

## **Lecture # 21**

# Educational Psychology

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# Education

**“developing the capacities and potential of the individual so as to prepare that individual to be successful in a specific society or culture. From this perspective, education is serving primarily an individual development function”.**

**Or**

**The process by which society transmits to new members the values, beliefs, knowledge, and symbolic expressions to make communication possible within society. In this sense, education is serving a social and cultural function.**

# Psychology

“The scientific study of mind and behavior, especially when it relates to individual human beings”.

- The scientific study of behavior and mental processes and how they are affected by an organism’s physical, state, mental state, and external environment.
- Behavior and mental processes include overt, observable instances but also include subtle kinds of instances, like brain activity.
- Humans and many other creatures included in the scientific study of behavior and mental processes

# Educational Psychology...



is a branch of psychology that specializes in understanding teaching and learning in educational settings.

# Educational Psychology

**“Educational psychology is distinct from other branches of psychology because it has the understanding and improvement of education as its primary goal”.**

It is a study of what people think and do as they teach and learn a particular curriculum in a particular environment where education and training are intended to take place.

# Educational Psychology

- It is a combination of psychology and education.  
**“A distinct scientific discipline within psychology that includes both methods of study and a knowledge base”.**
- Concerned primarily with understanding the processes of teaching and learning that take place within formal environments and developing ways of improving those methods.
- Important topics include learning theories; teaching methods; motivation; cognitive, emotional, and moral development; and parent-child relationships.

# Educational Psychology

- An academic definition would perhaps say that educational psychology is the study of learners, learning, and teaching.
- the accumulated knowledge, wisdom, and seat-of-the-pants theory that teacher should possess to intelligently solve the daily problems of teaching.
- cannot tell teachers what to do, but it can give them the principles to use in making a good decision and a language to discuss their experiences and thinking.

# Educational Psychology

- Educational psychology deals with:
- behavior of human beings in educational situation. This means that educational psychology is concerned with the study of human behavior or human personality,
- its growth,
- development,
- guidance under the social process of education.

Education is possible in human beings; hence, human learning is the “**central core**” of educational psychology.



# What is Educational Psychology?

- Educational psychology is mainly dealing with problems, processes, products of education.
- It is an attempt to apply knowledge of psychology in the field of education.
- It is particularly studied to assess the behaviour of the learner, in relation to his/her educational need and environment.



# Education Psychology

## Education Psychology

is a scientific discipline that addresses the question:

“Why do some students learn more than others?”

and

“What can be done to improve that learning?”

# Cont....

- It is the study of learners, learning, and teaching.
- It is the accumulated knowledge, wisdom, and seat-of-the-pants theory that every teacher should possess to intelligently solve the daily problems of teaching.



# Cont.....

This branch of psychology involves,

- not just the learning process of early childhood and adolescence,
- but includes the social, emotional and cognitive processes that are involved in learning throughout the entire lifespan.

The field of educational psychology incorporates a number of other disciplines, including developmental psychology, behavioral psychology and cognitive psychology.

# Cont....

Educational psychologists carry out research on:

- the nature of students,
- principles of learning, and
- methods of teaching...



# Scope of Educational Psychology

- This field is vast as it deals with the behavioral and social development of an individual. It also helps in the structuring of individual perspective, which in turn leads to the development of individualities and personality traits.
- Educational Psychology states that the development of the human brain can be traced and classified in four stages, which are levels of the child's relationship with the surroundings.
- In these four stages a child develops cognitive abilities and social understanding. These four stages also determine the abilities of creativity, intelligence, morality and motivation in a child.

# Scope of Educational Psychology

- This field also studies the much-debated Heredity versus Environment aspect of a child's mental and behavioral development. There are instances when children of the same class have varied levels of understanding regarding a concept; in this case educational psychology aims to analyze the reason for the difference.
- Educational psychology defines the primary and secondary needs of a child and provides him or her effective methods of learning so that the learned content is registered in the memory of the child.
- Creativity is also one aspect which is dealt with in this field, and the latter encourages the development of the former.

# Scope of Educational Psychology

- A school should definitely have an educational psychologist to ensure the all round development of its students motivating them, guiding them and counseling them in regular intervals. It has been observed that the use of educational psychology helps enhance the power of observation, understanding, listening, responding and application.





# Goals of Educational Psychology

- Exploring the Field of Educational Psychology
- Exploring and finding out the nature of teaching
  - Teaching is multi-dimensional
  - Teaching Involves Uncertainty
  - Teaching Involves Social and Ethical Matters.
  - Teaching Involves a Diverse Mosaic of Students
- Carry out Effective Teaching
  - Professional Knowledge and Skills.
  - Commitment
  - Professional Growth

# What Makes A Good Teacher?

- Warmth, enthusiasm, and caring.
- Knowledge of the subject matter they expect to teach!
- Knowledge of how to transmit
- information and skills!!
- Ability to communicate that knowledge to students!

