

TRADITIONAL vs. PROGRESSIVE LEARNING

Comparison of Two Types of Education

Description	Traditional (Classical)	Progressive (Ex.: Common Core / CSCOPE) Common Core: “standards for college and career readiness”
Education purpose	Content knowledge and skill	Constructivism (fundamental transformation of attitudes, beliefs, values, and behavior through psychological manipulation); effect social / political change (John Dewey); means of domination
Instruction	Direct instruction by teacher	Project based learning in groups (prevents development of individual logical abstract thinking); students teach each other in “flip classes”; Kagan Cooperative Learning Structures use collaborative technique that creates constructivist approach; Digital Learning (psychological control and directing of learning process -- does not allow for rational and critical thinking); “Personalized Learning”
Curriculum	Transmission of knowledge: individual academic learning; fact-based; skills; research	Rejects transmission of knowledge; constructivism; group activities; Cultural Marxism (social, political and economic justice); subjective; high school courses becoming largely vocational
Teacher’s role	Authority figure; academic instruction	Facilitator; authority figures devalued
Student’s role	Learn from teacher; develop logic and analytical reasoning skills; independent thinking encouraged	Teach each other using project based / collaborative learning; collectivist orientation; independent thinking and self-reliance discouraged; “student-centered”
English, Language Arts, Reading	Classical literature; phonics; cursive handwriting; grammar; correct spelling; research; and expository writing	Pornographic literature; whole language that limits reading fluency; no cursive writing instruction; informational texts replace much of classical literature
Math	“Drill and skill”	Fuzzy math; developmentally inappropriate processes; drill and memorization rejected; dependence upon calculators; math processes more important than correct answers
Science	Fact-based	Ignores scientific research; evolution; global warming
Social Studies	Focus on American exceptionalism, heritage, national sovereignty, and Founding Documents	American history and Founding Documents revised; multiculturalism; diversity; political correctness; world citizen view Anti-America; anti-Christian; anti-Jewish; pro-Islam; wealth redistribution; anti-free enterprise / capitalism De-emphasizes national sovereignty, American exceptionalism, Founding Fathers, <i>U.S. Constitution</i> , <i>Bill of Rights</i> , and <i>Declaration of Independence</i>
Character development	Pro-faith; self control; personal responsibility; self-discipline; solid work ethic	Secular; earth worship; moral relativism; sexual freedom; victimization; required to accept homosexuality as normal lifestyle
Equality	Equal opportunities	Outcomes Based Education: curriculum dumbed down for equal outcomes between low and high achievers
Assessment (testing)	Objective tests based on academic skills and knowledge; right or wrong answers; grades must be earned	Inflated grades; subjective tests; test scores based upon value-system of grader; “feel-good” scoring
Technology	Textbooks	Common Core aligned textbooks, online curriculum, and assessments produced by Pearson; data mining; IT role is to change human behavior; partnership between Pearson / Gates Foundation