of Curriculum  
are mentioned below :-

(i) The Curriculum is continuously  
evolving :-

It evolved from one period to another, to the present. For a curriculum to be effective, it must have continuous monitoring and evaluation. Curriculum must adapt its educational activities and services to meet the needs of a modern and dynamic community.

(ii) The Curriculum is based on the needs of the people :-

A good curriculum reflects the needs of the individual and the society as a whole. The curriculum is in proper shape in order to meet the challenges of times and make education more responsive to the clientele it serves.

(iii) The Curriculum is democratically conceived :-

A good curriculum is developed through the efforts of a group of individuals from different sectors in the society who are knowledgeable about the interests, needs and resources of the learner and the society as a whole. The curriculum is the product of many minds and energies.

(iv) The curriculum is the result of a long-term effort :-

A good curriculum is a product of long and tedious process. It takes a long period of time in the planning, management, evaluation and development of a good curriculum.

(v) The Curriculum is a complex of details :-

A good curriculum provides the proper instructional equipment and meeting places that are often most conducive to learning. It includes the student-teacher relationship, guidance and counselling program, health services, school and community projects, library and laboratories, and other school-related work experience.

(vi) The Curriculum provides for the logical sequence of subject matter :-

Learning is developmental. Classes and activities should be planned. A good curriculum provides continuity of experiences.

(vii) The curriculum complements and cooperates with other programs of the community :-

The curriculum is responsive to the needs of the community. The school offers its assistance in the improvement and realization of ongoing programmes of the community. There is cooperative effort between the school and the community towards greater productivity.

(viii) The curriculum has educational quality :-

Quality education comes through the situation of the individuals



intellectual and creative capacities for social welfare and development. The curriculum helps the learner to become the best that he can possibly be.

(ix) The curriculum has administrative flexibility :-

A good curriculum must be ready to incorporate changes whenever necessary. The curriculum is open to revision and development to meet the demands of globalization and the digital age.

These are all about the various characteristics of curriculum. Curriculum is the heart of the education. A good curriculum provides the proper instructional equipment.

## Conclusion :-

In this assignment, I had discussed about the meaning and definition of curriculum and also explained the characteristics of curriculum. Curriculum is the heart of the education.

Thus, we can conclude as curriculum is the instructional and the educative programme by following which the pupils achieve their goals, ideals and aspiration, domains of curriculum and the theoretical and practical principles of curriculum. A good curriculum provides the proper instructional equipment.

## Reference :-

(i) Saikia, Dr. Mukul (2016). An introduction to curriculum Development. Panbazar, Guwahati: Mani Manik Prakash.

(ii) Mahanta, Dr. N.N and Borah, H.N (2019). Foundation of Curriculum Development. Panbazar, Guwahati: Mani Manik Prakash.

(iii) <https://www.slideshare.net/mobile/DarylTabogoe/characteristics-of-good-curriculum>.