



The A. Ofri
International Training Center

"Curriculum Development"

19.1-12.2.2015



"Educating teachers as curriculum makers is a key to the connection between policy and pedagogy and the protection of 'the practical' space for the development and exercise of professional expertise and judgment so necessary for learning to occur"(Grimmett & Chinnery 2009)

The transfer of the focus of instructional planning, otherwise known as "Curriculum Development", from a centralized system to that of a local school signifies an important principle in the response of the educational system to the wide range of developments and social, technological and economic changes that characterize the end of the 21st century.

The teachers who are the backbone of the school are meant to be both a conduit for the change and its agent-operators. The result of this complex process is supposed to be realized on a daily basis both in the class and in the "teachers' room".

Because this desired change is a complicated process, from the teachers' point of view, one that integrates both personal and professional aspects, it appears that its activation via the "construction of team working units," which is by itself a significant element in the school process, will allow teachers to change and be changed simultaneously.



As society, education and learners change, arises the need to establish a vision and implement a strategic process that creates a teaching and learning culture that can provide students with the essential skill sets (creativity, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, problem solving, technological proficiency and global awareness). Therefore, Consistent innovation, effective integration of technology, quality professional development and an open mind are all mandatory duties of a modern "Curriculum Planner".

This course is designed to introduce educators who have an interest in and responsibility for curriculum theory and development, to a broad range of perspectives that guide the work of curriculum deliberation and practice. A major aim of the course is to raise questions about and uncover some of the workings in schools as well as to consider the possibilities for revitalizing curricular/educational visions that can flow from interpretive, critical, and postmodern perspectives.

Its main goals are to:

- Become familiar with various conceptualizations and approaches to curriculum
- Become familiar with the language, questions, content and issues of curriculum development as a field of study
- Understand curriculum as a social construction
- Explore what an interpretive and critical perspective might mean for curriculum construction and change efforts in schools
- Realize how the study of curriculum is empowering for persons through the acquisition of greater intellectual, personal and professional power to affect curriculum, students, schools and society

Subjects

- *Development of Professional Knowledge and Consulting Patterns*
- *Effective Pedagogy*
- *Embracing the 21st-century skills*
- *Pedagogy, curriculum and instruction*
- *From disciplinary to interdisciplinary teaching*
- *Evaluation Methods*
- *School-based curriculum development*



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- *The Functions of Curriculum Development*
- *Curriculum and Instruction*
- *School Subjects and Curriculum Change*
- *Teaching and Learning in a Community of Thinking*
- *Curriculum Considerations in Inclusive Classrooms*
- *Curriculum and Cultural Diversity*

Methodology

The Ofri International Training Center has developed a unique, holistic approach that takes into consideration the emotional and creative aspects of the pedagogical process. Its working methods enable program participants to make practical use of theoretical knowledge.

- Lectures and discussions led by experts.
- Workshops.
- Analysis of educational planning through written material and professional visits.
- Meetings with institutional administrators and acquaintance with projects at the national and regional levels.
- Simulations, panel discussions, and group work.
- Preparation of final projects by individuals or groups.
- Study tours at schools, educational centers, universities, teacher training institutions and pedagogical resource centers.

Certificate

A Certificate of Studies will be awarded to participants who have attended classes regularly and fulfilled all requirements.

Applications:

Application forms should be send to the relevant Israeli Mission and to the Ofri Center by or before **8/12/2014**

**Application forms and other information may be obtained at the nearest Israeli mission and Or at MASHAV's website: <http://mashav.mfa.gov.il> (Courses)
Or at www.ofri.org.il**



Accommodation

Participants will stay at the Ramat-Rachel Hotel, located on the outskirts of Jerusalem, on a **two person per room** basis. For more information: <http://www.ramatrachel.co.il>.

Social Activities

Participants are requested to bring traditional clothing that represent their country for cultural and folklore presentations during the workshop. If the participants wish, they may bring souvenirs from their countries to present to other participants.

Medical Insurance

MASHAV will cover medical services and hospitalization in case of emergency. **It does not cover the treatment of chronic or serious diseases, dental care, eye glasses, and the period of pregnancy or specific medication taken by the participant on a regular basis.** Health forms must be completed and signed by a physician. The insurance policy **does not** cover damage or loss of personal belongings.

Flights, Passport and Visas:

The scholarship given by MASHAV **does not** include the cost of the flight ticket to Israel and/or from Israel. We highly recommend booking your arrival for the day before the beginning of the seminar, and your departure for the day after the seminar ends. Passports must be valid for the duration of the entire seminar, and must include an **entry visa** to Israel.

Two additional passport-size photographs for various documents are required.

Should you plan to visit or transit via other countries while on your way to and from Israel, please arrange visas before leaving home, as there is no possibility of receiving visas in Israel.



MASHAV - Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation

MASHAV - Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation - at Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs was founded in late 1957, and is responsible for the design, coordination and implementation of the State of Israel's development cooperation programs.

MASHAV concentrates on human and institutional capacity building by sharing Israel's own development experience and expertise, imparting know-how and transferring innovative technologies and tested methodologies adaptable to developing country needs.

MASHAV's approach is to ensure social, economic and environmental sustainable development, joining the international community's efforts to implement the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

In events of natural disasters, MASHAV also provides humanitarian assistance and participates in reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts.

A Window to Innovations in Education

The A. Ofri International Training Center was established in 1989 as a professional extension of MASHAV - Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation. The activities are targeted to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) set by the United Nations to be fulfilled by the year 2015.

The Center's vision is that education is the starting point for a person to build himself/herself a gate to new possibilities. Education is the key to a better future and shields against physical harm and confronts moral dilemmas. Education enables us to ask for proper healthcare when needed, and the way to stay healthy and adopt responsible behavior with our bodies. Education is sharing, learning and growing up together with others. Through education we can learn to take better care of our world, treat it respectfully and use wisely the resources it offers us.



Education concerns itself with learning at all levels, from elementary and secondary school through adult education, and provides knowledge and training for basic skills development, civic awareness, community education, education for special populations, treatment for youth (Including those at risk), youth integration, youth leadership, education for health and the prevention of drugs abuse.

Since its inception, the A. Ofri Center has trained thousands of professionals from countries throughout the world. The Center cooperates with senior staff in the Israeli Ministry of Education, academic experts, governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations. In addition, it communicates and cooperates with key international organizations such as UNESCO, OECD, USAID, UNODC, OAS, IOM and the World Bank.

In adopting the UN's Millennium Development Goals, the A. Ofri Center contributes to the sustainable development of human resources internationally, based on knowledge and experience accumulated in Israel.

Yudith Rosenthal

Director of the Center