



RETHINKING LEBANESE HIGHER EDUCATION

Educational Challenges

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November 9, 2017

Role of Higher Education Institutions

- Disseminating knowledge
- Creating knowledge
- Developing skills and competencies for the workforce
- Contributing to the development of human capital
- Contributing to the technological base of societies
- Contributing to economic advancement
- Driving forward innovation
- Generating values that underpin modern society

What Shapes a Student's Educational Experience?

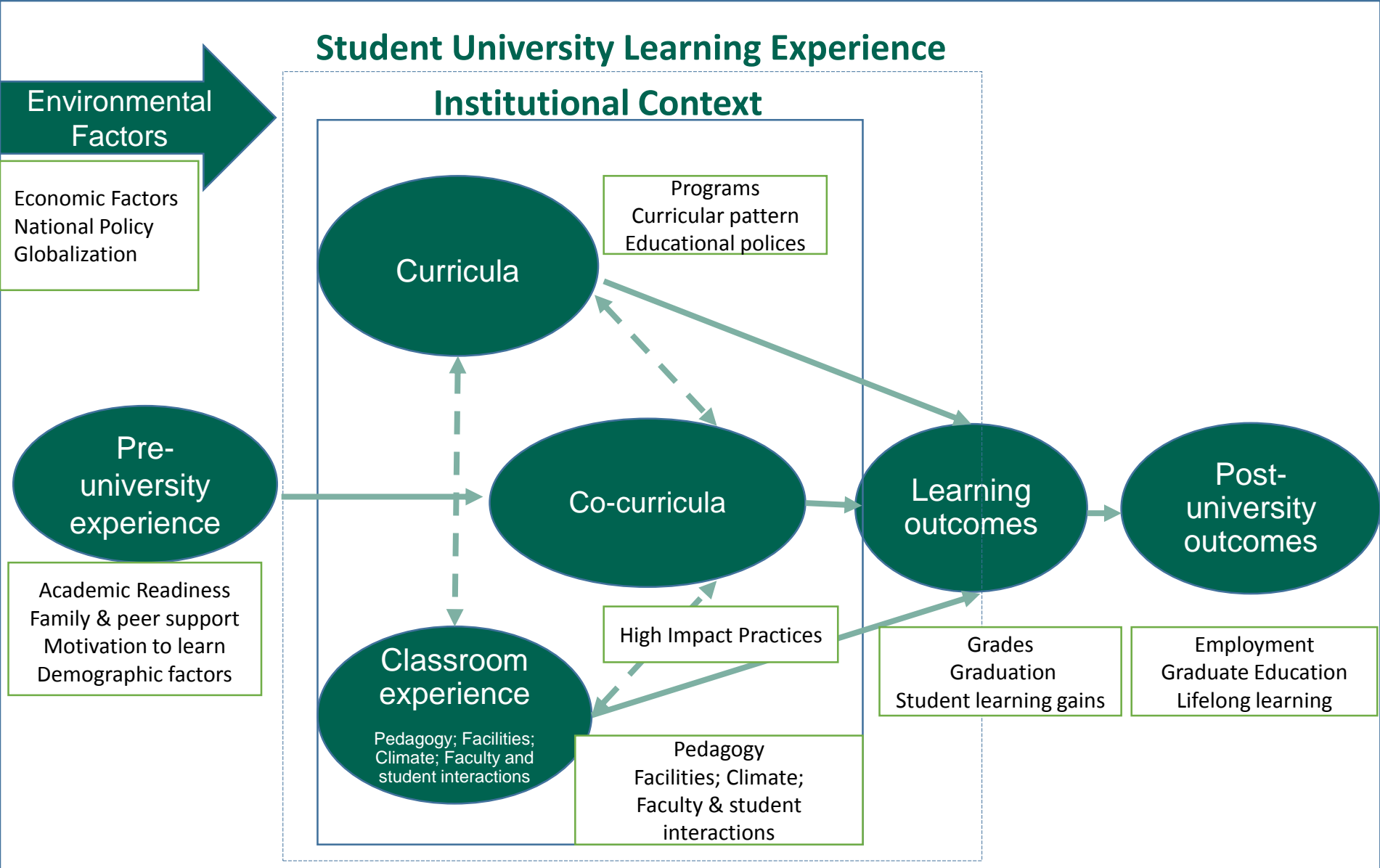


Pre-
university
experiences

University
experiences

Post-
university
outcomes

What Shapes a Student's Educational Experience?



Adapted from Terenzini, P. T., Springer, L., Pascarella, E. T., & Nora, A. (1995). Influences affecting the development of students' critical thinking skills. *Research in higher education*, 36(1), 23-39.

