

# Economics Curriculum

Keeping physical and cultural needs in view, educationists specify educational aims in the social, economic, political and cultural background of the time and place. It is a teacher who gives a concrete form to the specified goals set by educationists. According to **Henry J. Otto**, curriculum is that tool by which we hope to enable our children to realise educational aims. Thus, the curriculum is a link between teacher and educationist. It is necessary for this link to exist in the interest of education.

Economics is a social subject. All social subjects have a definite purpose by which the society can be developed. Therefore, there are certain purposes of economics too. Economics is taught to realise the goals or purposes of economics; however, a planned and specific system is needed to realise these goals. This planned and specific system is called the curriculum. It is quite simple and definite to achieve the goals through the curriculum. It is impossible to realise the goals without a suitable curriculum. Therefore, the curriculum is a suitable tool to realise the goals.

## Meaning of Curriculum

The word 'curriculum' has been derived from the Latin word 'currere' meaning 'race course'. Thus, this term has inherent in it the sense of competition and realisation of goal. Thus, a curriculum is that race course on which a child runs to realise certain objectives. To explain its sense further, several scholars have defined this term; we shall discuss a few of them :

- ◆ "Curriculum includes all the learner's experiences in or outside school that are included in a programme which has been devised to help him to develop mentally, physically, emotionally, socially, spiritually and morally." —**Crow and Crow**
- ◆ "It (curriculum) is a tool in the hands of the artist (teacher) to mould his material (pupil) according to his ideal (objective) in his studio (school)." —**Cunningham**
- ◆ "The curriculum may be defined as all the experience that pupils have under the direction of the school, it includes both classroom and extra-curricular activities, work as well as play." —**G. Walter G.**
- ◆ "We conceive the school curriculum as the totality of learning experiences that the school provides through all the manifold activities in the school or outside, that are carried on under its supervision." —**Education Commission (1964-66)**
- ◆ "Curriculum does not mean only the academic subjects traditionally taught in the school, but it includes the totality of experiences that a pupil receives through manifold activities that go in the school, in the classroom, library, laboratory,



*workshop, playground and in the numerous informal contacts between teacher and pupils. In this sense, the whole life of the school becomes the curriculum which can touch the life of the students at all points and help in the evolution of a balanced personality."*

**—Secondary Education Commission, 1952-53**

- ◆ *"(a) A systematic group of courses or sequences of subjects required for graduation or certification in a major field of study, for example, physical education curriculum, social study curriculum.*
- (b) A general overall plan of the content or specific materials of instruction that the school should offer the student by way of qualifying him for graduation or certification or for entrance into a professional or vocational field."*
- (c) A group of courses and planned experiences which a student has under the guidance of the school or college."*

**—C.V. Good in the Dictionary of Education**