



Hidden Curriculum

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Hidden Curriculum

The hidden curriculum refers to the **unwritten, implicit, and often unintended lessons, values, and norms that students learn in schools, beyond the formal and explicit curriculum.**

It is called “hidden” because it is not explicitly taught but is rather **transmitted through the socialization and culture of schools.**

The hidden curriculum can have both **positive and negative effects** on student’s **academic and social development.**

Concept of Hidden curriculum

Hidden concepts that describe the often **unarticulated and unacknowledged things students are taught in schools** and that may affect their learning experiences.

There are **often unspoken and implied lessons unrelated to the academic courses**.

Students **perceive certain aspects just being in school**.

The term 'hidden curriculum' is attributed to **Phillip W. Jackson**, in his book “**Life in Classroom**”.

Definition

According to Raymond A. Horn, "Hidden curriculum is a broad section that includes all unfamiliar and often unintended knowledge, values and beliefs are part of the learning process in schools and classrooms."


According to Blackwell Dictionary, "Hidden curriculum is a concept used to in scribe the often unarticulated and unach Hiedged things that students are taught in school."

According to Demirel (2007), "The hidden curriculum is the set of assumed knowledge that is generally not directly tauhid den use it is considered to be universalllyand understood."

Margolis (2001) argues that, "Hidden curriculum the school and classroom life, is the reproduction of schooling that enables to understand schools."

Examples of the hidden curriculum include:

1. **Socialization:** Schools not only teach academic skills but also teach social skills. For eg, such as **how to interact with others, follow rules, and respect authority.** These social skills are **often learned through observation and imitation of teachers and peers.**
2. **Conformity:** Schools reinforce conformity to social norms and expectations, such as following dress codes, speaking in standard English, and adhering to classroom rules. This can lead to students **suppressing their individuality and creativity in order to fit in.**
3. **Gender roles:** Schools reinforce traditional gender roles, such as boys being encouraged to participate in sports and girls being encouraged to pursue artistic or nurturing activities. This can limit students' opportunities and perpetuate gender stereotypes.

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4. **Cultural biases:** Schools can transmit cultural biases, such as racism and homophobia, through the curriculum, textbooks, and classroom interactions. This can lead to discrimination and marginalization of certain groups of students.
 5. **Work ethic:** Schools often emphasize the importance of **hard work, punctuality, and discipline**. While these values are important for academic success, they can also lead to stress, anxiety, and burnout in students who feel pressured to perform.
 6. **Informal Learning:** It is an informal way of learning. It is **not directly taught but is transmitted through the socialization and culture of the institution**. It is learned through the observation and imitation of behaviors and actions of teachers, peers, and the environment.
 7. **Unconscious Learning:** Students are **often unaware that they are learning the hidden curriculum as it is not explicitly taught**. The hidden curriculum is often implicit and unconscious, and students learn it through the socialization process of the school.
 8. **Impact on Student Development:** The hidden curriculum can have a **significant impact on the social and emotional development of students**. It can shape their attitudes toward education, work, and society.

**INFORMAL
LEARNING**

**UNWRITTEN
AND
UNINTENDED
LESSONS**

**BEYOND THE
FORMAL**

Hidden Curriculum


**LEARNED
THROUGH
OBSERVATIONS**

**SOCIAL
SKILLS
IS AN
EXAMPLE**

**NOT
EXPLICITLY
TAUGHT**

Characteristics of Hidden Curriculum

- In this curriculum, students are informed to the **ideals, values and Perceptions** in the classroom and social environment.
- By this, to develop the spirit of sociality among the students so that they can become **social beings**.
- To enable students to imbibe the qualities of humanity in themselves.
- Through this curriculum, students can be made aware of the culture of the school, state and nation.
- In this curriculum, education is provided keeping in mind the social environment of the students.
- It is a student-centric curriculum.
- In this curriculum, students gain experience through activities, planned and unplanned.

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- It consists of unspoken or implicit academic social and cultural messages that are communicated to students while they are in school.
 - It includes behaviour, attitudes and perspective that students pick up while they are at schools.
 - Hidden curriculum can **reinforce the lessons of formal curriculum** or it can even contradict the formal curriculum.
 - Hidden curriculum is influenced by the school culture.
 - Hidden curriculum conveys a great deal of knowledge to its students. For example-cultural values, cultural perspectives, cultural norms etc.
 - Hidden curriculum can be understood as the socialization of the school system.
 - It has the potential to positively impact students and even change lives.



Key Features of Hidden Curriculum

- Non-academic focus on teaching values and skills apart from official curriculum;
- consciously or unconsciously hidden at least for a group of students;
- not written and not explicitly acknowledged; and has potential to lead to positive and negative influences on individuals.



Advantages of Hidden Curriculum

- i) It helps to maintain law and order.
- ii) Hidden curriculum prepare us far life in a society beyond school.
- iii) It teaches children to obey elders.
- iv) Students are encouraged to think about the complex layers of an issue for which only a surface knowledge may be required.
- v) It teach students beyond the subject content of their courses.
- vi) It is dynamic in nature.
- vii) It help to maintain overall development of the students.



Limitations of Hidden Curriculum

- (i) Minorities are expected to assimilate to the majority culture.
- (ii) Outdated social roles are reinforced.
- (iii) Reproduces social class inequalities.
- (iv) It cannot be satisfied the needs of all the learners.
- (v) It is time consuming.

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Thank you...