In learning units 2 and 3, we explored various concepts relating to being a professional teacher and discussed the challenges teachers face in the classroom. In this unit we look at various teaching and learning strategies in order to help you understand the background and understanding of the teaching and learning strategies that facilitate effective learning as well as how a teaching strategy is described as the method, or set of methods a teacher uses to help facilitate learning, whether face-to-face in a classroom or online, in order to develop skills that will help them to think critically and keep learners on task. It is therefore the responsibility of the teacher to select appropriate teaching strategies for their learners.

Research informs us that there are a multitude of teaching strategies that can be used effectively to teach diverse learners (Saravia-Shore, 2011). Depending on where learners come from, the teaching strategies applied will vary. Thus, you need to adapt your teaching strategies to accommodate learners who come from diverse families and those from diverse socio-economic backgrounds.

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The diagram below shows Learning Unit 4 is structured

4.2 THE VALUE AND PURPOSE OF THE CURRICULUM

I have never come across a very clear and distinct definition of the term “curriculum”. I, therefore, have to conclude that it is difficult to define “curriculum”. The definition of curriculum can range from rather narrow interpretations to broad, all-encompassing interpretations, or its entire sum of lessons and teachings, is designed to improve school results or help learners learn the foundation skills. An individual school year.

http://www.google.co.za/imgres?imgurl=http://i.dailymail.co.uk/i/pix/2013/05/24/article-2330445-02A2D311000004B0-99_634x417.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.google.co.uk/search?q=classroom&tbm=isch&hl=en&tbm=isch&sa=X&ei=jMaIVCIxMaor7QHx7bA4BQ&ved=0CAwQRxwEAAAA&biw=1534&bih=590

However, research informs us that the role of curriculum is to provide quality learning for all learners, irrespective of their background. Furthermore, curriculum is difficult to define, it plays a very significant role in teaching and learning. The following can be attested to the important role it plays: It

- determines whether education is inclusive by ensuring equitable learning opportunities
- provides the structure for providing quality learning, especially where teachers might be under-qualified and inexperienced or placed in an under-qualified or inexperienced position
- articulates both the competencies necessary for lifelong learning and the competencies needed for holistic development.

Stabback (2016) therefore argues that curriculum lies at the crossroads of the tenets that education should be inclusive and equitable, character development? What do you think? We will learn more as we engage in curriculum matters.

Look at the pictures below and think in terms of curriculum. What do you think is happening in each of pictures below?

Secondly, explain your understanding of the process/structure given below.
4.2.1 THE TYPES AND MODELS OF CURRICULUM

You need to understand that a curriculum is not static, it is dynamic and evolves. It has to change with the times because societies are progressing and directs teachers on what needs to be taught and what learners must learn. The purpose of making sure teachers, learners and the society at large is prepared for the years of learning should relate to the needs and prepare learners to meet the demands of the particular nation, community or workplace for which the curriculum guidelines in slightly different ways. You are therefore responsible for the decisions you make about how best to engage with the learners significant and multiple roles. It determines the type of curriculum used, including the educational philosophy, approach to teaching you plan to use in Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statements (CAPS), you still have a huge responsibility of making sure your lessons are well-paced and appropriate.

STAGE 1: Pre-Video Watching

Instructions:
1. Spend at least five minutes brainstorming ideas about your understanding of the meaning or definition of a curriculum.
2. On the basis of your brainstorm, formulate some questions that you hope the video you are about to watch will help to answer.

STAGE 2: Video Watching

Click on the websites listed below and watch the video clips. Make notes while you are watching the videos and start your learning process immediately.

Creative curriculum: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eKqjdSAwvpk
Curriculum approach: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5AgUDN48lU
Curriculum scaffolding learning: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gLxscspCeK8
Curriculum debate: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gA0hQqBYek
Curriculum for sharing: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q4eUCSImYys
Curriculum OBE: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G84uOMU2ofg
Curriculum debate 2: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dN8oeQoz9NQ&feature=BFa&list=PL8A6CA2C38DFEB949&if=plpp_video&index=7

STAGE 3: Post Video Watching:

Now that you have listened to the debates about the curriculum, and you have been provided with ideas and background information, the information in your own words provide your understanding of the meaning of curriculum. It is much easier to provide an example with your explanation to help you understand the issues around curriculum.

ACTIVITY 4.1

PLEASE NOTE:
1. THIS ACTIVITY IS CONDUCTED IN THREE STAGES. FOLLOW THE STAGES INDICATED BELOW TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THE TOPIC UNDER DISCUSSION.
2. KINDLY POST YOUR RESPONSES FOR THIS ACTIVITY IN YOUR BLOG. POSTING YOUR RESPONSES IN YOUR BLOG WILL GIVE YOU 5% OF YOUR OVERALL ASSIGNMENT MARK.
3. AT LEAST FOUR MEMBERS IN YOUR GROUP SHOULD COMMENT ON YOUR POSTING.