# Mastering the Teaching Skills.

**Pedagogy** = the study of teaching and learning with applications to the instructional process.



# Cont....

Effective instructional strategies/tasks:

- motivating students,
- managing the classroom,
- assessing prior knowledge,
- communicating ideas effectively, taking into account the characteristics of the learners,
- assessing learning outcomes, and
- reviewing information.



# Good teaching is partly an art and partly a science

- Teaching as an art
  - Beliefs, emotions, values, flexibility
- Teaching as a science
  - Usable body of research findings

# Reflective teaching

- Reflective teachers possess:
  - Introspective orientation
  - Open-minded but questioning attitude about educational theories and practices
  - Willingness to take responsibility for your decisions and actions

# Teaching as Decision Making

- Teachers are continually choosing strategies to help students learn, develop, and achieve
- Wise decisions rely on good research
- Decisions can influence students' learning, development, and long-term success

# Education and Learning

- Learning is a part of the process of education.
- Educative- means giving a broader value and meaning to the learner's life.
- How about the learning activities you have experienced?

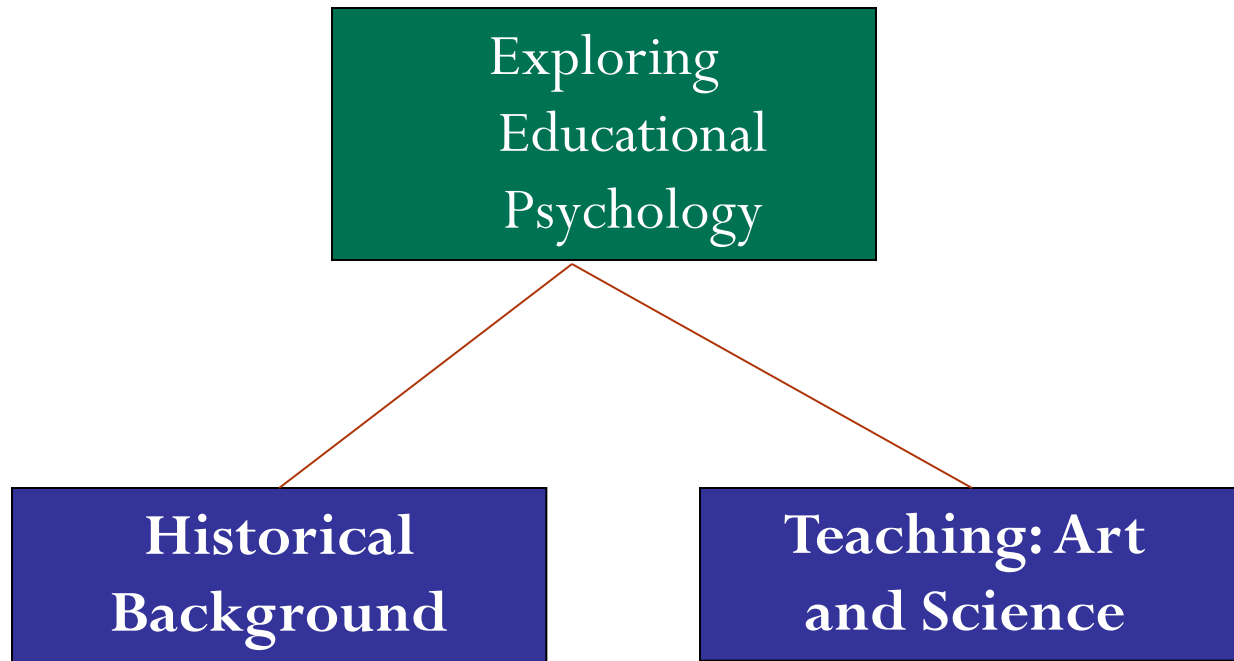




## Cont....

- Teachers should maintain a continuous process of personal reflection, within which they become aware of the personal and cultural values and beliefs that underpin their own and other people's actions.
- Teachers can come to understand fully their own implicit educational theories and the ways in which such theories influence their professional practices.

# Educational Psychology: A Tool for Effective Teaching



# Research in educational psychology informs teaching

- Examples
  - Use more advanced students to tutor less advanced students
  - Give positive reinforcement and corrective feedback to students
  - Communicate to students about expectations
  - Require students to respond to higher-order questions
  - Provide students with cues about the upcoming tasks

# Research in educational psychology informs teaching

- Examples
  - Teach students how to monitor and improve their own learning efforts
  - Know students' misconceptions
  - Create learning situations where students customize information and problems for themselves
  - Accept responsibility for student outcomes
  - Show students how to cooperate

# Approaches to Educational Psychology

- A number of changes and fashions in its brief history.
- An understanding of how theories emerge and connect or conflict with each other enable the teacher to evaluate their respective contributions to language teaching.

