

## TEACHING MAPEH UNDER THE MATATAG CURRICULUM

*by:*

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The introduction of the MATATAG Curriculum for the school year 2024-2025 marks a transformative moment in the Philippine education landscape. This innovative curriculum aims to address long-standing issues in basic education by adopting a more holistic and integrated approach to learning.

The MATATAG Curriculum prioritizes interdisciplinary learning, connecting different subjects to foster a more comprehensive understanding of various concepts. In the case of MAPEH, this approach means that students are not only taught the technical aspects of each discipline but also how these areas interrelate with each other and with other subjects. For instance, a music lesson can be combined with a history lesson to delve into the cultural impact of different musical genres, or a physical education class might integrate health and nutrition topics to promote overall well-being.

One of the primary objectives of the MATATAG Curriculum is to encourage holistic student development. By embedding MAPEH into the curriculum, students have more opportunities to cultivate their creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving abilities—skills that are crucial for thriving in today's complex world. This curriculum encourages hands-on learning and real-life applications, such as art projects that reflect community history or physical activities that emphasize teamwork and cooperation through organizing sports events.

The MATATAG Curriculum places a strong emphasis on teachers' professional development. Educators are encouraged to continuously upgrade their knowledge and skills to effectively deliver the new curriculum. This includes participating in training

workshops, attending professional development sessions, and collaborating with peers to exchange best practices. Investing in the growth of teachers is crucial to building a more adaptable and resilient teaching force capable of addressing the diverse needs of students.

In addition to promoting interdisciplinary learning and holistic development, the MATATAG Curriculum emphasizes 21st-century skills such as critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration. Through MAPEH, students engage in activities that foster these skills in a dynamic and enjoyable way. For example, a music class might involve composing songs about social issues, while an arts class could feature creating multimedia presentations that showcase students' artistic talents.

The MATATAG Curriculum also aims to tackle the challenges that Filipino learners face today, including the influences of technology and media on their communication, learning, and social interactions. By incorporating MAPEH into the curriculum, students are encouraged to explore various forms of self-expression and gain a deeper appreciation for the arts and physical activities, enriching their educational experience and promoting a more balanced lifestyle.

### *References:*

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