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Curriculum debate: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gA0hQqBYek
Curriculum for sharing: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q4eUCSImYys
Curriculum OBE: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G84uOMU2ofg
Curriculum debate 2: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dN8oeQoz9NQ&feature=BFa&list=PL8A6CA2C38DFEB949&if=plpp_video&index=7

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4.3 TEACHING IN A DIVERSE CLASSROOM

The bulk of what and how children learn formally is learnt in the classroom. The classroom setting has a significant effect on how they learn. Teach equally in the learning process. It is important to accept and embrace the view that our schools and classrooms today are more diverse, in terms of...
need to ensure that all learners in the classroom experience a variety of learning contexts that will expose them to a wide range of cultural and individual differences. Participate, keep an open mind when it comes to discussions, engage in multiple forms of collaboration and use a variety of learning strategies.

Societies place a high value on teachers and they expect a lot from them. Teachers are expected to possess a multiplicity of skills and knowledge about different societies and cultures. They also need to display humility to both learners and parents, respect differences in learning, and solve problems from all angles, among other things. Most importantly, teachers are expected to be innovative and resourceful.

### 4.3.1 THE TEACHER IN A CLASSROOM WITH DIVERSE LEARNERS

Individuals wishing to become teachers need an extensive and intensive teacher preparation programme. This is to provide them with the proper grounding of what it means to be a teacher. The profession itself is an interactive profession and therefore teachers are constantly challenged to shape their thinking and their practice to enable them to become more innovative and resourceful.

No classroom environment will be congregated by learners from the same economic background, linguistic background and/or similar learning abilities. It is important that as a classroom teacher you continuously search for new knowledge, establish the characteristics of your learners and their learning abilities, and then plan to reach each of them effectively.

### ACTIVITY 4.2

**PLEASE NOTE:**

1. **STAGE 1: Pre-Video Watching**
   - Instructions:
     1. Spend at least five minutes brainstorming what you think the role of the teacher is in trying to accommodate the needs of diverse learners in a classroom.
     2. On the basis of your brainstorm, formulate some questions that you hope the video, which you are about to watch, will help to answer.

2. **STAGE 2: Video Watching**
   - Our purpose is to gain an understanding of the role of a teacher in a classroom with diverse learners. It is advisable that you watch the video clips on the following topics:
     - Differentiated Learning: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RC-IcxCxfil](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RC-IcxCxfil)
     - Accommodating diverse language: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U2jrKRRAruc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U2jrKRRAruc)
     - Language issues: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGoBjphmc0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGoBjphmc0)
     - Language in the classroom: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=05duCH77Csc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=05duCH77Csc)
     - Issues of Languages in curriculum: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxyigzSyBY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxyigzSyBY)

3. **STAGE 3: Post Video Watching**
   - After watching the video clips, spend 5 minutes writing reflective statements about what you have just watched and post them in your blog. Other members of your group should comment on your reflective statement and you should comment on the reflective statements of other students.

This is not a discussion but a comment from what you have read. You continue doing that until at least four (4) members of the group have commented.

### ACTIVITY 4.3

1. What do you understand by a classroom with diverse learners?
2. Explain in your own words, what challenges a teacher could face when having to deal with learners with diverse abilities.

### 4.4 EMBRACING DIVERSITY IN THE CLASSROOM

A diverse classroom is the ideal learning centre where both the teacher and learners acquire multiple viewpoints required for a multicultural society. Cultures are being prepared to live within the wider society. Such an environment prepares them for the future as they learn to accept one another as equals. By doing so, learners are empowered to serve as an invaluable resource (Sleeter and Carmona, 2017) for all. All can benefit from the knowledge and contribution all learners have to offer. By embracing diversity in the classroom, a teacher can encourage each learner to respond positively to their activities. Such learning activities also provide learners with a multitude of options that are not present in their personal experiences, for example.
However, teaching a class of this nature requires an open-minded teacher who is willing to take risks. Taking risks means not being afraid to explore is your responsibility to cultivate the interpersonal skills of your learners and prepare them for the future. The wider world outside the classroom also place to learn those skills. Learn from the pictures below:

Activity 4.4

Please note:
1. This activity is conducted in three stages. Follow the stages indicated below to help you understand the topic under discussion.
2. Kindly post your responses for this activity in your blog. Posting your responses in your blog will give you 5% of your overall assignment mark.
3. At least four members in your group should comment on your posting.

Stage 1: Pre-Video Watching

Instructions:
1. Spend at least five minutes brainstorming what you think the role of the teacher is in trying to accommodate the needs of diverse learners in a classroom.
2. On the basis of your brainstorm, formulate some questions that you hope the video, which you are about to watch, will help to answer.

Stage 2: Video Watching

To gain an understanding of the role of a teacher in a classroom with diverse learners, it is advisable to watch the video clips on the websites listed below:

- Using Stories to Teach: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WdQZHZixImI
- Learning diversity in the Classroom: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XWg-ZrV3wPk
- Diversity in the Classroom: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4yprbmGHKnG
- Teaching in Diverse Classroom: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=venm4TtOCz4

Stage 3: Post Video Watching

After watching the video clips, spend 5 minutes writing reflective statements about what you have just watched and post it in your blog. Other members of your group should comment on your reflective statement.

