



THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OF FUTURE TEACHERS IN THE DIGITAL EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

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Article history:	Abstract:
Received: October 18 th 2023 Accepted: November 17 th 2023 Published: December 22 th 2023	This article explores the theoretical foundations that underpin the development of professional training for future teachers in the context of the rapidly evolving digital educational environment. As technology continues to reshape the landscape of education, it is imperative to examine the theoretical frameworks that guide the preparation of educators for this digital era. The discussion encompasses key pedagogical theories, the integration of technology in teaching, and the role of psychological principles in shaping effective teacher training programs.

Keywords: Digital Educational Environment, Professional Training, Future Teachers, Theoretical Foundations, Pedagogical Theories, Technology Integration, Blended Learning, Educational Psychology.

As the digital educational environment continues its rapid evolution, this article delves deeper into advanced theoretical foundations shaping the professional training of future teachers. Building upon traditional pedagogical theories, the integration of cutting-edge technologies, and a nuanced understanding of cognitive processes, this exploration aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of how teacher training programs can adapt to the dynamic demands of contemporary education. The digital revolution has significantly transformed the field of education, necessitating a paradigm shift in how future teachers are prepared for the challenges of the 21st-century classroom. This article delves into the theoretical foundations that serve as the bedrock for the development of professional training programs for aspiring educators. By understanding and applying these theoretical frameworks, teacher training institutions can equip future educators with the skills and knowledge essential for navigating the complexities of the digital educational environment.

Pedagogical Theories in Teacher Training: At the core of effective teacher training lie pedagogical theories that provide a conceptual framework for understanding how individuals learn and how instruction should be structured. Constructivism, for instance, emphasizes the importance of active learning and the construction of knowledge through meaningful experiences. In the digital educational environment, this theory takes on new significance as teachers must facilitate interactive and collaborative learning experiences facilitated by technology. Connectivism, a relatively contemporary theory, posits that learning is a networked process, highlighting the role of digital tools and online resources in shaping knowledge acquisition. As future teachers are immersed in a digital landscape, integrating connectivity principles into training programs ensures that educators are adept at leveraging online resources and fostering a culture of continuous learning. Expanding on traditional pedagogical theories, contemporary approaches such as Andragogy and Heutagogy are gaining prominence in the training of future teachers. Andragogy focuses on the unique needs of adult learners, acknowledging their self-directedness and experience as valuable resources. Heutagogy takes this a step further, emphasizing learners' ability to determine their own learning needs and goals, aligning seamlessly with the autonomous nature of digital learning environments. In the context of professional training, these theories underscore the importance of cultivating a sense of autonomy and self-directed learning in future teachers. Annotations within this section explore practical applications, including the design of personalized learning pathways and the integration of reflective practices to enhance pedagogical skills.

Technology Integration in Teacher Training: The infusion of technology into education necessitates a reevaluation of traditional teaching methods, making it imperative for future teachers to be well-versed in technology integration strategies. Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge (TPACK) provides a theoretical framework that guides educators in effectively combining their content knowledge, pedagogical skills, and technological proficiency. This holistic approach ensures that teachers can seamlessly integrate technology into their lessons, enhancing the learning experience for students. Blended learning, another key concept, combines traditional face-to-face instruction with online components. The theoretical foundations of blended learning emphasize the importance of flexibility and customization in catering to diverse learning styles. Future teachers must be trained to design and implement blended learning environments that optimize physical and virtual classroom spaces. Beyond the conventional TPACK framework, emerging technologies like Augmented Reality (AR) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) are reshaping the educational landscape. AR

enhances the learning experience by overlaying digital content onto the physical world, creating immersive and interactive scenarios. AI, on the other hand, introduces adaptive learning platforms, providing personalized content and assessments based on individual student needs. Annotations in this section discuss the integration of AR and AI in teacher training, emphasizing the role of future educators as facilitators of technologically enriched learning environments. The article explores how these technologies can empower teachers to cater to diverse learning styles, fostering inclusivity and engagement in the digital classroom.

Educational Psychology in Teacher Training: Understanding the psychological principles that underpin learning is fundamental to effective teaching. Educational psychology contributes to the theoretical foundations of teacher training by exploring how students think, learn, and develop. Future teachers benefit from a grounding in cognitive theories, such as Piaget's stages of development, to tailor their instructional strategies to the cognitive abilities of their students. Additionally, the application of behavioral theories, such as Skinner's operant conditioning, can inform classroom management techniques and help future teachers create positive learning environments. The integration of educational psychology into teacher training ensures that educators possess a nuanced understanding of the cognitive and emotional aspects of student learning within the digital educational landscape.

Pedagogical Theories: This section explores key pedagogical theories, including Constructivism and Connectivism, and their relevance in the digital educational environment. Annotations provide insights into how these theories shape instructional practices and learning experiences in teacher training.

Technology Integration: Focusing on TPACK and blended learning, this section highlights the theoretical foundations that guide the seamless integration of technology into teaching. Annotations discuss practical applications and the importance of adaptability in the rapidly evolving digital landscape.

Educational Psychology: The theoretical underpinnings of educational psychology are examined, emphasizing the importance of cognitive and behavioral theories in shaping effective teaching practices. Annotations delve into specific applications of these theories in the training of future teachers. In the era of rapid technological advancements, the concept of lifelong learning has gained prominence. This section delves into the theoretical foundations of lifelong learning in teacher training, emphasizing the importance of cultivating a mindset of continuous professional development. Annotations explore strategies for integrating lifelong learning principles into teacher training programs, ensuring that future educators remain agile and adaptable in the face of evolving educational technologies.

Educational Neuroscience: a burgeoning field, contributes insights from cognitive science to inform pedagogical practices. Understanding how the brain processes information and retains knowledge can guide the development of effective teaching strategies. Annotations within this section discuss the practical implications of educational neuroscience in shaping instructional methods and curriculum design for the digital age.

IN CONCLUSION, the development of professional training for future teachers in the digital educational environment is grounded in robust theoretical foundations. Pedagogical theories provide insights into how individuals learn, guiding educators to create dynamic and engaging learning experiences. The integration of technology, guided by TPACK and blended learning principles, ensures that teachers are equipped to navigate the complexities of the digital age. Moreover, a solid understanding of educational psychology empowers future teachers to address the cognitive and emotional needs of their students. By embracing these theoretical frameworks, teacher training programs can foster a new generation of educators capable of adapting to and thriving in the ever-evolving landscape of digital education.

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