

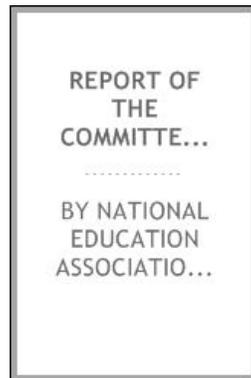
# The History of Curriculum Development

## One Room Schoolhouses



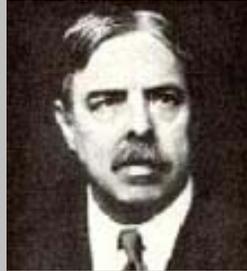
It was easier to come to consensus on ‘what’ should be taught. However, it may have been more difficult to align the curriculum, because one teacher was responsible for the entire curriculum.

## The Committee of Ten (1892)



In 1892, The National Education Association appointed a Committee of Ten to establish a standard curriculum. This committee was composed mostly of educators and was chaired by Charles Eliot, the president of Harvard University. The Committee of Ten recommended eight years of elementary education and four years of secondary education. The committee defined four different curricula as appropriate for high school.

## Edward Thorndike (1910)



Thorndike wrote that “psychology makes ideas of educational aims clearer. Psychology contributes to a better understanding of the aims of education by defining them, making them clearer; by limiting them, showing us what can be done and what cannot; and by suggesting new features that should be made parts of them. When one says that the aim of education is culture, or discipline, or efficiency, or happiness, or utility, or knowledge, or skill, or the perfection of all one's powers, or development, one's statements and probably one's thoughts, need definition.”

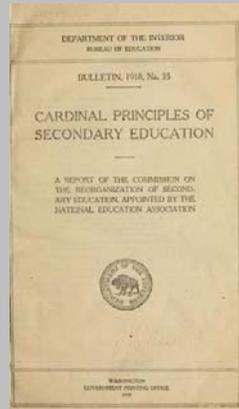
“Alignment is a very old concept in education. Much of the theory behind it was developed by Thorndike (1913) in his creation of the “identical theory of the transfer of training.” – Quote from *Deciding What to Teach and Test*, by Fenwick W. English

## John Franklin Bobbitt (1912-1940's)



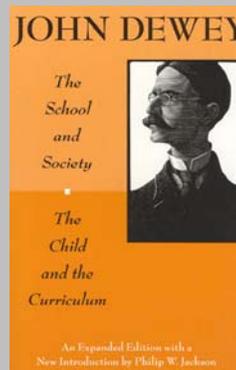
He wrote the following books: *The elimination of waste in education* (1912); *The curriculum* (1918); and *How to make a curriculum* (1924). Ralph W. Tyler was one of Bobbitt's students at the University of Chicago.

# The Cardinal Principles of Secondary Education (1918)



The Commission on the Reorganization of Secondary Education was instrumental in starting a standard of forming goals before reforming schools. At this point in history, changes were needed because of increased enrollment in secondary schools. The seven Cardinal Principles of Secondary Education are: Health, Command of Fundamental Processes, Worthy Home Membership, Vocation, Civic Education, Worthy Use of Leisure, and Ethical Character. American schools engaged in an unprecedented amount of curriculum experimentation.

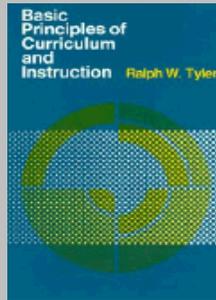
## John Dewey (1897-1940's)



The following references include some of Dewey's most popular works on education:

- My Pedagogic Creed (1897)
- The School and Society (1900)
- Child and the Curriculum (1902)
- Democracy and Education: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Education (1916)
- How We Think: A Restatement of the Relation of Reflective Thinking to the Educative Process (1933)
- Experience and Education (1938)