Environmental Factors



Economic Factors

National Policy

Globalization

National Quality Assurance Agency

The national quality assurance agency aims at:

- Assuring the quality of the institution
- Assuring the quality of academic programs
- Fostering ongoing institutional enhancement
- Improving public accountability
- Determining institutional integrity, that is, determining the conformity of the program to general expectations

National Higher Education Data System

- A national higher education data system can serve as a:
- Primary source for information on Lebanese universities, and technical and vocational institutions
- Benchmarking purposes by various stakeholders of higher education
- Facilitate policy formulation at both the institutional and national level
- Can be used for research purposes

Lebanese National Qualifications Framework

The need for a Lebanese National Qualification Framework is essential to:

- Identify the knowledge, skills and competencies required for different levels of qualifications as well as setting out the relationship between the different levels
- Allow learners to understand the different levels of qualifications, as well as what is required to achieve an award at each of the levels.
- Inform employers that those applying for positions who have reached a certain level in the framework have the level of knowledge and competency associated with that level.

It has the potential to promote dialogue among the various stakeholders in higher education and encourage the establishment of partnerships and fruitful collaborations. It should be made public.

Globalization of Higher Education

Globalization of higher education takes on many forms. These include:

- Inward and outward exchange of international students and faculty
- Increasing cross-border scientific collaborations and partnerships
- Engaging in international research
- Setting up satellite or branch campuses



Delivery Styles/Pedagogical Approaches



Delivery Styles/Pedagogical Approaches

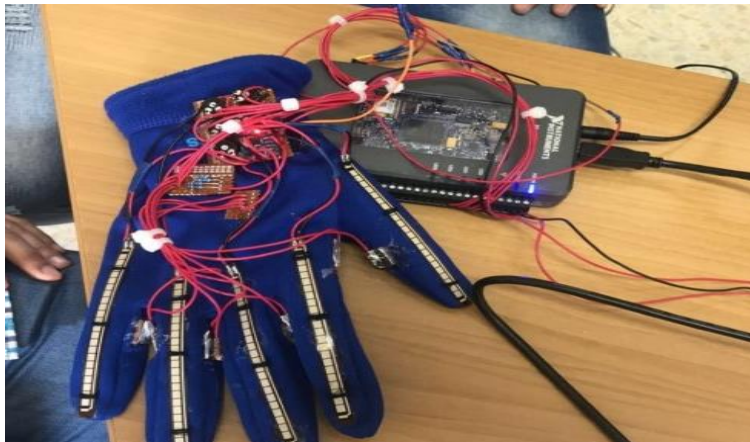
- Active learning
- Experiential learning
- Multimedia Instruction
- Case-based instruction
- Flipped classroom
- Problem Based Learning (PBL)
- Competency-based teaching/learning
- Team teaching
- Cooperative/Collaborative learning
- Games and simulations
- Discovery-based learning
- Hybrid approaches
- Discussion/debates
- E-teaching/learning
- Inquiry-based teaching/learning
- Traditional lecturing (Direct instruction)

Technology, E-learning and Social Media for Teaching and Support of Learning

- Apps
- Audio/podcasts
- Chat sessions
- Classroom response systems
- Communities of E-learners
- Digital games and simulations
- E-learning
- E-Portfolios
- Hybrid/blended courses
- Technology-supported tools
- Instructor recorded videos and lectures
- Instructional technology systems (Course management systems, Moodle/Blackboard, etc.)
- Interactive whiteboards/smartboards
- Multimedia tools
- Open educational resources
- Online discussion
- Social Media/Web 2.0 technologies

Co-Curricula Activities: High Impact Practices

- Learning community
- Service-Learning
- Internship, co-op, field experience, student teaching, or clinical placement
- Culminating senior experience (Capstone Course, senior project or thesis, portfolio)
- Study abroad

