

# DISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE OF EDUCATION

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**ABSTRACT:** Education is a very vast subject, which has some important component like Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology and History. Each subject contributes something for the enrichment of education. Discipline having three main characteristics such as theories, methodologies and more or less specific boundaries. Besides disciplines there are inter disciplines and trans-disciplines. In inter disciplines where new theories and methodologies of different disciplines contributing to either of the disciplines or all the disciplines. In case of trans-disciplines, new theories and methodologies of different disciplines contribute to totally different disciplines. Though, education has taken so many theories and methods from different disciplines. But now it has its own theories for solving different educational problems which cannot be solved by using other's theories. Education works on a specific field right now like curriculum making, setting norms, setting principles for teaching learning process, administrative level etc. So, by seeing all these aspects we can identify education as a discipline.

**Keywords:** Education, Discipline.

**INTRODUCTION:** Before starting our discussion on disciplinary perspective of education, we have to first discuss the characteristics of discipline. The basic characteristics of discipline are-

- There should be theories of it own.
- There should be methodologies.
- There should be more or less specific boundaries.

Now Theory is derived from a greek word, *theoria*, means to view or observe. Theory means coherent system of concepts, laws of inferences, from which theorems can be derived. Theory means a set of proposition offered as conjectured explanation for an event of social context or observed phenomena (Rajarshi Roy 2014).

Method means procedures. Methodology, word comes from latin word *methodologia*. Methodology differs from method. Methodology is a broad concept. Method is part or branch of methodology.

Boundary means lines of distinction.

Besides disciplines there are inter disciplines and trans-disciplines. In inter disciplines where new theories and methodologies of different disciplines contributing to either of the disciplines or all the disciplines. In case of trans-disciplines, new theories and methodologies of different disciplines contribute to totally different disciplines. For example anthropology is the example of trans-discipline. Anthropology is the combination of biology and sociology. Theories and methodologies of biology and sociology contribute to a new field i.e. anthropology.

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## COMPONENTS OF EDUCATION AND THEIR ROLE:

- **Philosophy:** This word has come from the greek word 'philosophia' meaning 'love of wisdom'. Philosophy does not give definite answers to the general problems as science gives us but can throw light on the problems (Harry Schofield 1972) or in other word it can raise questions on the problems and leads us to the way of specific answers.

Harry schofield (1972) imagined philosophy as mother of four other disciplines like science, theology, history and mathematics. As a mother she just told her children to discover knowledge from different sources and provide that knowledge to her. Philosophy did not produce knowledge of her own but puts all knowledge from her children side by side and looked at all variables. If she found any gap she put further questions on it. We can say that education is the dynamic side of philosophy. Philosophy is theory part where education is practical part of philosophy.

Now come to the Educational philosophy, it is applied part of philosophy to the education. It reflects those criteria of philosophy that can affect the whole education system (Annick M. Brenen Aug. 1999).

- **Psychology:** ‘Psychology’ word comes from greek word ‘psyche’ meaning mind and ‘logos’ meaning to study. In seventeenth century French philosopher first used the term ‘dualism’, where he stated that the body and mind both are separate entity. At that time philosophy was separated from the psychology. Psychology was started to recognise as separate discipline in mid 1800 by the help of German scientist Wilhelm Wundt. When he first conducted an experiment in 1879 at Leipzig on the topic that is connection between science and psychology and human thought and behaviour.

As by definition psychology has its own methodology, theory and more or less specific area.

Educational psychology is applied part of psychology where we uses the theories of psychology on learner to solve their problems in educational field. Educational psychology has different work on institutional design, curriculum development, educational technology, special education, classroom management etc.

### Branches of Psychology

PURE BRANCH OF PSYCHOLOGY	APPLIED BRANCH OF PSYCHOLOGY
GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY	EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY
PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY	CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY
DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY	INDUSTRIAL PSYCHOLOGY
CHILD PSYCHOLOGY	COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGY
ANIMAL PSYCHOLOGY	
ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY	
SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY	

- **Sociology:** Sociology word comes from the greek word ‘soclas’ meaning ‘society’ and ‘logos’ meaning ‘to study’ i.e. study of society. Education is taking place in society. If there is a society, so there will be sociology.

There are two concepts that are sociology of education and educational sociology. The first is how education makes an effect on society or more precisely on educational institution.

Sociology is a separate discipline which having its own theory, methodology and specific area. Educational sociology uses their methodology in sociology for betterment of educational system. Basically it is an applied part of sociology.

- **History:** History means history of education helps to know early educational process through, that can help us to solve our present problem in educational field. If we take a look on our pre-historic, ancient and modern period’s educational organisation then it will help us to make a better educational system with free of problems.

**EDUCATION AS A DISCIPLINE:** Let see how education is designated as a discipline according to the definition of discipline.

#### THEORIES

- Psychological theories: Plato, Locke, Rousseau, Mill, Dewey has given their concepts to the process of education that is called theories of education.

In epistemological level there are four basic philosophical schools like – Idealism, realism, pragmatism, existentialism.

In metaphysical level there are four basic philosophical approaches like – perennialism, essentialism, progressivism and reconstructionism.

- Sociological theories: Three sociological theories are here. These are- functionalist, conflict and symbolic interactionist theory.
- Psychological theories: Some theories are constructivism, behaviourism, cognitive development, motivation, observational theory, social cognitive theory, brain- based learning theory.

Education is dependent on other disciplines for the theories. There is a need to develop its own theories. Recently some theories are emerged like –Theories of curriculum (sets norm, condition for making curriculum), Theories of education (provide description and explanation of the process of education), Instructional theories (talks about method of instruction).

#### METHOD

- Research method- here research means educational research which having systematic steps to solve any educational problem. It should be scientific.

**BOUNDARY**

Education has capability to work on different aspects but now education has much specific area in methods of teaching learning, strategies of curriculum making, method of evaluation, administration management. But still there are many areas which need to be minimised. These are educational technology, distance education, administration and management and curriculum.

**ANALYSIS:** Education is a new discipline which combines other disciplines like philosophy, psychology, sociology and history etc. It is a fact that education has taken theories from philosophy, psychology, sociology, history etc. It does not have its own theories. But it is also a fact that the problems are coming forward in our educational field that will not be solved by using theories or concepts from different disciplines. That means education has its own problems, questions, knowledge bases and approaches to query. To Solve the problems it needs to transform the acquired methods, theories from different disciplines.

Again I would like to mention that education that education is developing its own theories like theories of curriculum, theories of education, instructional theories to solve all of these problems. Education has given the method of teaching and learning, strategies to develop curriculum, method of evaluation.

Furthermore, scholars of science where are generating new theories laws etc. There are scholars of education. They are working on the methods, curriculum and text books of the science subjects to transact knowledge of different science effectively. (Nature and function of education as discipline)

**CONCLUSION:** Though education has taken so many theories and methods from different disciplines. But now it has its own theories for solving different educational problems which cannot be solved by using other's theories. Education works on a specific field right now like curriculum making, setting norms, setting principles for teaching learning process, administrative level etc. So, by seeing all these aspects we can identify education as a discipline.

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