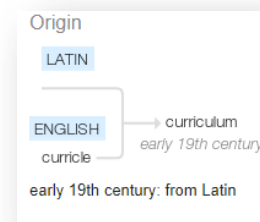


Curriculum Vs Syllabus

Many people still equate a curriculum with a syllabus. An UNESCO publication entitled Preparing Text Book Manuscripts “(1970)” has differentiated between the curriculum and syllabus. The curriculum sets out the subjects to be studied, their order and sequence and so ensures some balance between humanities and science and consistency in the study of subjects, thus facilitating inter subject links. It follows that the curriculum determines the amount of school times allotted to each subject, the aim of teaching each subject, the place of the motor skills which take time to acquire and possibly, the variations between rural and urban school teaching. The curriculum in the schools of developing countries is often directly related to the requirements for developments. The syllabus determines the basic content of instructions in a given subject and the range of knowledge and skills which the pupils must acquire and establish in detail the themes and individual points

What is a Curriculum?

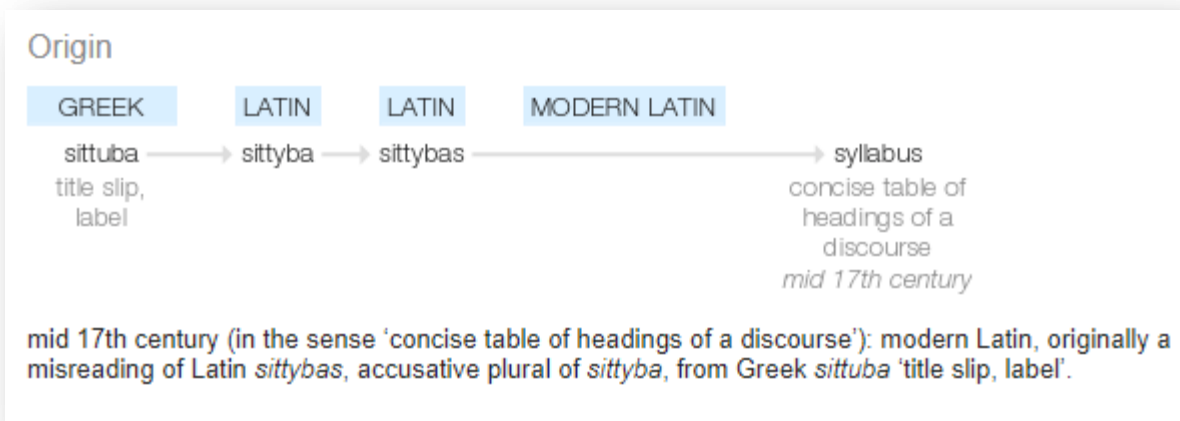
A curriculum is set guidelines that that have been established to help the educators to decide on the content of a course. It is the curriculum that gives out the course objectives, the contents, and methods that will be used to teach. Therefore, it prescribes not only what should be taught or how it should be taught, but also why something should be taught.



Curriculum is usually set out by the administration of an institute. In government educational institutions, the curriculum may be set out by the government. Educators often make the syllabus using the curriculum. In addition, the curriculum also lets the teachers measure the effectiveness of their teaching through standardized testing.

What is a Syllabus?

Syllabus is a descriptive list of subjects to be covered and a summary of their content. It describes and summarizes what should be taught to the students. Syllabuses, unlike curriculums, are made by individual teachers. Since they are made by teachers, they can be tailored to suit the requirement of a particular class.



A syllabus has details such as schedule, assessments, assignments, projects, etc. So it contains information such as dates on which assignments are to be submitted, exam dates, details of projects, etc. Syllabus is usually accessible to students; the syllabus is given out to students at the beginning of the course.

Here is a table listing the various comparison points of the debate of syllabus vs curriculum:

Comparison Points	Curriculum	Syllabus
<i>Meaning</i>	<i>A set of guidelines of the different academic contents and chapters that are covered during a program offered by a particular educational institution.</i>	<i>A document that has all the information about different topics or concepts that needs to be covered for a particular subject.</i>
<i>Nature</i>	<i>Prescriptive</i>	<i>Descriptive</i>
<i>Structured For</i>	<i>Complete Course</i>	<i>Each Subject Under the Course</i>
<i>Determined By</i>	<i>Administration of College, Institute or School or the Government</i>	<i>Exam Board</i>
<i>Scope</i>	<i>Wide</i>	<i>Narrow</i>
<i>Uniformity</i>	<i>Uniform for all the teachers</i>	<i>Different from one teacher to another</i>
<i>Term Duration</i>	<i>Until the course lasts</i>	<i>A fixed-term, can also be a year</i>

References:

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