

Introduction to Competency-Based Education

Competency-Based Education (CBE)

Education

1. Definition:

- Competency-Based Education (CBE) is an educational approach that focuses on mastering specific skills or competencies rather than completing a certain number of courses or seat time.

2. Key Features:

- Learning is personalized to meet individual student needs.
- Progress is based on demonstrating mastery of competencies.
- Flexible pacing allows students to advance as they master content.

3. Benefits:

- Allows for personalized learning experiences.
- Encourages mastery of skills rather than just passing grades.
- Offers flexibility for students with varying learning speeds.

4. Components:

- Clear learning outcomes or competencies.
- Assessments aligned with competencies.
- Individualized learning plans for students.

5. Implementation:

- Define competencies and learning outcomes.
- Develop assessments to measure mastery.
- Provide support for students to achieve competencies.

6. Challenges:

- Requires a shift in mindset for both educators and students.
- Development of reliable assessment methods.
- Ensuring consistency in grading and evaluation.

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7. Examples:

- Western Governors University (WGU)
- Summit Learning Program

8. Conclusion:

- Competency-Based Education offers a student-centered approach that focuses on developing skills and competencies essential for success in the workforce. By shifting the focus from time spent in the classroom to mastery of content, CBE provides a flexible and personalized learning experience for students.