

What to Teach: Trends in Educational Policy of the XXI Century¹

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One of the powerful trends that determines the choice of the most effective tools of scientific research and education is interdisciplinarity, holistic thinking, learning strategies that ensure sustainable futures for the society we live in. The time has come for a new convergence - natural sciences, on the one hand, both humanitarian and social sciences, on the other hand, - for bridges building between different disciplinary areas and training courses. Holistic thinking is a systemic and integrative one, which comes from the fact that the whole is greater than the sum of parts, but also a part becomes larger than the whole if the part becomes to be integrated into the whole. The holistic thinking involves an understanding of cooperative, coherent effects and synergies in life, cognition, and human culture. The holistic thinking becomes in demand in connection with the needs of modern society to educate creative people, capable of productive imagination and creation of social and cultural innovations. The creative thinking is holistic, because certain synthesizing, non-verbal, visually spatial strategies of information processing, which are characteristic for the right hemisphere of the human brain, are dominated here. Another trend demanded by modern society in educational policy is the development of the ability of young people to think constructively, to create and implement projects. This means developing the ability to manage time, actively transform the habitat, evaluate development alternatives and create the desired and preferred future.

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