



# Subject-centered Curriculum/ Content-centered Curriculum

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## Subject-centred curriculum

- Subject Centred Curriculum is also called **content-centred curriculum**.
- Subject-centered curriculum is an approach to curriculum design that places a **strong emphasis on the content and mastery of subject matter**.
- This approach focuses on the **acquisition of knowledge, skills, and abilities related to specific subjects** such as mathematics, science, history, or literature.
- Curriculum is **organized around a set of core subjects or disciplines**.
- It follows the Herbaria Approach which **emphasizes the presentation of content in classroom teaching**.
- This type of curriculum **does not take into account individual differences, and it is not psychological in nature**.
- This does **not go in line with developing democratic values of freedom and equality**.
- This is **examination-oriented, simple to follow and comfortable for teachers**.
- It can be easily revised and modified and **follows age-old traditional methods**.
- The subject matter is the **most used and accepted curriculum design, and it is also the oldest curriculum Design**.



## Features of Subject-centered Curriculum Design:

- **Emphasis on subject matter:** The curriculum is organized around core subjects or disciplines, and the content is structured to provide a thorough understanding of each subject.
- **Mastery of subject matter:** The focus is on developing students' mastery of subject matter through the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and abilities.
- **Sequential learning:** The curriculum is structured in a way that provides a logical progression of learning, with each level building on the knowledge and skills developed in previous levels.
- **Teacher-centered instruction:** Teachers are responsible for selecting and sequencing the content and for delivering instruction to students.
- **Assessment of learning:** Assessment is focused on measuring students' mastery of subject matter and their ability to apply what they have learned.

- **Information for future Use :** Importance is given to acquire knowledge and information for future use, so only those subjects are considered important which have value and which hold future vocational importance for the learners.
- **Progress is Measured to the Extent the Students Learned the Subject:** In this type of curriculum, subject matter is the most important thing to learn. Therefore, learning is measured by how much and how well the subject matter has been mastered by the pupil. Frequent tests are provided to the students to check their degree of achievement in the respective subject.
- **Predetermined Uniform Standard of Knowledge:** There is a uniform standard for all the students to pass the subject, else they will have to repeat the subject, therefore, the experts of subject-centred approach strongly support the minimum standards for an examination so all the students achieve the set standard and qualify the examination.
- **Each Subject is a Separate Unit with its Specific Logical Organization:** Importance is given to the acquisition of skills, facts and information for vocational purposes in various logically organized subjects. The teachers teaches different subjects and they do not discuss or plan subjects together.

- **Practice in Skills is Emphasized:** The main aspect of subject base curriculum is to **continue practicing or drill in a specific skill**; it is one of the typical characteristics of subject-based curriculum. **For this purpose, multiple methods are used; evaluations, exercise sessions and tuition classes** are often dedicated to such types of practices and all the students are provided equal opportunities to participate.
- **Subject Matter is Selected by Experts for Teaching-Learning Situations:** The content of the **subject is selected in advance before the teaching-learning process**; the subject matter is **logically organized from simple to complex** with the help of the **experts, specialists, teacher supervisors, planners, writers and administrators**.
- **Learning Subject Matter is an End in Itself:** The main focus of the teachers, administrators and students is to complete the subject matter, **to cover all the topics which are provided in the course outline by listening to lectures, and studying the recommended textbook**. All this is done in order to prepare for the examinations. For the teacher, to **finish the textbook on time is a great accomplishment**.




## Requirements of Subject-Centred Curriculum

1. **Trained Teachers with specialisation** in a particular subject and expertise in methodology.
2. A **separate classroom** for each subject and each level.
3. A **fixed timetable is required for different subjects** according to the importance of the subjects in the curriculum.
4. Special arrangements for guidance in physical education, indoor and outdoor activities, tours and examinations etc.
5. A separate need for **textbooks and guidebooks**.

## Characteristics of a Student-centered Curriculum

- Listening to lectures, studying the textbooks and studying for examination are all practices that show the influence of the subject centered curriculum approach.
- The subject teacher considers it of great importance to cover the prescribed textbook. Subject matter is to be learnt in a set time.
- If subject matter has been learnt, the teacher and students feel satisfaction.
- Those who follow the subject centered approach strongly advocate set standard for a class to be achieved by all students in order to qualify the examination.
- As the subject matter is an important thing to be learnt, learning is measured by how well the subject matter has been mastered.
- Frequent tests are given to check the extent of achievement by the students.

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- It lays emphasis on **teaching subject-matter**.
  - In this curriculum subject-matter is **selected and organised before the actual teaching**.
  - It lays emphasis on **teaching facts, imparting information and acquiring knowledge**.
  - It is based on **theoretical aspect of learning**.
  - In this curriculum learning is measured by **how well the subject matter has been mastered** by the students.
  - It corresponds mostly to the **text-books written by the experts** for the specific subjects.





## Merits of Subject-centered curriculum

- It is **easier for the teacher** to perform.
- It is **widely accepted by parents** as they have gone through it.
- The simple-complex concept makes it **easier to administer**.
- **Intellectual development** is achieved in a child's thinking.
- It is useful for **specialisation in any branch of knowledge**.



## Demerits of Subject-centered curriculum

- The primary drawback of subject-centered curriculum design is that it is **not student-centred**.
- In particular, this form of curriculum design is constructed **without taking into account the specific learning styles** of the students.
- This can **cause problems with student engagement and motivation** and may even cause students to fall behind in class.

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**Thank you...**