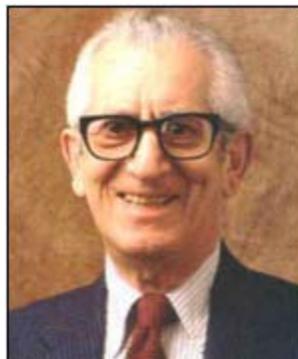
## Ralph W. Tyler (1949)



In 1949, Tyler wrote *Basic Principles of Curriculum and Instruction*. He submitted that four fundamental questions must be answered in developing any curriculum and plan of instruction. The four questions are:

1. What educational purposes should the school seek to attain?
2. What educational experiences can be provided that are likely to attain these purposes?
3. How can these educational experiences be effectively organized?
4. How can we determine whether these purposes are being attained?

## Benjamin Bloom (1956)



In 1956, Benjamin Bloom wrote *Taxonomy of Educational Objectives, Handbook I: The Cognitive Domain*. Bloom and a group of educational psychologists identified six levels within the cognitive domain, from the simple recall or recognition of facts, as the lowest level, through increasingly more complex and abstract mental levels, to the highest order which is classified as evaluation. While educators frequently refer to his work as “Bloom’s Taxonomy, he never used this term.

## **Fenwick W. English (1970's-1980's)**

Fenwick English was the first educator to introduce the concept of curriculum mapping. In the mid-1970's, English developed the Curriculum Audit. This process is currently used in schools around the world by English at Phi Delta Kappa (PDK).

The following standards comprise the Curriculum Audit:

- Governance and control (policy);
- Direction and learner expectation;
- Connectivity and consistency (alignment of programs);
- Assessment and feedback (use of data to drive decisions; and
- Productivity and efficiency.

## **Madeline Hunter (1976-1990's)**

Hunter is known as the Creator of “The Seven Step Lesson Plan,” although this is a term Hunter never used. The Seven Step Lesson Plan theory originated from an article written in 1976 by Madeline Hunter and Doug Russell, titled Planning for Effective Instruction Lesson Design. Hunter also wrote a chapter in the 1984 ASCD Yearbook, *Knowing, teaching and supervising. In Using what we know about teaching*, edited by P. L. Hosford.

## **Publication of *A Nation at Risk* (1983)**

“If an unfriendly foreign power had attempted to impose on America the mediocre educational performance that exists today, we might well have viewed it as an act of war. As it stands, we have allowed this to happen to ourselves. We have even squandered the gains in student achievement made in the wake of the Sputnik challenge. Moreover, we have dismantled essential support systems which helped make those gains possible. We have, in effect, been committing an act of unthinking, unilateral educational disarmament.”

## **Howard Gardner (1983)**

Frames of Mind: The Theory of Multiple Intelligences

## **The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) publishes *Curriculum and Evaluation Standards for School Mathematics* (1989)**

This was the first set of national standards. Other content areas followed this example/model.

## **The National Council on Education Standards and Testing (NCEST) was established at the urging of Secretary of Education Lamar Alexander (1993)**

## **Goals 2000: Educate America Act (1994)**

President Bill Clinton signed the Goals 2000: Educate America Act, creating a special council to certify national and state content and performance standards, opportunity-to-learn standards, and state assessments.

## **Heidi Hayes Jacobs (1997)**

Curriculum Mapping

## **Richard DuFour (1998)**

Professional Learning Communities

## **Grant Wiggins and Jay McTighe (1998)**

Understanding by Design

## **Carol Ann Tomlinson (1999)**

The Differentiated Classroom: Responding to the Needs of All Learners

## **No Child Left Behind Act (2000)**

The federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) is revised and signed into law by President George W. Bush. Re-christened the No Child Left Behind (NCLB). The legislation calls for extensive implementation of state educational standards addressing national criteria tied to federal funding.

## **H. Lynn Erickson (2002)**

Concept-Based Curriculum and Instruction

**Source:** A Brief History of Curriculum Development  
[www.k12.curriculumdevelopment.com](http://www.k12.curriculumdevelopment.com)