



# Modular Print Materials: A Philippine Way of Learning Delivery in Times of New Normal

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## A B S T R A C T

The Philippine educational system was designed for an era that no longer exists nowadays. This is true in the face of a fast-changing world that deeply revolutionized our young learner's attitudes, values, and behavioral predilections. In like manner, parents and families are placed in a quandary as they are confronted with the mounting admixture of formal and informal learning options and opportunities for their children. A module is a unit of work in a course of instruction that is virtually self-contained and a method of teaching that is based on the building of skills and knowledge in discrete units. It is a form of a self-instructional package which is regarded as a relatively recent phenomenon. It enables the learner to have control over his learning and takes greater responsibility for his learning opportunity. From the foregoing findings and assertions, the writer believes that the modular learning approach is the most effective in optimizing the students' academic performance or achievements in attaining the main objective of the subject.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Education is the foundation of learning, a fountainhead of personal-wholesome formation and total development. With education, essential knowledge and skills are required for the upliftment of man's quality of life.

Excellence in the academic achievements and performance of the learners is reflective of truly outstanding quality of education. As such, the yardstick to a high quality of education is rooted and anchored on an equally well-defined, fully grounded, and established procedural tool of a qualitative process of instruction.

Ironically, the Philippine educational system was designed for an era that no longer exists nowadays. This is true in the face of a fast-changing world that deeply revolutionized our young learner's attitudes, values, and behavioral predilections. In like manner, parents and families are placed in a quandary as they are confronted with the mounting admixture of formal and informal learning options and opportunities for their children.

The most distinctive phenomenon that caused global disruptions on the traditional educational learning concerns and practices is the sudden intrusion of the dreaded Covid-19 pandemic in our world today. Educational institutions, educators, and stakeholders throughout the world are compelled to make consequent and necessary adjustments and changes in their perspectives, practices, and managerial decisions. Their priorities

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have to be focused now on the diversity of their deliberations on the why who and how of education. For instance, the completion of the written curriculum coverage is no longer their central concern but on their recognition of and in their coping up with the diverse needs of the learners, amidst these pandemic changes [1].

Fortunately, despite all the dark impact of these COVID-19 maladies, the pandemic disruptions have brought about great awareness to new avenues in our educational system including the ushering of the learners into brighter opportunities for more equitable quality of education.

Foremost, in all this new awakening on the educational system as well as on the learning opportunities in the emergent use of modern technology in the learning processes in a professional sphere. However, ongoing research reveals that teachers and educators have an instinctive fear of modern technology, but such fear has ironically infused in them an emerging sense of obligation to master technology and explore ways to integrate it into their pedagogy to maintain their professional duties.

By the same token, students need to build up a character of interdependence, discipline, and responsibility. Along the same lines, the current learning-from-home practices should gear parents to be a beacon of these character values instead of being reliant on academic tutors for their children.

From the standpoint of excellent quality of the educational system for the masses, the education enterprise found it impossible to meet the efficacy of such diversified needs and

demands of the learners. As such, small-scale initiatives have emerged to customize learning in the forms of homeschooling, elitist and alternative learning-teaching schemes.

One caveat in this new normal is that teachers often use technology to perpetuate existing teacher-centered pedagogy rather than using technology to shift themselves and their teaching to student-centered pedagogy. Consequently, professional development is a continuing need for teachers not only to learn the skills but also to integrate the newly acquired skills into sound pedagogy.

## 2. MODULAR PRINT MATERIALS

Since strategy demands greater maturity on the part of learners, the modules are more appropriate for more mature students. In recent years, the concept of a modular curriculum has been under discussion in secondary schools. In the modular approach, all the capabilities required to perform are closely interrelated. Modules can be developed separately for each inter-related task.

The use of modules had been encouraged long before since it has been demonstrated to be successful in various educational systems throughout the world. The advantage of this instruction emanates from the underlying philosophy, based on the generally accepted fact, that each student is a unique individual.

A module is a unit of work in a course of instruction that is virtually self-contained and a method of teaching that is based on the building of skills and knowledge in discrete units. It is a form of a self-instructional package which is regarded as a relatively recent phenomenon. It enables the learner to have control over his learning and takes greater responsibility for his learning opportunity [2].

In the context of modernity, modular instruction is one of the best methods of instruction. It has been referred to us as effective and efficient delivery of our educational system in which the topics are designed for and provided to the students with automatic guidance and reinforcement for them to work independently [3].

Likewise, modular instruction is very effective in solving some of the academic problems of the learners as well as in meeting the instructional demands and needs of the learners for their maximum development. Parents nowadays should, therefore, devote time, effort, and energy in collaborating the new ways and changes in achieving maximum quality education for the learners.

In the concepts of learners' achievement, Ref. [4] believed that the majority of empirical research dealing with the quality of education measures achievement concerning students' performances in their studies and to test results which are, of course, the most frequent indicators of the effectiveness and the professional quality of the teachers in the school. Moreover, student achievement is the measurement of the amount of academic content a student learns in a given time frame. Each instruction mechanism has specific standards or goals that educators must undertake for their students.

Achievement is usually assessed through frequent progress and comprehension, assessments, and examinations. However, there is no consensus on how this student achievement is best evaluated or which elements of it are most important.

In general, student achievement refers to the extent to which a learner has attained his short or long-term educational goals. As such, individual differences in academic performance are strongly correlated with differences in personality and intelligence. Likewise, the students' levels of self-efficacy, self-control, and motivation also have an impact on their levels of achievement. In the principles of teaching, the modular learning approach is one of the most widely recognized teaching-learning techniques in many Asian and western countries.

Significantly, the modular teaching model is used in almost all subjects like natural science, especially in biology and medical education and even in social sciences as well as in computerized education. Practically, all kinds of subjects are being taught through modules which had been a recent development based on a well-established and universally recognized programmed-learning phenomenon. It considers the individual differences among the learners, there is a need of planning the adoption of the most appropriate teaching techniques to help the individual grow and develop at her/his own pace [5].

Ref. [6] states that a modular approach would be superior to traditional methods as the students' involvement and motivation are well enhanced as well as retaining capacity. It is considered as an alternative to traditional teaching methods for active participation and better learning of students.

## 3. CONCLUSION

From the foregoing findings and assertions, the writer believes that the modular learning approach is the most effective in optimizing the students' academic performance or achievements in attaining the main objective of the subject

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