

## **Modern Learning Methods and Classroom Management**

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### **Abstract**

Teaching methods, education, technology and classroom management strategies are constantly changing to adapt to the requirements of university students. In the modern and globally integrated world, international cooperation in education plays significant role in making the teaching and learning process more effective, innovative and sustainable. To reach the sustainability of international interuniversity cooperation, the best modern learning methods that belong to different educational systems need to be selected, combined and experience shared so that to reinforce the teaching and learning process (*Edu voice*, 2021, p.1). This paper endeavors to first, present a list of modern teaching methods to be used in online and classroom university learning environment. Second, to determine the main characteristics of modern learning methods and their importance in developing interactive and innovative environment. Third, discuss twenty classroom management techniques that should be used first, to cope with the increase of the scope of knowledge in recent years, in the field of science and technology and tackle the 21<sup>st</sup> century, which is technology –driven time that requires creative and innovative minds for the progress of individuals, societies, nations and the creation of opportunities for themselves and others (Sterten et al,2016, p.170).

**Key words:** modern learning methods- classroom management techniques.

### **I- Introduction**

Kothari (1966) said, “the innovative teaching methods with the latest teaching technologies help students achieve their excellence”. Since education is a process by which the personality of a child is developed, it plays its role in making the individual creative, innovative and effective. To restore life to education, a trans- disciplinary context should be created, life and knowledge need to be reunited. To reach a person –centered education, modern learning methods are used in universities (Zilola & Makhsuda, 2020, p. 25440).

Mehta (2021) in “Modern teaching Method” defines Modern teaching method as the method that focuses on teaching the students for improving their intellect behavior by using various new and innovative ideas rather than making them recite the syllabus to clear the examination with the same old style. Modern teaching method is more activity-based and centers the learner’s mind which involves them entirely into the process of learning. Second,

curriculum teaching and planning are done keeping the learner as the primary target. Moreover, in this modern method, learners actively participate in the whole process to build their knowledge and sharpen their skills. The teacher in modern teaching leads and guides them to focus on the objectives of the subject. In addition to that, the innovative modern teaching methods help in reducing the competition among the students, promote cooperation, and boost the health study environment. Finally, this method focuses on questioning, demonstrating, explaining, practicing and collaborating. As for the materials and teaching tools, they are more interesting and attractive, which help the students in enriching the qualitative material.

## **II- Literature Review**

Over the years, there have been visible changes in teaching style. Opposite to the memorization and same old recitation practice to teach the students, now with modern teaching methods, interactive methods of teaching have been introduced. The modern teaching methods do not treat all students at the same level of their understanding ability.

### **The Advantages of Using Modern Teaching Techniques**

The importance of implementing modern teaching techniques in the 21<sup>st</sup> century education lies in the positive effects. First, Modern teaching method is more activity-based and centers the learner's mind which involves them entirely into the process of learning. Second, curriculum teaching and planning are done keeping the learner as the primary target.

Moreover, in this modern method, learners actively participate in the whole process to build their knowledge and sharpen their skills. The teacher in modern teaching leads and guides them to focus on the objectives of the subject. In addition to that, the innovative modern teaching methods help in reducing the competition among the students, promote cooperation, and boost the health study environment. Furthermore, the visual medium in modern teaching techniques is way better in explaining content through videos and animations than the blackboard or whiteboard and help in memorizing the concept fast and more extended period than reading. Thus, modern teaching is less time-consuming for it takes the teacher less time to cover the syllabus than traditional teaching.

### **The Disadvantages of using Modern Teaching Methods**

Modern teaching methods are more expensive than traditional techniques so the rural areas cannot practice it due to finance stress. In modern techniques of teaching, students are less connected to their teacher and they interact less than in a traditional classroom. Moreover, discipline is less maintained in modern ways of teaching than in traditional. Finally, modern techniques of teaching harm the eyes of learners.

