Philosophy of Education, Definition and explanation

Definition:

Philosophy of education is the branch of applied or practical philosophy concerned with the nature and aims of education and the philosophical problems arising from educational theory and practice.

Explanation:

The function of philosophy is creative. It is to state the value, to set the goals, to point out the direction and to lead human being to new paths.

The philosophy emphasises on achievement of knowledge, sense of good and evil, whereas, the education is a supreme need of an individual to bring the desirable changes in his personality. It must inspire us to be human in this most inhuman society.

Philosophy is an essential aid to education. When we apply philosophical thinking to education, we actually practice philosophy in education or we work within the discipline of philosophy in education.

As there are different aims and objectives of education, so there are different philosophies of education.

The scope of philosophy in education is unlimited. It formulates the aims and objectives of education, to achieve the set aim and objectives, proposes specific curriculum and methods respecting the cultural norms and values.

Obviously teachers need to be prepared to defend what they are doing. To develop their own philosophy they need some knowhow of the philosophical thoughts.

How To Build Your Personal Philosophy of Education (Teacher)

- Creating a personal **philosophy of education** can help you articulate your approach to teaching in a clear, concise way.
- A philosophy of education is **a set of beliefs and guiding principles for teachers.** It helps you make decisions about how you teach your students.
- Creating a philosophy of education is a great way to set teaching goals for yourself, and can even help you identify areas for further professional development.

Sample teaching philosophies to help you create your own

- Teachers should work from well-organized plans and schedules in a consistent manner so students have a supportive learning environment.

- **Teachers must hold students to high expectations.** Every student has the ability to succeed, given the right teaching methods, resources and support. It's the teacher's job to encourage students to be diligent and strive for growth in their learning.

- **Students need effective tools and resources.** Teachers should have access to a wide variety of excellent learning and educational resources in order to fully support student learning.

- **Teachers should be great examples.** A person in leadership has a responsibility to lead by example. This will cover many aspects, but teachers should model respect and discipline for their students.

- **Teachers offer the gift of learning**. A teacher's gift to their students should be motivating them to continue to learn, and helping them succeed in the process through good classroom management and solid educational theory.

- **Learning goes beyond the classroom.** Everyone, from parents to teachers to members of the community, has a role to play in developing a well-rounded education. Involving stakeholders in the education process in a meaningful way helps students understand multiple perspectives and build critical thinking skills.

- **Feedback, in both directions, is a key part of the learning process.** Continuous feedback between learners and teachers is the key.

Questions to ask within your own philosophy (teacher)

- **What kinds of goals do you set for your students?**

- **How do you interact with students?**

- **What types of assessment do you use?** Which assessment styles do you think are the most effective?

- **What is the purpose of education in society?** Is it for social justice, to build good citizens, to prepare students for life outside of school or something else?

- **What qualities should good teachers possess?** Patience, compassion and authority are all qualities you need as a teacher — but what's most important to you?

- **What kind of learning environment do you want to create?** Is your classroom individualized or collaborative? Do you use a variety of technology?

- **How do you approach differences in learning styles?** What pedagogical approaches do you use to reach all students?

- **What do you see as the teacher's role in learning?** Is your teaching style more student-centered or teacher-centered?