Your blog question:
1. What would you do to embrace diversity in your classroom?
2. Explain how each method can be applied to make your lesson interesting and effective.

4.5 Assignment 4 – Case Study

You are a new teacher in a multicultural and multilingual school. English is a second or even a third language to the learners you have in your class. They speak Isizulu, Setswana, Xitsonga, Afrikaans, Swahili, Urdu and IsiNdebele. You have planned an English reading lesson but the majority of your learners do not understand English. What would you do to make sure that your learners participate in a reading lesson you have planned?

Your explanations with examples should not be more than 2 pages.

4.6 The Multitude of Teaching and Learning Strategies

Teaching is an art. It is an art to be able to interact with the audience and expose your message to learners about a particular subject. Although the plan and cope with multiple tasks in the classroom, as well as some flexibility on the part of the facilitator, so as to reach all learners.

It is common for young people who are considered to be low achievers academically to become high achievers in other areas or settings of learning. The teacher, therefore, needs to

Research reveals that today's learners require a curriculum and teaching strategies that engage all five senses in order for the learner to relate what they are taught, their developmental level, their interests and experiences as well (Saskatchewan Education, 1988). The teacher, therefore, needs to
them. In this way learners will be offered opportunities to learn by seeing, thinking, moving, collaborating, problem-solving, speaking, reading, writing, responding …, the list goes on. These opportunities can apply to all subjects across the curriculum.


4.7 TEACHING AND LEARNING STYLES

Learning is a very complex process and as unique individuals we all have different ways of learning. Therefore, teachers need to apply different teaching strategies in order to learn and acquire knowledge will help you to better plan your lessons and to appeal to the diverse group of learners in your classroom. Your learners will need opportunities.

Teaching and learning is about building the future, especially that of a young child. Teachers and parents also have a great responsibility to help lead opportunities. Through creativity and innovation, new ways of doing things can be explored.

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ACTIVITY 4.5

PLEASE NOTE:
1. THIS ACTIVITY IS CONDUCTED IN THREE STAGES. FOLLOW THE STAGES INDICATED BELOW TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THE TOPIC UNDER DISCUSSION.
2. KINDLY POST YOUR RESPONSES FOR THIS ACTIVITY IN YOUR BLOG. POSTING YOUR RESPONSES IN YOUR BLOG WILL GIVE YOU 5% OF YOUR OVERALL ASSIGNMENT MARK
3. AT LEAST FOUR MEMBERS IN YOUR GROUP SHOULD COMMENT ON YOUR POSTING.

STAGE 1: PRE-READING

1. Spend at least five minutes brainstorming what you think of the different teaching strategies you have observed and experienced during your jour
STAGE 2: READING

Click on the links listed below. Read the articles. While reading;

- Highlight important points and make some notes as well as comments using the software function found on your system to flag important concepts.
- Pay particular attention to ideas that provide answers to the questions you raised previously, or ideas that raise issues you had not thought about.

Teaching Strategies: http://www.asa3.org/ASA/education/teach/active.htm

Teaching techniques: http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/services/ldc/development/pga/introtandl/resources/2a_deep_surfacestrategic_approaches_to_l

OR

2. Do an internet search and look for articles and any information about: Learning and Multiple Intelligence.

OR

Do an internet search and look for an article/s that can provide you with various teaching and learning strategies.

Answer the following question and post in your blog. The choice is yours.

1. What are the different types of teaching methods you learnt about?
2. Explain how each method can be applied to make your lesson interesting and effective.

STAGE 3:

Make notes while reading the articles. Compiling these notes as well as the comment in your blog will help you to work on your next assignments. At

4.8 ASSIGNMENT 5 – POWER POINT PRESENTATION

The responses to your activities you posted in your blog will help you in responding to this assignment. Your PowerPoint presentation should not be simply a list, but also a means to strengthen your presentation.

Design a PowerPoint presentation and respond to the following question:

How would you provide equal educational opportunities for learners from diverse backgrounds in your classroom? This includes learners from:

- low-income background
- different ethnic or cultural background
- linguistic challenged backgrounds
- high ability learners and/or hyperactive learners
- Learners with diverse talents
- Learners with disabilities and learning disabilities.

Upload your PowerPoint presentation on myUNISA as an Assignment.

4.9 REFLECTION: LEARNING UNIT 4

The purpose of this section is to help us understand how well the online delivery of this learning unit enabled you to learn.

There are no ‘right’ or ‘wrong’ answers; we are interested only in your opinion. Please be assured that your contribution will make a difference.

- Write 5 statements about your experience in this learning unit and keep this information for later use in the year.
- Suggest ways in which we can improve the module.

4.10 REFERENCES


