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Facilitating Learner Centered Teaching (EDUC 602)

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PREFACE

Hello learners, and welcome! Understanding learners' development is an essential foundation in creating effective and meaningful learning experiences. Learners enter the classroom with diverse cognitive abilities, emotional experiences, social backgrounds, and personal characteristics that influence how they think, behave, and acquire knowledge. This module provides an exploration of different theories that explain how learners develop and how these theories can guide teachers in designing appropriate instructional strategies that respond to learners' needs. By understanding the nature of learner development, future educators can create supportive environments where students are encouraged to participate actively and achieve their full potential.

This module introduces major theories that explain the different dimensions of learners' growth and behavior. The **Cognitive Learning Theory** highlights the importance of mental processes involved in acquiring, organizing, storing, and applying knowledge. It explains that learning occurs when students actively process information, connect new ideas with prior experiences, and engage in meaningful thinking activities. Through this perspective, teachers are guided to develop strategies that enhance learners' understanding, problem-solving abilities, and critical thinking skills.

The module also discusses the **Social Learning Theory**, which emphasizes the influence of observation, interaction, modeling, and the learning environment on learners' behaviors and skills. Learners do not develop in isolation; rather, they acquire knowledge and attitudes through their experiences with teachers, peers, and society. In addition, the **Psychosexual Learning Theory** provides insights into how early experiences and developmental stages contribute to personality formation, emotional responses, and individual behavior. These theories help teachers recognize that learners' actions are shaped by multiple developmental factors.

As future educators, understanding theories of learner development enables teachers to become more responsive, reflective, and inclusive in their practice. These theories serve as guides in identifying learners' needs, recognizing individual differences, and creating learning experiences that promote holistic development. By applying these theoretical perspectives, teachers can foster classrooms where learners are supported intellectually, socially, emotionally, and personally, leading to more meaningful and successful educational experiences.



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MODULE 1:

METACOGNITION

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