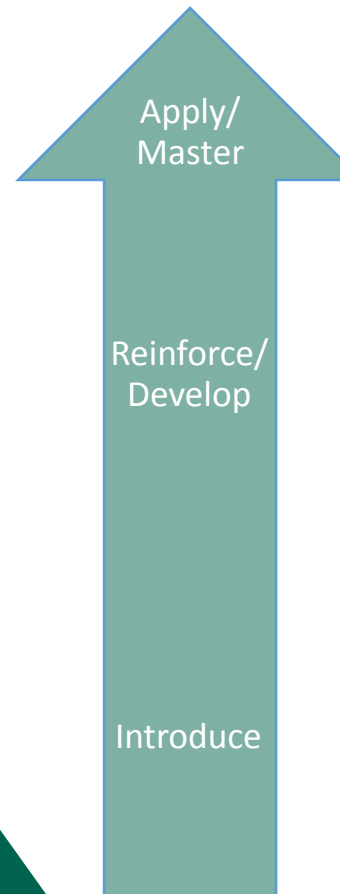
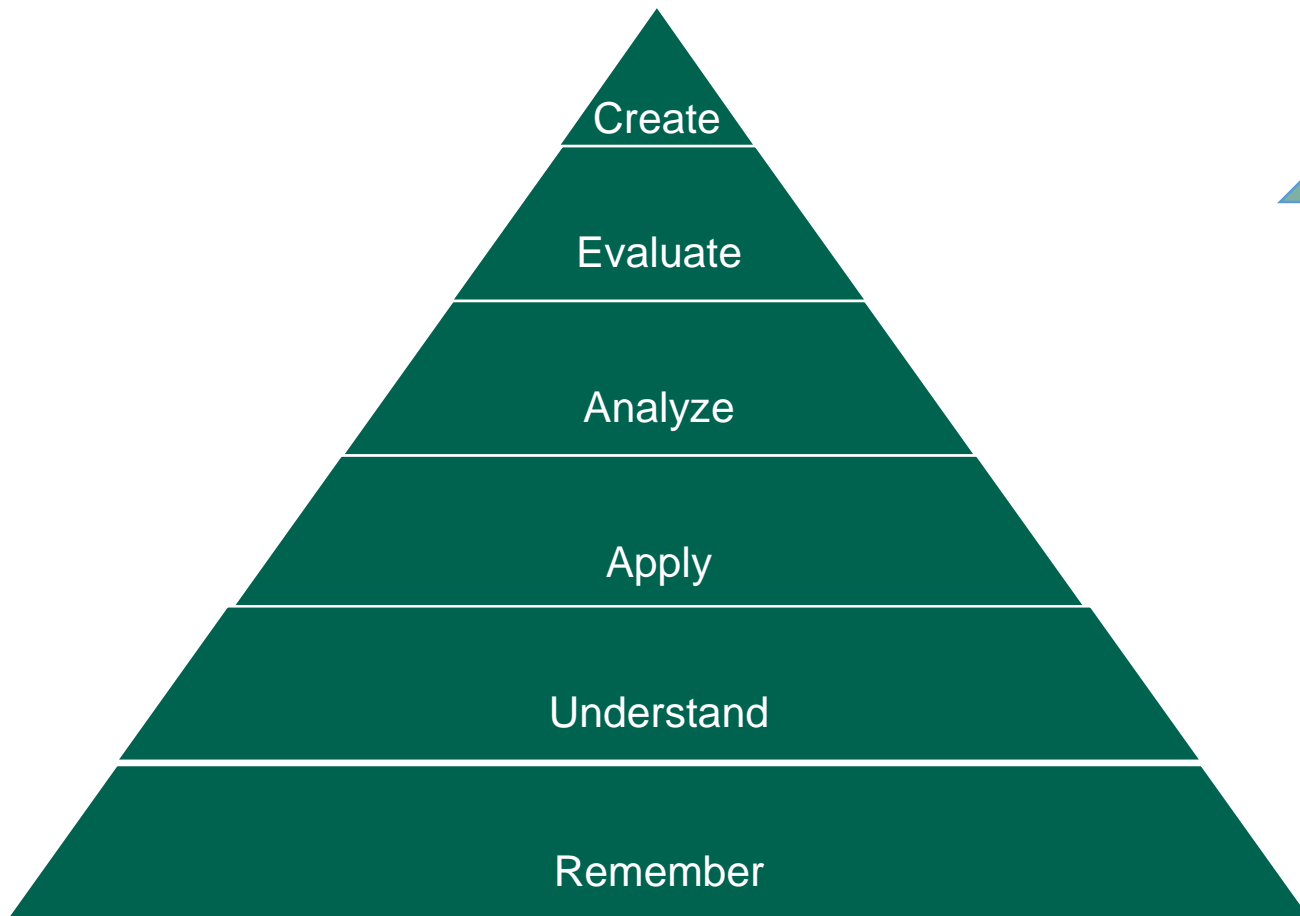


Development of Transferable Skills

- Ability to apply knowledge in practice
- Ability to set goals and objectives
- Ability to work autonomously/self-directed learning
- Adaptability
- Analysis and synthesis capabilities
- Communication skills (verbal and written)
- Critical thinking
- Decisions making & problem solving
- Information technology literacy
- Quantitative (Math and Stat) literacy
- Organizational Skills
- Project management
- Global/ Multicultural awareness
- Interpersonal skills
- Leadership skills
- Research skills
- Team work



Bloom's Taxonomy



Summary

There is a need for national policy to provide direction for institutions in higher education

- National Quality Assurance Agency
- Lebanese National Qualifications Framework
- Framework for Teaching and Learning Excellence
- Policies to facilitate the globalization of higher education

These need to be made public for all stakeholders of higher education

Conclusions

- Education must be visionary, future-oriented and deliberately thought of in the face of stunning scientific and technological innovations and changes, unprecedented socio-economic challenges and opportunities, surprising socio-political reforms, and amazing cultural reawakening.
- Educational innovations are imperative, and would no doubt be effective if they are:
 - research-based;
 - Infused with technology of education (systematic approach to the teaching-learning process); and
 - technology in education (use of hardware and software)

THANK YOU

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