

MODULE 4

OTHER CURRICULA IN INDIA

While CBSE, IB, CISCE, Cambridge International and State Boards are more popular, there are a range of other options available for parents who are on the lookout for a slightly different educational experience for their child.

In this module, we will guide you on 4 such curricula which will help you choose better.

**Fieldwork
Education**

Improving Learning



Section - A

Fieldwork Education

Founded in 1984, Fieldwork Education has been providing International Curriculum and professional learning for schools and teachers. It comprises of 3 major segments:

- **International Early Year's Curriculum (IEYC):** Focused on International Best Practices like play-based approaches and holistic enquiry, this curriculum focuses on the personal, social and emotional development of the child. Addressed to develop the learning minds for students aged from 2-5 years, the IEYC has found global recognition and has been adopted in over 47 countries in over 140 nurseries.
- **International Primary Curriculum (IPC):** One of the fastest growing international curriculums across the world, the IPC offers comprehensive education specifying learning goals for the child. This curriculum is focused for students aged 5-11 years and helps in developing their personal learning style and imbibes an international approach towards education. The IPC has been implemented in over 730 schools across 92 countries across the globe.

- **International Middle Year's Curriculum (IMYC):** It is used in over 50 countries with over 100 schools under its umbrella and 1,000 teachers as a part of its growing network. The curriculum is known to be challenging, international-minded and concept-focused which helps in developing active learners. The curriculum is focused on developing the learning capacity of 11-14 year olds by linking subjects to a broader theme. The Assessment for Learning (AfL) Programme also known as the IMYC's Assessment for Learning tracks student's learning throughout the journey.



Section – B

American Curriculum

American Curriculum i.e. the Common Core State Standards Initiative also popularly known as the Common Core. The Common Core is primarily a set of high quality academic standards being brought into place for Maths, Arts and English.

Started in 2009, the standards set out by Common Core identify the knowledge and skills that students should gain throughout their K-12 education in order to be future ready.

The standards on which Common Core is based on are:

- Research and evidence
- Direct alignment with college and career requirements
- In-depth content along with its application
- Learnings from the current state standards

The two versions of the Common Core are:

- AERO

- MSA-CESS

The AERO also known as the American Education Reaches Out, is an initiative that has been developed to assist overseas American schools to develop standards in English, Math, Social Science and Science.

AERO provides a framework for curriculum consistency in schools across the globe to have a uniform instructional program.

The Middle States Association - Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools (MSA-CESS) is an accreditation body that awards accreditation to American and International style schools which are attended by members of the U.S. Foreign Service and U.S. citizens working for non-governmental agencies and MNCs. The MSA-CESS has over 2,700 members spread across 100 countries with a legacy of over 130 years.

Section – C

Edexcel, London, UK



Edexcel, owned by Pearson's and founded in 1996, is a multinational education and examination body that has grown in prominence over the years.

It is also the only private educational board in the UK which provides the International Advanced Levels (IAL) for schools outside of the UK and the International Diploma (ID). The ID curriculum is one of the Top 3 educational curriculums being offered at International schools besides the IB and Cambridge International.

The Edexcel curriculum has been known to develop communication skills, teamwork, investigative skills, problem-solving to name a few. The curriculum is known to be 'student friendly' and guides students to be innovative in their approach towards education. Within India, the Edexcel curriculum has been recognized by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU).

Section – D

Waldorf

Waldorf education is based on the insights and teachings of Rudolf Steiner, a renowned scientist. Founded in the 20th century, the principles of this curriculum is based on a core theme of addressing the developmental needs of a growing child. Students are expected to cultivate their intellectual, emotional, physical and spiritual capacities to become better versions of themselves.



It has been claimed by Waldorf education that professors across Universities have observed that Waldorf students are better able to integrate thinking, assimilate information and are creative with a willingness to take intellectual risks, thus making them highly sought after.

One of the USPs of the Waldorf system is the generation of an inner enthusiasm within the child thus removing the competitive edge that is prevalent in other curricula.

Section - E

National Institute of Open Schooling

Now let us focus our attention to the largest Open school system in the world.

This one has put India on the global map! We are talking about the National Institute of Open Schooling also popularly known as the NIOS. The National Policy of 1986 paved a way for establishing the NIOS having its independent curriculum and examinations. The NIOS offers continuous learning opportunities for learners from school till the pre-degree level.

The NIOS comprises of the following programmes in the Open and Distance Learning Module (ODL):



**NATIONAL INSTITUTE
OF OPEN SCHOOLING**

- Open Basic Education (OBE) Programme for learners in the 14+ age group
- Secondary Education Course
- Senior Secondary Education Course
- Vocational Education Courses, and
- Life Enrichment Programmes

What's most noteworthy about the NIOS is that it has emerged as one of the largest Open School Systems in the world with a current enrollment of about 2.71 million students.

Additional References & Reading Material

https://fieldworkeducation.com/about
https://fieldworkeducation.com/curriculums/early-years/about-the-ieyc
https://fieldworkeducation.com/curriculums/primary-years
https://fieldworkeducation.com/curriculums/middle-years
http://www.corestandards.org/about-the-standards/
http://www.corestandards.org/what-parents-should-know/
http://www.corestandards.org/read-the-standards/
https://www.nais.org/articles/pages/project-aero-(american-education-reaches-out)-148144/
https://www.msa-cess.org/default.aspx?RelID=606486
https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/about-us/qualification-brands/edexcel.html
https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-advanced-levels.html
https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-international-gcses-and-edexcel-certificates.html
http://pineviewdoon.org/edexcel-advantage/
https://www.waldorfeducation.org/waldorf-education
https://youtu.be/wfec6eF4l_4
https://blog.firstcrayon.com/the-essential-guide-to-waldorf-in-india-2d2f8637a521
https://yourstory.com/2017/07/waldorf-curriculum-rudolf-steiner-alternative-education
https://www.nios.ac.in/about-us/profile.aspx
https://www.nios.ac.in/media/documents/NIOS%20PROFILE%20FINAL_Curve_English.pdf