

Unpacking the RBT Curriculum Exploring Business Technologies



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The Structure of the Presentation

- Why is RBT is important?
- What are the major differences between RBT-based courses and previous courses?
- How do I examine a Curriculum Guide?

WHY IS RBT IMPORTANT?

Before we can answer this question, we need to answer a related question: Why are objectives important?



"Would you tell me please, which way I ought to go from here?" asked Alice.
"That depends a great deal on where you want to go to," said the Cat.
"I don't much care, where," said Alice.
"Then it doesn't matter which way you go," said the Cat.



Lewis Carroll, *Alice in Wonderland*

SO, WHY IS RBT IMPORTANT?

- RBT provides a common framework (lens) for understanding objectives.
- RBT limits the verbs included in statements of objectives so that a common understanding of intended cognitive processes across courses and subjects is more likely.
- RBT provides a guide for enhancing and examining curriculum alignment.

We don't see the world as it is; we see the world through the lens through which we look at it.



Taxonomies as Lenses (Frameworks)

As Bloom stated in 1949, a taxonomy of educational objectives “could do much to bring order out of chaos in the field of education. It could furnish the conceptual framework around which our descriptions of educational programs and experiences could be oriented. ... It could furnish the scheme needed for training our teachers and for orienting them to the varied possibilities of education.”

Unique frameworks = Idiosyncratic understanding



Common frameworks = Shared understanding

'When I use a word,' Humpty Dumpty said, in a rather scornful tone, 'it means just what I choose it to mean, neither more nor less.' ... Alice was too much puzzled to say anything; so after a minute Humpty Dumpty began again. 'They've a temper, some of them - particularly verbs: they're the proudest.

Those Proud, Pesky Verbs: A Lesson from Mathematics

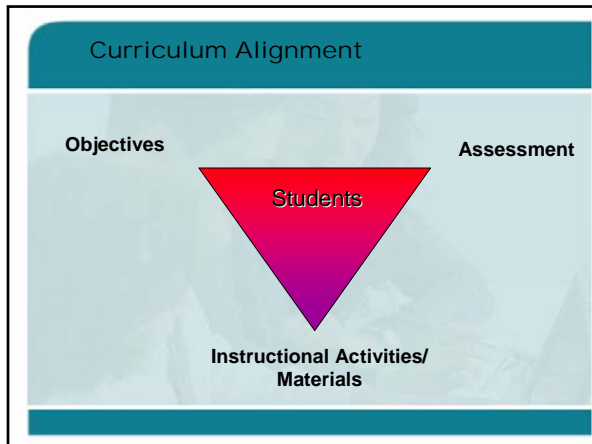
- Add
- Analyze
- Apply
- Approximate
- Build
- Classify
- Collect
- Communicate
- Compare
- Compute
- Connect
- Consolidate
- Construct
- Contrast
- Convert
- Create
- Describe
- Determine
- Develop
- Display

A Few More Verbs

- Divide
- Draw
- Estimate
- Examine
- Explain
- Extend
- Evaluate
- Find
- Formulate
- Graph
- Identify
- Interpret
- Investigate
- Justify
- Label
- List
- Locate
- Make
- Model
- Monitor

And they keep on comin'

- Multiply
- Order
- Organize
- Plot
- Produce
- Recognize
- Reflect
- Select
- Show
- Simplify
- Solve
- State
- Subtract
- Translate
- Understand
- Use
- Write



Why is alignment important?

- It increases student's opportunity to learn (more time is spent on more important things)
- It increases the validity of assessments. With valid assessments, students can demonstrate they have, in fact, learned.
- It enables teachers to be (and be seen as) more successful. More effective teachers develop a sense of self-efficacy (a "can do" attitude) which has been found to be a central factor in continuing teacher effectiveness.

WHAT DIFFERENCES SHOULD I SEE?

1. Course blueprints are shorter, generally 2 to 3 pages in length.
2. All verbs are taken from the 6 cognitive process categories and 19 specific processes.
3. The emphasis in most courses has shifted from memorization to understanding.

We say a student understands if he or she can:

- Interpret
- Exemplify (find or give examples)
- Classify
- Summarize
- Infer (make predictions)
- Compare
- Explain

Teachers should learn the meaning of each of these!

