PRINCIPLES OF STUDENT-CENTERED LEARNING (INDIVIDUALIZATION, ACTIVATION, AND MOTIVATION)

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Abstract: The dissertation focuses on the analysis of key principles of student-centered learning, such as individualization, activation, and motivation. The study examines the theoretical foundations of these principles and their practical implementation in educational settings. It evaluates methods that contribute to an effective learning process focused on the needs and interests of students. Special attention is given to active approaches and motivational techniques that significantly enhance student engagement in learning. The findings can be valuable for educators and educational institutions seeking to implement innovative methods into the learning process.

Keywords:student-centered learning, individualization, activation, motivation, educational process, pedagogical techniques, educational technologies, inclusive education.

Introduction
Modern education faces the necessity of adapting to the diverse needs of students, which highlights the importance of a student-centered approach. This approach emphasizes the uniqueness of each learner, their needs, interests, and motivation, and requires a departure from traditional teaching methods. Student-centered learning views students as active participants in the educational process whose individual characteristics should be considered when selecting teaching methods and forms [1]. The most essential components of this approach are the principles of individualization, activation, and motivation, which aim to create conditions for the effective learning of every student.

The objective of this study is to identify the role and significance of these principles in educational practice and to develop recommendations for their implementation to improve the quality of education.

Methods
To study the principles of student-centered learning—individualization, activation, and motivation—the following methods were used:

1. Theoretical Analysis
This involves analyzing existing theories and approaches related to student-centered learning. It includes reviewing scientific articles, books, dissertations, reports, and other relevant sources. This method helps identify key aspects and principles such as individualization, activation, and motivation[1;2].

2. Qualitative Research (Interviews, Questionnaires)
Interviews were conducted with teachers, students, and education experts to gather opinions and observations about the application of student-centered learning principles[3].

Questionnaires were also used to assess the perception of these methods among students and teachers.

3. Empirical Research

This involves collecting and analyzing data on real-life examples of the implementation of individualization, activation, and motivation principles in educational institutions. This includes learning outcomes, student engagement, and academic performance indicators.

4. Observation Method

Used to observe the educational process in real-time, including how teachers apply activation and motivational techniques in the classroom and how students respond. Observations can be either covert or open, depending on the research goals.

5. Case Study

This includes examining specific successful cases of student-centered learning in educational institutions—analyzing practices in schools, universities, or courses where such principles have been effectively applied.

6. Comparative Analysis

Used to compare student-centered learning approaches with traditional teaching methods, including their effectiveness and influence on learning quality and student motivation.

7. Content Analysis

Involves analyzing educational materials (textbooks, curricula, lesson plans, etc.) to determine how well they reflect the principles of individualization, activation, and motivation[4]. This may also include analyzing student texts and reflective writings.

8. Experimental Research

To test the effectiveness of student-centered learning principles, experiments were conducted in educational institutions. For instance, one group of students was taught using personalized and active methods, while another group followed traditional instruction. The results were compared in terms of knowledge acquisition, engagement, and motivation.

9. Focus Groups

Discussions were held with small groups of students and teachers to gain a deeper understanding of their perceptions of student-centered learning and to identify which motivational and individualization techniques they found most effective.

10. Academic Performance Analysis

Involves assessing student performance and engagement through exam scores, coursework, participation in classes, and other academic achievements before and after the implementation of student-centered principles.

Each of these methods may be used individually or in combination to obtain more complete and reliable data on the application of student-centered learning in educational practice.

Results and Discussion

The application of the principles of individualization, activation, and motivation in educational practice contributes to deeper student engagement in the learning process. Individualization considers students' personal characteristics, preparation levels, and needs, enhancing the effectiveness of knowledge acquisition. Activation of learning activities makes the process more dynamic and stimulates active student participation. Motivation plays a decisive role in generating student interest, thereby increasing their readiness to absorb knowledge and develop skills[5].

However, there are several challenges in implementing these principles. These include the lack of time for teachers to prepare individualized plans, insufficient training in alternative

teaching methods, and limited institutional resources. Despite these obstacles, the implementation of a student-centered approach is a crucial step toward improving education quality and creating a more flexible and adaptable learning system.

Conclusion

The principles of individualization, activation, and motivation are fundamental to student-centered learning, creating the foundation for a more effective and personalized educational process. These principles not only support better knowledge retention but also help develop key competencies such as critical thinking, self-regulation, and teamwork. [2]. Although applying a student-centered approach requires changes in teaching practices, its advantages—such as increased student engagement and improved education quality—make the effort worthwhile.

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