

C&T 709 Artifact Reflection

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Final Paper for Philosophy of Education

Overview

This assignment was written during enrolment in a Foundations of Curriculum and Instruction course. The purpose of this paper was to compare and contrast two theorists, describe and take a stance on a curriculum issue, and describe a framework for a personal philosophy of curriculum. This artifact is written in three major sections.

Revision

In revising this artifact, a couple of sentences were added to page 4 at the end of the first paragraph. Here it talks about how students who struggle in one area such as math begin feeling discouraged and frustrated in that subject, but those feelings can carry into other areas of their learning.

Reflection

The educational philosophers compared in this paper are Maria Montessori and Franklin Bobbit. These two philosophers hold very different views of teaching, and the roles held by students and teachers. For instance, while Maria Montessori views the teacher's role as facilitator and observer, Franklin Bobbit sees the teacher's role as the "curriculum discover" who determines what the students need to know.

Part two of the assigned paper describes a stance taken on a curriculum issue. The issue I took a stance on was one that I observed at the school I previously taught at.

Since this assignment was completed, I have changed schools and teaching positions. However, allowing students to use a calculator is still relevant since I continue working with students who require academic accommodation. The question remains as to when calculator accommodations and use is appropriate in the curriculum. It's a question that I think depends on the individual needs of the student and their present levels of academic performance. Keeping the quote from William Doll in mind, teachers have the task of presenting the curriculum with just enough of challenge and chaos to facilitate learning. The level of challenge and the chaos that creates the learning is different for each individual student.

The last section of this paper outlines my philosophy of curriculum. I still believe the curriculum's role is to prepare students to become active participants in society. The challenge with this view is that how this is accomplished and what the end goal looks like is different for each student. The educator's role is to determine which curriculum will ensure the student learns the skills to be successful beyond school. It is also to recognize that sometimes accommodations and modifications need to be made to the curriculum.