WHAT DIFFERENCES? (CONTINUED)

4. Each course contains a Unit Overview that provides teachers with useful information about the unit BEFORE they begin teaching it.
5. Each course contains “unpacked” content rather than an outline of key terms and facts.

Content Outlines vs. Unpacked Content

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • Words only | • Words and meanings |
| • Organized alphabetically | • Organized structurally |
| • Written in technical language | • Written in language of the students |

Examples of Language Differences

Technical Language

- **Demand** is the want or desire to possess a good or service with the necessary goods, services, or financial instruments needed to make a legal transaction for those goods or services.

Language of Students

- **Demand** is the desire to own something and the ability to pay for it.

More Differences: The Need to Engage Students

6. Most courses include **essential questions** (although they may call them different things).
7. All courses include a **recommended sequence of activities** along with a statement of the **relevance** of each activity to the objective.

HOW DO I EXAMINE THE CURRICULUM GUIDE?



The Exploring Business
Technologies Curriculum Guide

- **Table of Contents**
 - Introduction/About This Guide
 - Blueprint
 - Equipment List
 - **Websites Used in the Course**
- **Unit A**—The Nature of Business, Economics and Entrepreneurship
- **Unit B**—Business Career Exploration

Unit A The Nature of Business,
Economics, and Entrepreneurship

- **Unit A Overview**
- **Competencies**
 - BU01 Understand principles of business.
 - BU02 Understand economics and economic systems.
 - BU03 Understand the concept of entrepreneurship.

Unit B—Business Career
Exploration

- **Unit B Overview**
- **Competencies**
 - BU 04 Understand business activities and careers
 - BU 05 Understand appropriate business procedures.
 - BU 06 Understand requirements for seeking, gaining, and maintaining employment.
 - BU 07 Understand leadership and team-building.

Objective 1.02 Unpacked Content

Compare the main types of business organization: sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation and franchise.



ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- What are **advantages** of sole proprietorships, partnerships, corporations and franchises?
- What are **disadvantages** of sole proprietorships, partnerships, corporations and franchises?

Objective 1.02 Unpacked Content

I. Sole Proprietorship

- A. Owned by one person
- B. Advantages
 - 1) Easy to start
 - 2) Owner is his/her own boss
 - 3) Owner keeps all profits
- C. Disadvantages
 - 1) Owner must pay for everything needed for the business.
 - 2) Difficult to obtain capital needed to start business.
 - 3) Owner might lack business skills.
 - 4) Unlimited liability—owner has full responsibility for company's debts and can lose entire investment as well as personal assets.

The student is given advantages and disadvantages of each type of organization. This helps the student **compare** the types.



Activities

- How are the student activities aligned to the objective and the unpacked content?
- The **verb** drives the activities.
- The activities are listed in a sequence to allow students to build upon their understanding as they complete the activities.



1.02 Cornell Notes for PowerPoint

Cue Column

- Sole Proprietorship
 - Examples
 - Advantages
 - Disadvantages

Note Taking Column

The student focuses on examples, advantages and disadvantages of each type of organization during the PowerPoint presentation. This helps the student **compare** the types.



Relevance—1.02 PowerPoint and Notes

- When the students take notes using the Cornell Notes format, they will be more focused on the content of the PowerPoint and have a way to organize the important concepts. Students will be able to keep their page of notes for reference as they progress through the activities in the objective. Having concepts about each of the four forms of business organization in one chart will help the students be able to **compare** the forms more easily.

1.02 Student activity--Compare

1.02 Comparing Business Organizations

- Sole Proprietorship
 - Advantage:
 - Disadvantage:

Types Of Business Organization

The student reviews by listing advantages and disadvantages of each type of organization in the graphic organizer. This helps the student **compare** the types.



Relevance of Activity

- This graphic organizer will give the students a visual aid to assist them in **comparing** the four major forms of business organization by listing the **advantages and disadvantages** of each system in a visual format.

Assessment

- How are the assessment items aligned to the objective, the unpacked content, and the activities?
- The **verb** drives the assessment.



Assessment Items

The student uses the advantages and disadvantages of each type of organization to **compare** the types of business organization.

What is an advantage of a partnership over a sole proprietorship?

- A. Equal owner control
- B. Limited owner profit
- C. No contracts are necessary to start
- D. Unlimited legal liability shared