
2. Education : Basic Concept and Ideas in Education

Credits: 4

MM: 100 (External: 75 Internal: 25)

Course Objectives

This is a discipline course in education, which aims to provide the basics of education and the nature of education (Liberal). It establishes the interdisciplinary nature of education by acquainting the student with its interconnectedness with other disciplines: philosophy, psychology, sociology, economics and polity. It intends to clarify the significant concepts in education. The students will be able to know and understand how educational aims are framed. They will also be able to comprehend the linkages between social institutions and education. Social change and its relationship with education will be understood. This paper will help develop analytical and critical thinking based on the themes and issues in education in a philosophical and social context.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course, learners are expected to:

Know the concept of education and its interconnections with other relevant disciplines and its nature.

- Understand various theoretical concepts in education.
- Understand how the aims of education are formulated and how they are influenced by various socio-cultural forces/aspects.
- Establish the importance of education for all human beings.
- Develop critical thinking and analytical ability to evaluate written texts and formulate their response to reality.
- Understand the role of ethics, morals and values in education.

Unit-1: Basic Ideas in Education

- Education: Its meaning processes, purpose and aims; its liberal and interdisciplinary nature.

- Major concepts in Education: Schooling and Education, Teaching, Training, Learning, Indoctrination, and Propaganda.
- Epistemological basis of education: Knowledge, Belief, Inquiry, Reason
- Ethics, values and ideals

Unit 2: Understanding Education and Society

(5 weeks)

- Education and Socialisation: Agencies of Socialisation—Home, Family, Community, School and Media.
- Culture and Education: Role of education in preservation, transformation, and promotion of Culture; culture and ideology.
- Constitutional Values: Equality, Freedom, Justice, Secularism, Human Rights
- Bases for formulating Aims of Education: With reference to the constitution and other socio-cultural forces in India.

Unit 3: Thinkers in Education

(4 weeks)

Each thinker is to be studied with reference to their perspectives on education.

- Sri Aurobindo
- J. Krishnamurti
- John Dewey
- J.J. Rousseau
- Paulo Freire

Suggested Projects / Assignments (Any Two)

- Read the Position Paper titled ‘Aims of Education’ (NCF 2005 or any recent position paper) and present your understanding.
- Beginning with the Preamble of the Constitution of India, focus on the ideas of Justice, Liberty, Equality, and Secularism and present your understanding of these concepts and how can education help to achieve them.
- Identify any one aim of education and study the current practices of any school to understand how this aim is being realised.
- A detailed study of one educational thinker concerning his ideas on the nature of the child, teacher, and school and their relevance and challenges in the contemporary context.
- Reflective critical essay on one’s socialisation with reference to home, school, community and media.
- Interview school teacher(s) and discuss their understanding of the meaning of education.

Note: Based on the above, the teacher may design other relevant projects/ assignments