

# What is Philosophy

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“EDUCATION WITHOUT PHILOSOPHY IS BLIND AND PHILOSOPHY WITHOUT EDUCATION IS INVALID”

- ❏ The term philosophy has been derived from two Greek words, '*Philos*' means love and '*Sophia*' means **wisdom**.
- ❏ Philosophy means love for knowledge or passion for learning.

## MEANING OF PHILOSOPHY

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Philosophy as:

- ❏ Love of knowledge
- ❏ An Activity
- ❏ A comprehensive picture of the universe
- ❏ A guide to a way of life
- ❏ Philosophy and Science

## Definitions of philosophy

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- ❏ Philosophy is a search for comprehensive view of nature, an attempt at a universal explanation of nature of things. – (*Alfred Weber*)
- ❏ *Coleridge* defined philosophy as the '*Science of Sciences*'
- ❏ According to *John Dewey*, 'Whenever philosophy has been taken seriously, it has always been assumed that it signified achieving as wisdom that would influence the conduct of life'.

## What is Education

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- ❏ In literary sense, education owes its origin to the two Latin words: '*Educare*' and '*Educere*'.
- ❏ '*Educare*'- means '*to nourish*', '*to bring up*', '*to raise*';
- ❏ '*Educere*'- means '*to bring forth*', '*to draw out*', '*to lead out*'.
- ❏ '*Educatum*'- means- '*the act of teaching and training*'.

# Meaning of Education

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Education as:

- ❑ Acquisition of knowledge
- ❑ A tool to discipline the intellect
- ❑ A preparation for life
- ❑ Direction
- ❑ Growth
- ❑ Transmission of culture

# Philosophy of Education

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- ❑ Philosophy of education may be defined as the application of the fundamental principles of a philosophy of life to the work of education.
- ❑ Philosophy of education offers a definite set of principles and establishes a definite set of aims and objectives.

## Philosophy And Education- Their Interdependence

- ❑ Philosophy and education are closely interrelated.
- ❑ It is the application of philosophy to study of the problems of education that is known as philosophy of education.
- ❑ According to Ross, “Philosophy and education are like the sides of a coin, presenting different views of the same thing, and that one is implied by the other”.
- ❑ Philosophy answers all the ultimate questions of education.

## Experts' views

- ❑ John Dewey- “Philosophy may be defined as the theory of education in its most general phase”.
- ❑ Spencer- “True education is practicable only to true philosophers”.
- ❑ Gentile- “Education without philosophy would mean a failure to understand the precise nature of education”.
- ❑ Dewey- “Education is a laboratory in which philosophical distinctions become concrete and are tested”.
- ❑ Fichte- “The aim of education will never attain complete clearness without philosophy”.

From the above views we can easily maintain that philosophy and education are closely interrelated.

## Scope of Philosophy

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**Philosophy consists of three parts:**

- ▣ Epistemology;
  - ▣ Ontology or Metaphysics, and
  - ▣ Axiology.
1. Epistemology is the theory of Knowledge.
  2. Ontology or Metaphysics is the theory of Being or Reality.
  3. Axiology is the theory of Values.

## Scope of Philosophy

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In fact philosophy deals with all the branches of thought. Yet we can consider the following facts :

- Dealing with God is a significant concern of philosophy. It tries to find out the possibility of the existence of God, nature of God, method of activities of God.
- Knowledge is the most important discussing matter of philosophy. It discusses the ins and outs of knowledge.
- The prime concern of philosophy is life. Nothing in the universe is beyond life and nothing in life is beyond philosophy. Moreover, philosophy is the criticism and interpretation of life. It enquires into the nature, meaning, purpose, origin and destiny of human life.

## Scope of Philosophy

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- The chief instrument of philosophy is logic. Being logical, it does not want to believe anything without logic. Its method is rational speculation – logical analysis and synthesis.
- Because of its dealing with scientific method, everything of philosophy is methodical based on science.
- Mysteries of the universe get importance in philosophy. Because, they are the burring questions for all times for philosophy.

## *Aims and Functions of Philosophy of Education*

- To Account for the True Nature of Man
- Identification and Justification of a Comprehensive World View
- To Guide in the Development of a Broad and True concept of Education
- To Identify and Justify a Comprehensive Educational Programme

- To Identify and Justify the Basic Principles of Teaching
- To Identify and Justify the Basic Principles of Education Evaluation
- To have Students Secure the Ability in Tackling Critical Issues and Problems of Education
- To Guide Students so as to Develop Their Personal Philosophies of Education

## Influence of Educational Philosophy in the

Teaching + Learning



## Philosophy of education influences the aims of education



The aims and ideals of education, too, are determined by the philosophy of education a country believes in. Different philosophies of education have different views on education.

A country that tends to believe in the philosophy of idealism will stress on creating a spiritual environment in the school as that pupils develop spiritual values and attain self-realization.

## Philosophy of education influences the aims of education



Naturalism will like to see that the child is made to learn from nature in a natural way and realizes his potentialities. Pragmatism does not accept any universal or eternal and preconceived aim of education.

Like that aims of education are necessarily influenced by the philosophy of education.

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## Philosophy of education influences the curriculum





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What should be taught in the schools is also influenced by the kind of philosophy of education a society supports. Various philosophies of education advocate differing views on curriculum. Naturalism, for example, lays stress on subjects that help in self-expression and self-preservation. It advocates teaching of basic sciences, physical and health education.

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## Philosophy of education influences the curriculum



Idealism emphasizes teaching of higher values through ethics, religion, art and subjects of humanities. Pragmatism focuses on child-centered curriculum consisting of activities and based on child's experience.

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## Philosophy of education influences teaching methods



Methods of teaching, too, are influenced by the philosophy of education a society adopts. A system of education based on naturalism stresses learning by doing, learning through experience and learning through observation.

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## Philosophy of education influences teaching methods



Societies which tend towards idealism prefer to have a system of education which prescribes rigid methods of teaching such as lecturing and prefer learning through imitation, memorization and discussion. Pragmatism stresses problem solving and project methods of teaching.

## Philosophy of education influences theory and practice of discipline



The concept of discipline and its practice also are influenced by the philosophy of education. To naturalists discipline is to be learnt by natural consequences. The child enjoys maximum freedom. Self-discipline is preferred to external control.

## Philosophy of education influences theory and practice of discipline



The idealists on the other hand wish to enforce discipline through cultivation of higher values, moral and religious teachings and strict control over the child. In the scheme of the pragmatists, there is no place for punishment and discipline is learnt through moral training which is based child's experience gained through various kinds of school activities and programmes.

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