

PROS AND CONS OF STUDENT-CENTERED EDUCATION

Azizova Shahlo Ravshanbekovna

Fergana state university

English language and literature faculty second year student

Abstract: *In this article, concept of student-centered education, which helps students become active participants in the lessons, is exposed. It is revealed that advantage and disadvantage sides of person-centered approach in the field of education.*

Key words: *student-centered education, teaching methods, classroom management, social skills, communication skills, collaboration, critical thinking.*

1.INTRODUCTION

The needs and the interests of the students are revolved around in student-centered education. The student is seen as an active participant in their own learning process, with the teacher serving as a facilitator or guide. In this approach, students are encouraged to explore, discover and create their own understanding of the material. However, the student is the teacher is responsible for creating a learning environment which permits this and the students are responsible for setting their own goals and assessing their own progress (Altun, 2022). In this method asking questions by students, discussion, interacting with others are important. Students can learn from mistakes in this approach. Brophy (1999) explains this approach that in this classrooms students are expected " to strive to make sense of what they are learning by relating it to prior knowledge and by discussing it with others (p.49).

MAIN PARTS.

Advantages of Student centered education

In student-centered education, the interests and needs of the student are in the center of the learning process. This method has a number of advantages that make it a more effective approach to teaching and learning. One of the main advantages is that because of the freedom it gives to students to explore, it allows for the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills (Cummins, 2007). Student-centered education often involves collaborative and project-based learning, which requires students to work together to solve challenges. This approach encourages students to think critically about different approaches and solutions, as well as to evaluate the effectiveness of their strategies. By giving students the freedom to explore their interests and pursue projects that align with their passions, student-centered education promotes inquiry and curiosity. This allows students to

ask questions, seek answers, and develop their critical thinking skills as they analyze information and make connections.

Student-centered education can promote creativity in several ways. By giving students more autonomy and control over their learning. When students work together on projects, they have the opportunity to brainstorm ideas, experiment with different approaches, and think creatively to solve challenges.

Student-centered education can build confidence in students by allowing them to take ownership of their learning and make decisions about their education. When students have the opportunity to explore their interests, set goals, and make choices about their learning, they develop a sense of autonomy and self-efficacy.

Additionally, student-centered education provides opportunities for students to receive personalized support and feedback from teachers. When students feel that their teachers understand their individual needs and are invested in their success, they are more likely to take risks, ask questions, and participate actively in the learning process.

Student-centered education encourages collaboration by providing opportunities for students to work together on projects, discussions, and activities. By creating a collaborative learning environment, students can learn from each other, share ideas, and develop their communication and teamwork skills. Teachers are able to adapt their teaching methods to the needs of their students and to create a learning environment that is more conducive to learning. This can lead to increased student engagement and motivation, and ultimately to better academic outcomes (Duckworth, 2009; Froyd, 2007). When students have a say in what and how they learn, they are more likely to be invested in the material and motivated to participate. Additionally, student-centered approaches often incorporate hands-on, interactive activities that can capture students' interest and keep them engaged in the learning process.

Disadvantages of student centered education

Student-centered education can be time-consuming for educators because it requires a significant amount of planning and preparation. Teachers need to create individualized learning plans for each student, provide personalized feedback, and design projects and activities that cater to the diverse needs and interests of their students.

Student-centered education can be met with resistance from students for a variety of reasons. Some students may be accustomed to traditional lecture-based instruction and may feel uncomfortable with the more active and participatory role they are expected to take in a student-centered classroom. They may also feel overwhelmed by the responsibility of directing their own learning and may prefer a

more structured and teacher-led approach. Additionally, with less of a focus on lecturing and presenting information to the class in a traditional way, there is an anxiety that important information can be skipped or misinterpreted. This may cause misconception.

Student-centered education can be limited by resources in a few ways. Firstly, implementing a student-centered approach often requires smaller class sizes to allow for more individualized attention and support for each student. Limited resources may make it difficult to reduce class sizes, resulting in challenges in effectively implementing student-centered practices.

In person-centered classroom students are able to discuss and interact with each other freely so that the classroom might be chaotic and disorganized. Managing the class can be challenging for the teacher.

Conclusion

Student-centered approach focuses on the needs and interact of the students. The role of the teacher is facilitating, coaching and guiding. Teachers help students to find their own way of learning effectively. By utilizing this method during the learning process critical thinking, problem solving and creativity can be improved. Students are able to learn to collaborate with others. This can develop the teamwork and social skills.

In contrast, some students, who are introvert or prefers to work independently, might face some difficulties in student-centered environment. Furthermore, this approach requires some recourses, materials, technology and smaller class sizes. Some of the above can be limited in some institutions. Another disadvantage of this method, some of the urgent information can be missed so that students may misinterpret information.

In conclusion, utilizing student-centered education depends on the students potential and the topics, because some of the themes and information should be clarified by the teacher in a traditional learning environment. According to the available recourses, subjects, contexts and students this method can be used.

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