

## PRESERVING IDENTITY, FOSTERING UNITY: THE CRUCIAL ROLE OF FILIPINO SUBJECT IN THE PHILIPPINE CURRICULUM

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In the Philippines, including the Filipino subject in the curriculum is not just a matter of academic necessity; it symbolizes the nation's commitment to preserving its cultural identity and fostering unity among its diverse populace. This subject, taught from elementary to tertiary levels, plays a pivotal role in shaping well-rounded individuals who are academically proficient and deeply connected to their roots.

The Filipino subject is the cornerstone of preserving the country's rich cultural heritage. It enables students to learn about the history, traditions, and values that have shaped the Philippines. Students gain a profound appreciation for their roots and a sense of pride in their cultural identity by studying Filipino literature, folklore, and history. The Philippines is a diverse nation with more than 170 languages and dialects in its archipelago. The Filipino subject serves as a unifying force by providing a common language, Tagalog (Filipino), that bridges the linguistic gaps among different regions. It fosters a sense of national identity and unity, emphasizing that Filipinos share a common language and heritage despite regional differences. Moreover, the study of Filipino subjects encourages critical thinking and expression. It allows students to analyze literary works, debate, and express their thoughts and opinions effectively. These skills are invaluable in developing well-rounded individuals who can contribute meaningfully to society.

In conclusion, the Filipino subject is not just a subject in the Philippine curriculum but a cornerstone of the nation's identity and unity. It empowers students with the knowledge and skills to navigate the complexities of their diverse society, while also

connecting them to their rich cultural heritage. Through the study of Filipino, the Philippines ensures that its citizens are not only academically competent but also deeply rooted in their cultural identity, ready to embrace the challenges and opportunities of the modern world.

*References:*