### **III- Methodology**

#### **Modern Online and Classroom Learning Methods**

The main modern learning methods are first, collaborative learning. The collaborative learning is when learners work in groups to combine their knowledge on a subject. It is ideal for revising topics before assessments as students tend to perform better in tests as they have better retention. The second modern technique is project-based learning. It is a teaching method that uses real-life activities to encourage students to learn by doing with the teacher acting as the mediator. The projects refer to tasks given to the students entirely associated with the field they are pursuing. They are provided with practical case studies which require the application of their skill set and knowledge to provide an optimum solution to the problem given. The third modern technique is personalized learning. It is the type of learning where the method of teaching is adapted to students' needs, strengths and weaknesses to help students learn at their own pace and progress. The fourth vital modern technique is flipped classrooms wherein students watch a video tutorial, search online, or work on the content usually shared by the teacher at home and can discuss the content in the classroom. Through the practice of flipped classroom, students get enough time to grasp the topic, unlike school where they get only a few minutes to understand the content. VAK teaching is a modern teaching method whose effects can be seen clearly. The students are divided into three categories: visual, audio, and kinesthetic. In this method of teaching, the teacher needs to know to which category her students belong to so that to be able to present the same material in different ways. It involves learning through videos and the three mediums of instructions. Moreover, the not-so-common modern teaching method is Crossover learning, which uses both formal and informal teaching and learning environments. The formal setting is traditional classroom to provide education and the informal environment is museums, seminars, and after –school places. Universities teach with content, study material and use everyday experience to add knowledge. The informal learning generates curiosity, interest and increases students' understanding by asking questions to their teachers. In the Crossover learning, teachers introduce new queries or questions in the formal setting and answers for which students should try to find in informal settings such as exploring the question on their museum visit by taking notes or collecting pictures as their data and produce them as the information once they backed in the Classroom. They can share collected information with other classmates and discuss it for better results.

According to a Microsoft study, our attention spans between 2000 and 2015 decreased by 4 seconds from 12 to 8 seconds. This attention span decrease has been mainly blamed on advances in technology especially smart phones. Bite-sized learning or Nano- learning uses short focused activities to help students learn followed by breaks to allow the learner to refocus. The experiential learning is an active learning method that puts students in real-world situations that engage them by providing experience like field work or training. The next modern teaching method is the problem–based, which includes a whole set of activities under the tag of problems and providing solutions which will enhance the skills and knowledge of the students to a greater extent. This will also provoke their enthusiasm level and initiated the problem-solving aspect of the thinking in their minds. In this method

teachers allow the students with a particular set of problems that will challenge their learnings and the acquired skills so far . To solve the given problem students, use their intelligence, which is an efficient technique that the Gen-Z teachers need to follow. (Mehta, 2021)

Design thinking is a modern teaching method that promotes innovative ideas among students. The teacher can offer these new ideas with a particular set of questions or problems that triggers their creative mindset and forces them to pull out some successful innovative solutions to the issue and give them newfound enthusiasm to enter into the curriculum and bring up their best. Finally, to provide a sound education, there should be an amalgamation of a skilled teacher and innovative ways of teaching so that students will be ready with not only theoretical knowledge but also with practical experience of subjects to face the world and compete against their competitors. (Mehta, 2021)

### **Modern Techniques of Classroom Management**

2019 report indicates that teachers overwhelmingly present a lack of professional development support in improving classroom management. Despite this unideal situation, there are straightforward and effective classroom management approaches that can be implemented to foster students prosocial-emotional growth and academic engagement. They also establish an orderly learning environment with limited negative classroom behavior.

Guido (2021) in his article, “Twenty Classroom Management Strategies and techniques” presents top four components of classroom management that set teacher and students up for success. The first component is classroom design, teachers will intentionally set up their desk, bulletin board displays, devices and other aspects of the classroom. Thoughtful classroom design can help create a safe and welcoming learning environment. The second component is rules and discipline. You need to develop fair classroom rules with concrete consequences that students respect. The third component of classroom management is teacher to be on time, keep students on task and stay organized so that to set up lessons for success. The fourth component is the instructional technique. Despite the inflexibility of the teacher to choose the content and the curriculum to teach, teachers have the freedom to choose the way to teach the course and achieve the objectives of the course syllabus.

### **Steps for Implementing the Twenty Classroom Management Strategies**

The teacher needs to help at the beginning of the academic year students to build classroom expectations and rules by asking students what they believe should and shouldn't happen in the classroom in terms of appropriate behavior, at what points phones are acceptable or not and what are acceptable noise levels during lessons. Such discussion between teacher and students lead to a mutual understand and respect of classroom culture. Make sure to print and distribute the list of rules that the class discussion generated. Then, go through the list with your students. Doing this emphasizes the fact that you respect their

ideas and intend to adhere to them and when a student breaks a rule, it'll be easy for you to point to this document.

