

INTEREST-BASED LEARNING AND THE TEACHING OF ARALING PANLIPUNAN

by:

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Learners differ from one another. Their interests and potentialities vary significantly from the rest, making the delivery of instruction quite challenging and tricky at the same time.

In the Philippine Professional Standards for Teachers (PPST) promulgated by DO No. 42, s. 2017, teachers are expected to establish learning environments that are responsive to learner diversity; that is, by respecting learners' diverse characteristics and experiences. Since learners are diverse, the learning opportunities, environment, resources, etc. must be diverse as well. It is the same concept which the use of differentiated instruction is anchored from.

On that note, interest-based learning can be seen anchored on providing personalized instruction focused on the association between interest and learning outcomes and the relationship between students' interest with their conceptual understanding, motivation, future-oriented decisions, self-efficacy, skills-based and career-based undertakings by catering to their potential and empowering them to be contributing members of the society where they are an integral part of.

By catering to the diverse interests of the learners (diversity of learning), learning provisions are becoming more dynamic, flexible, and adaptive to the emerging concerns on the effective delivery of quality instruction. Since there are no two students alike, learning activities and opportunities must be varied as well. Gone are the days when learners are capsized in a one-size-fits-all model. Learners are diverse and proactive;

hence, they are a league on their own. With that, teachers need to restructure, remodel, or redefine instruction for them.

More so, the Araling Panlipunan curriculum also emphasizes the recognition of individual differences among learners. Through the activities and opportunities provided in the curriculum, learners are able to develop a deeper understanding of culture, identity, and the concept of nationalism as one of the themes of learning the subject. Consequently, if learners are able to appreciate individual differences, they are also able to foster a higher level of humanity towards others.

It is also interesting to note nowadays that the interests of learners are given more importance in contextualizing the learning experiences, modalities, and resources for them; hence, promising more responsive outcomes on their end.

References:

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