

Foundation of Education

Course Description

The course introduces teacher trainees to education, schooling, their historical context and characteristics.

It also exposes learners to different types of education; Formal, Non-formal, Adult and Informal education with their distinguishing features.

It looks at the functions of education, current issues in education and challenges in formal education, and the history of education in Africa since independence.

Course Objectives

- 1) To be able to correctly define education and schooling.
- 2) To enable learners identify and explain the different types of education with their characteristic features.
- 3) To be able to relate and classify the type of education that signifies the education system in Puntland.
- 4) To enable teacher trainees explain the rationale for heavy investment in education for social, political and economic benefits.
- 5) To be able to trace the origin of education in Africa since independence, its aims, challenges, and strategies for better education in Africa.

Exoected Learning Outcomes

1. To produce learners capable of identifying the major types of education, their characteristics, and their contribution to holistic development.
2. To train learners capable of explaining the need for education for socio-political and economic well-being of society.

Contents

1. **Definition of Education**
2. **Types of Education**
3. **Functions of Education**
4. **Current Issues in Education**
5. **Challenges in Formal Education**
6. **History of Education in Somalia(Pre and post-colonial era)**

Education

Meaning

Etymologically, 'Education' has been derived from different Latin word.

- a) 'Educare,' which means 'to bring out' or 'to nourish' .
- b) 'Educere,' which means 'to lead out' or 'to draw out.'

Definition

- Education is the deliberate, systematic, and sustained effort to transmit or acquire knowledge, values, attitudes, skills, and any learning resulting from the action.
- **Dr. Zakir Husain:** "Education is the process of the individual mind, getting to its full possible development."
- **Aristotle:** "Education is the creation of a sound mind in a sound body."

In light of the above definitions, education modifies human behavior and improves every aspect of society.

Aim, Goal, and Objectives

- Aims refer to the most general ideals, values, or principles of a person, institution, or society regarded as the ultimate desideratum of education.
- Goals refer to a second stage, which is imitative from aims and focuses on contents and topics that should be studied to enable students to understand and actualize explicit core ideals. Goals translate aims into specific content that should be part of the educational process.
- Objectives refer to the most practical stage, the actual teaching materials—books, textbooks, maps, videos, and visual aids—used in the classroom each day, week, and month in a year.

Importance of Foundations of Education.

- Understanding of basic issues in education e.g., goals of education etc.
- Better understanding/management of education problems
- Choosing appropriate methods of teaching
- Enhancing professional confidence in the teacher
- It Helps to select content appropriately
- It promotes teachers' level of thinking/reasoning and critical
- Judgement about education issues

Types of Education

Formal Education: Formal education or formal learning usually occurs on the premises of the school, where a person may learn basic, academic, or trade skills. Small children often attend a nursery or kindergarten, but formal education usually begins in elementary school and continues with secondary school.

Characteristics

- Formal education is structured hierarchically.
- It is planned and deliberate.
- Scheduled fees are paid regularly.
- It has a chronological grading system.
- It has a syllabus and subject-oriented.
- The syllabus has to be covered within a specific time period.
- The teachers teach the child

Advantages

- An organized educational model and up-to-date course contents.
- Students acquire knowledge from trained and professional teachers.
- Structured and systematic learning process.

Disadvantages

By understanding the above concept of formal education, write two or three disadvantages of formal education.

Reflection

What is the importance of education to the society?

Informal Education: *a parent may teach* a child how to prepare a meal or ride a bicycle. People can also get an informal education by reading many books from a

library. Informal education is when you are not studying in a school and do not use any particular learning method.

Reflection

How do you learn your mother tongue?

Characteristics

- It has no definite syllabus.
- It is not pre-planned and has no timetable. •
- No fees are required as we get informal education through daily experience and by learning new things.
- It is a lifelong process in a natural way.
- It is more natural learning process.
- No specific time

Reflection

What are the other characteristics of informal education?

Non-Formal Education

includes adult basic education, adult literacy education or school equivalency preparation. In non-formal education, someone (who is not in school) can learn literacy, other basic skills, or job skills.

Characteristics

- The non-formal education is planned and takes place apart from the school system.
- The timetable and syllabus can be adjustable.
- Fees or certificates may or may not be necessary.
- It may be full time or part-time learning and one can earn and learn together.

Advantages

- Practiced and vocational training. ▪
- Naturally growing minds that do not wait for the system to amend.
- Literacy with skill-fulness growth in which self-learning is appreciated.
- Flexibility in age, curriculum and time.

Disadvantages

- Attendance of participants is instable.
- No professional and trained teachers.
- Students may not enjoy full confidence as the regular students enjoy.

Summary

This topic introduced a basic concept on the meaning and definitions of education, aims, goals, and objectives of education, the importance of understanding foundation of education, and types of education.