Address inappropriate or off-task behavior quickly. Avoid hesitation when you must address inappropriate or off-task behavior, especially when a student breaks a documented rule. Acting sooner than later will help ensure that negative feelings whether between students or a teacher and a student. Failure to act leads to more poor behavior and needless difficult conversations. Teachers need to avoid punishing the class instead address isolated discipline problems individually instead of punishing the whole class and call out specific students in a friendly manner as for example, do you have a question? rather than stop talking and disturbing other students". Another example is to ask the student who is interrupting the session or misbehaving if he needs help focusing instead of saying "Pay attention and stop fooling around while I'm talking". Thus, this approach will allow you to keep a friendly disposition while immediately acknowledging inappropriate behavior. (Guido, 2021)

Teachers should encourage students' initiative by working ahead and deliver short presentations on a text or topic and then ask students to read the following text and prepare a short brief preview of the assigned text to read. Furthermore, teachers need to offer praise for students' well done work. By praising students and referring to specific examples of effort or accomplishment, the class academic, self-esteem and behavioral performance will be improved and students' positive behavior and rules and values will be followed and respected in the classroom.

In addition to words, actions and visual aids, teachers need to use non-verbal communication such as running learning stations wherein the teacher divides sections of the classroom through which students rotate and videos, infographics and physical objects. Thus, non-verbal communication in the classroom improves content delivery and help students focus and process lessons. Furthermore, try to have on weekly basis around 20-30 minutes a party in the classroom where students will have snacks and a selection of group games to play. The teacher needs to justify this party by saying that it is to reward them because they demonstrated ideal behavior, collective high score on assessments. Teachers need to keep on giving tangible rewards to students for instance, after each lesson, in front of the class as a motivational and behavior-reinforcement technique, the teacher would say that a few students were actively listening and deserve to choose next week game for the whole class. Thus, this type of occasional parties motivates students to keep the good behavior, motivates them to work and achieve high.

Another interesting strategy is to build students' excitement for the content of the lesson plan. The teacher begins the lesson by a group work or by previewing as a warm up activity exciting parts of the lesson so that to hook students' interest and dissuade misbehavior or demotivation from the get-go such as asking them interesting questions as "Do you know anyone who's won the lottery?" or What all the presidents of the United States have had in common?"

In addition to raising students' motivation in the lesson content, it is very important to offer students different types of free study time to appeal to students who struggle to process content in silence, individually. This strategy can be processed by dividing the class into two separate sections solo and team activities. First, you provide your students audiobooks that play materials relevant to your discussed lessons in class. Second, you maintain a designated quiet space for students to take notes and complete work. Then, create a station for challenging group games that teach or reinforce standards-aligned skills. Next, you allow students to work in groups while taking notes and completing work away from quiet zones. So such strategy benefits diverse learners and contribute to overall classroom engagement.

Furthermore, assigning open-ended projects that don't demand a specific product and encouraging peer teaching allow students to demonstrate knowledge in ways that inherently suit them. You begin introducing the project by giving the class a list of broad project ideas, asking each student to choose one. Provide a rubric for each project that clearly defines expectations. Give only two scores for informal assessments as projects or speaking activities. As a teacher, just state if students did or did not meet expectations. Then, provide struggling students with a clear path to improve. For instance, pair classmates who didn't meet expectations with those who did, giving them a review and practice activity. In fact, when strugglers are confident they understand key concepts, encourage them to tell you. Provide a new assessment and allow them to prove their competency. In a nutshell, such open-ended projects will allow students to work and learn at their own paces, engage them with appropriate content and demonstrate knowledge as effectively as possible and they will look forward to take on new projects. (Guido, 2021)

#### **IV- Conclusion**

To conclude, the inclusion of modern teaching methods in the twenty-first century is necessary for it opposes the idea of traditional forms of repetition and memorization to decision –making, problem-solving and critical thinking skills. In addition to modern teaching methods, the wide range of classroom management approaches empowers teachers and allow them to establish an orderly yet friendly and engaging environment to both students and teachers. Thus, both the new ways of teaching and the classroom management strategies make students more productive and encourage them to collaborate.

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