

Summary

Intercultural Pedagogy: New Paradigms

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The internationalisation of education through globalisation processes has direct effects on some new approaches to pedagogy, an intercultural curriculum, among others.

The term intercultural applies to the type of education that ensures the right to be different, promotes equal opportunities and prepares all students for coexistence in a democratic society.

Intercultural education is an indispensable agent in the process of getting to know and understand other cultures. It is necessary when it comes to establishing positive relations, but it also springs from the need to organise multicultural societies according to the principles of cultural pluralism (which encompasses mutual understanding, tolerance, and dialogue, as well as experiencing different cultures and combining them with one's own), universalism (refers to common interests, beliefs and customs) and social dialogue (combining cultural uniqueness with common connecting elements).

The joint development of an intercultural curriculum is based on the experience students have gained: their knowledge, skills, values and attitudes which help them understand first themselves and then others, discover similarities and differences, question prejudice and develop cooperation with a view to attaining common goals.

The aim of intercultural education is not knowledge as such but a relation and an attitude to it, a new construction and level of knowledge about an intercultural educational (school) community.

Key words: intercultural education, intercultural curriculum, teachers' intercultural competence, intercultural communication