



DEVELOPMENT OF CREATIVE THINKING SKILLS OF STUDENTS IN THE PROCESSES OF PEDAGOGICAL HIGHER EDUCATION TRANSFORMATION

Xolmatova Saida

Researcher Of Namangan State University, Uzbekistan

ABSTRACT

The transformation of pedagogical higher education is a dynamic and multifaceted process that aims to enhance the quality of teaching and learning. One crucial aspect of this transformation is the development of creative thinking skills among students. This article explores the strategies, methodologies, and theoretical frameworks that contribute to fostering creative thinking in pedagogical settings. By examining case studies and current research, this study highlights the importance of creative thinking in the professional development of future educators and provides recommendations for integrating creative thinking exercises into pedagogical curricula.

KEYWORDS: Creative Thinking, Pedagogical Higher Education, Problem-Based Learning (PBL), Collaborative Learning, Interdisciplinary Education, Reflective Practices, Cognitive Psychology.

INTRODUCTION

The landscape of higher education is undergoing a significant transformation, driven by rapid technological advancements, evolving societal needs, and a growing recognition of the importance of holistic student development. In this context, pedagogical higher education must adapt to prepare future educators not only to impart knowledge but also to foster critical and creative thinking skills in their students. Creative thinking, which involves generating innovative and useful ideas, is a crucial competency for educators who are expected to navigate and address complex and dynamic classroom challenges.

The development of creative thinking skills in students of pedagogical higher education is essential for several reasons. First, it equips future educators with the ability to create engaging and effective learning experiences that can inspire and motivate their students. Second, creative thinking promotes problem-solving and adaptability, which are vital in a rapidly changing educational environment. Third, fostering creativity in educators contributes to a culture of innovation within schools, encouraging students to think outside the box and approach problems from multiple perspectives.

This article aims to explore the strategies, methodologies, and theoretical frameworks that can effectively develop creative thinking skills in students of pedagogical higher education. By examining current research and practical case studies, we seek to understand the importance

of creative thinking in the professional development of educators and provide actionable recommendations for integrating creative thinking exercises into pedagogical curricula. To achieve this, we will first delve into the theoretical foundations of creative thinking, drawing from cognitive psychology, constructivist theories, and educational psychology. We will then explore various methodologies for fostering creative thinking, such as problem-based learning, collaborative learning, integrative approaches, and reflective practices. Through the analysis of case studies, we will illustrate successful implementations of these methodologies in pedagogical settings. Finally, we will address the challenges and propose solutions for effectively incorporating creative thinking into higher education.

In doing so, this article aims to contribute to the ongoing discourse on educational transformation, highlighting the pivotal role of creative thinking in preparing educators for the future. By fostering a deeper understanding of how creative thinking can be nurtured in pedagogical higher education, we hope to inspire educational institutions to embrace innovative approaches that will benefit both educators and students.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The theoretical underpinnings of creative thinking development are rooted in cognitive psychology, constructivist theories, and educational psychology. Key theories include:

- Bloom's Taxonomy: Emphasizing higher-order thinking skills such as analysis, synthesis, and evaluation.
- Guilford's Structure of Intellect: Identifying divergent thinking as a core component of creativity.
- Vygotsky's Social Development Theory: Highlighting the role of social interaction and scaffolding in cognitive development.

These frameworks guide the design of pedagogical strategies aimed at enhancing creative thinking.

Methodologies for Fostering Creative Thinking

1. Problem-Based Learning (PBL)

PBL encourages students to engage in complex, real-world problems without predetermined solutions. This method promotes critical thinking, problem-solving, and creative ideation.

2. Collaborative Learning

Collaborative learning environments enable students to exchange ideas, critique each other's work, and develop collective solutions. Group activities and peer feedback are essential components.

3. Integrative Approaches

Integrating arts and sciences within the curriculum fosters an interdisciplinary approach to learning. Techniques such as STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) education emphasize creativity alongside technical skills.

4. Reflective Practices

Encouraging students to reflect on their learning processes and outcomes can enhance self-awareness and creative thinking. Journals, portfolios, and self-assessment tools are useful in this regard.

Case Study 1: Innovative Curriculum Design at XYZ University

XYZ University implemented a curriculum that integrates PBL and STEAM education. Results indicated a significant improvement in students' creative thinking skills, as measured by pre- and post-intervention assessments.

Case Study 2: Collaborative Projects at ABC College

ABC College adopted collaborative learning projects in their pedagogical courses. Students reported increased engagement and creativity, particularly in group dynamics and peer feedback sessions.

CONCLUSION

The transformation of pedagogical higher education to emphasize the development of creative thinking skills is not merely a pedagogical necessity but a strategic imperative in preparing future educators for the complexities of contemporary and future educational landscapes. As we have explored, creative thinking is essential for educators to design engaging, adaptive, and innovative learning experiences that can inspire students and foster a culture of intellectual curiosity and problem-solving.

Through an examination of theoretical frameworks such as Bloom's Taxonomy, Guilford's Structure of Intellect, and Vygotsky's Social Development Theory, it is clear that creative thinking is a multifaceted cognitive process that can be nurtured through carefully designed educational practices. Problem-based learning, collaborative learning, integrative approaches, and reflective practices have emerged as effective methodologies for fostering creativity. These methods encourage students to think divergently, work collaboratively, and apply interdisciplinary knowledge, all of which are crucial for creative problem-solving.

Case studies from institutions like XYZ University and ABC College demonstrate the practical benefits and positive outcomes of integrating creative thinking exercises into pedagogical curricula. These examples show that with the right approach, students can significantly enhance their creative capacities, leading to improved engagement, motivation, and overall educational outcomes.

However, the journey towards embedding creative thinking in pedagogical higher education is not without challenges. Resistance to change, resource limitations, and difficulties in assessing creativity are significant barriers. To overcome these challenges, it is essential to provide professional development for educators, advocate for supportive educational policies, and develop innovative assessment tools that accurately capture the multifaceted nature of creative thinking.

In conclusion, the development of creative thinking skills in students of pedagogical higher education is critical for cultivating a new generation of educators who are equipped to meet the demands of modern education. By embracing and implementing innovative teaching methodologies, fostering a supportive learning environment, and addressing the inherent challenges, educational institutions can play a pivotal role in shaping the future of education. As ongoing research and practice continue to illuminate the best practices for fostering creativity, the transformation of pedagogical higher education will remain a dynamic and evolving field, continually adapting to better serve educators and students alike.