# Approaches to Educational Psychology

- Cognitive Approach
- Behavioral Approach
- Constructivist Approach
- Social Cognitive Approach
- Humanistic Approach

# INFORMATION-PROCESSING THEORY

**“Cognitive Theory of Learning that describes the Processing, Storage, and Retrieval of Knowledge in the Mind.”**



# Information processing

- The way in which people take in information, process it and act upon it.
- Attention, Perception and Memory are the focus of the information processing.
- Models and scripts to account for the way in which the human mind works.
- They claim to be able to predict the kind of mental processes that will be necessary for effective learning to take place.



# Information Processing

- Attention, where an information processing approach has provided invaluable insights into the workings of the human mind.
- Some learners have considerable difficulty in paying attention to their work.
- Attention, a process of filtering out an overwhelming range of incoming stimuli and selecting out only those stimuli which are important for further processing.
- Attention, a cognitive resource which can be drawn upon as a means of concentrating our mental efforts.

# Information processing & Language Learning

The ability to select (ir)relevant information and focus their attention on how this can be remembered and used distinguishes efficient from inefficient learners

# Approaches Cont.

- **Behavioral Approach**

- Observable behaviors and reinforcement
- Learning as behavior change due to reinforcement/punishment
- Classroom management, positive reinforcement, token economies

- **Constructivist Approach**

- Knowledge construction through experience
- Learning through interaction with environment and others
- Hands-on activities, scaffolding, group discussions

# Approaches Cont.

- **Humanistic Approach**

- Personal growth, self-actualization, whole-child approach
- Addressing emotional and psychological needs for learning
- Supportive classroom climate, student-centered learning, self-reflection

- **Social Cognitive Approach**

- Learning through observation and social interaction
- Learning by observing others; self-efficacy is critical
- Modeling, peer learning, collaborative projects

# The Role of Educational Psychology

- Understanding and improvement of instruction
- What people think and do as they teach and learn
- Solving the everyday problems of education

# Divisions of Educational Psychology

- The field of educational psychology consists roughly of:
  - Human Development
  - Learning and Cognition
  - Educational research Methods
  - Testing/Measurement
- Essentially any facet of human behavior that affects the educational process can be considered as educational psychology.

# Contribution of Educational Psychology

The educational psychology helps not only the teachers, but everyone concerned to it including the parents of the children, in the following ways:

- **To understand developmental characteristics**

Children pass through different stages of development in life as infancy, childhood and adolescence. These developmental stages have their own characteristics and demands.

- **To understand the nature of class room learning**

With the help of education psychology the teacher understand the students and their need and problems, it help teacher in learning process in general and class-room learning in particular.

# Contribution of Educational Psychology

- **To understand individual differences**

With the help of psychology teacher understand the individual's differences. Teacher faces a class of 30 to 50 students who have a different range of individual differences.

Teacher with the knowledge of education psychology and individual differences may adjust his teaching to the needs and requirements of the class.





# Cont.....

- **To understand effective teaching methods**

Every day experience shows that lack of proper methods of teaching sometimes

results in failure of communication in the classroom. The educational

psychology gives us the knowledge of appropriate methods of teaching. It helps in developing new strategies of teaching.



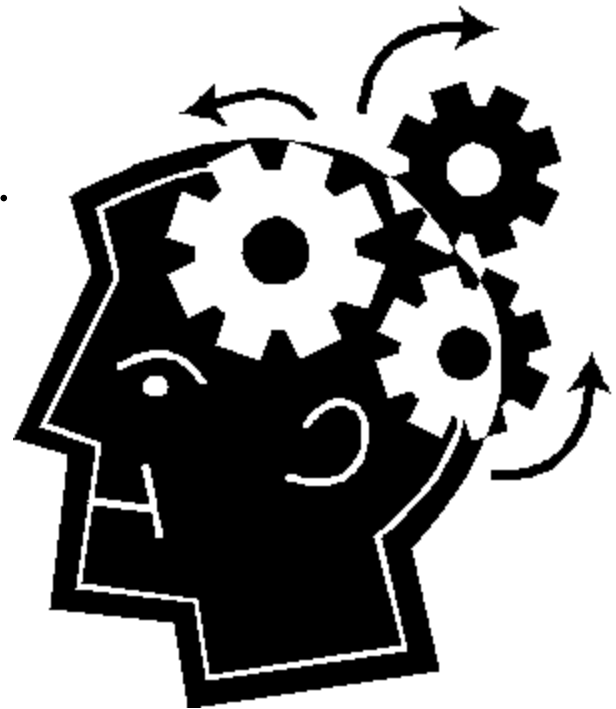
# Cont.....

- **Knowledge of mental health**

Mental health of the student and teacher is very important for efficient learning. With the help of educational psychology, the teacher can understand the various factors, which are responsible for the mental health and maladjustment.

- **Curriculum construction**

Psychological principles are also used in formulating curriculum for different stages.



# Cont.....

- **Measurement of learning out-comes**

Psychological tools help the teachers to evaluate the learning outcome of the students. it helps the teacher to evaluate his own performance.

- **Guidance for the education of exceptional children**

Most important contribution of educational psychology is the provision and organization of the educational psychology is the provision and organization of the education for the education of sub normal children.



**Thank You**