Curriculum integration of the gifted and talented (G & T) student from a Biblical World View. What is our godly mandate regarding the education of gifted and talented students?

In this workshop we will define Gifted; Talented and Enrichment programs. We will look at the curriculum needs and Australian policy in this regard, as well as, consider a Biblical framework for meeting the needs of the G & T student. We will also explore strategies that enable curriculum design and enhancement for the G & T student in the mainstream classroom. Essentially this workshop will empower the teachers to challenge and inspire the G & T student to go beyond the physical, natural world by accessing the metaphysical to understand eternity.



**Knowledge Tools**

***Language***

1. The nature of language: rule-governed; intended; creative and open-ended.

2. The importance of definitions: ambiguity and vagueness; synonomy; defining

characteristics; ostensive definitions.

3. Theories of meaning: denotation theory; image theory; use theory; verificationism.

4. Language and the world: neutral medium or determining structure?

***Perception***

1. The nature of sense perception: a hierarchy of senses.

2. Spectator-spectacle view versus interaction view of perception.

3. Factors influencing what we perceive.

4. Appearance and reality.

***Reason***

1. Types of propositions: analytic; empirical; metaphysical; value-judgements.

2. The difference between deductive and inductive logic.

3. The syllogism: truth and validity; the four standard propositions of logic; distribution;

major, minor and middle terms; rules for determining validity and invalidity; translating

ordinary sentences into logical sentences into logical sentences; equivalent sentences.

4. Other fallacies: post hoc ergo propter hoc; ad hominem; circular reasoning.

5. The nature of possibility: logical; empirical; technical.

6. Lateral thinking.

***Emotion***

1. Knowledge and emotion: emotion as an obstacle for knowledge, or a prerequisite for

its achievement.

2. Can emotion be rational?

3. Emotional intelligence.

**Areas of Knowledge**

***Mathematics***

1. The nature of mathematical truth: analytic; empirical; synthetic a priori?

2. Axiomatic systems. Euclidean geometry. The problem of consistency.

3. Mathematics and reality: Platonism versus Formalism.

***Natural Sciences***

1. The nature of scientific explanations: the difference between understanding and

explanation.

2. Inductivism: observation; hypothesis; experiment; law; theory.

3. Criticims of inductivism: theory-dependence of observation; need for principle of

simplicity; problems with testing hypotheses.

4. The nature of perception: factors influencing what we perceive; the distinction

between appearance and reality.

5. Causation and the problem of induction: knowledge of the future.

6. Modern theories: Popper and Falsificationism; Kuhn and Scientific Revolutions.

***Human Sciences***

1. Distinguishing features and main problems: theoretical underdevelopment; lack of

controlled experiments; self-realising and self-defeating expectations; bias and personal

prejudice.

2. Reductionism: the mind body problem; could a computer think?

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***History***

1. Why study history: curiosity; to understand people; to understand the present.

2. The problem of objectivity: too few or too many facts; selection; interpretation; need

for temporal focal point. Could there be a definitive history?

3. Are there patterns in history: history and historicism.

***The Arts***

1. The distinction between art and non-art: intentions of creator; intrinsic qualities;

reactions of spectator.

2. Art and value-judgements: is beauty in the eye of the beholder? are all

interpretations of equal worth?

3. Elements in aesthetic judgement: sense-perception; conceptualisation; feelings and

emotion; effects of cultural tradition. Detachment.

4. Theories of art: art as pleasure, communication, escape.

***Ethics***

1. Facts and values: how objective is science, how subjective morality; the "is" and the

"ought"; moral reasoning; the importance of consistency.

2. The moral community: animal rights and the environment.

3. Egoism and altruism: is altruism possible; does morality require it?

4. The nature of the good life: hedonism versus ethical pluralism; self-realisation; the

Good Man.

***Politics***

1. Individual rights: the right to life; the right to property; the right to punish offenders.

2. Why we need a state: the state of nature and the lockean justification. The right to

tax: freedom versus equality.

3. Forms of government: dictatorship versus democracy; Marxism, ideology and

alienation.

***Religion***

1. What is religion?

2. The existence of God

3. Reason vs. faith

**Conclusion**

***Self Knowledge***

Nature and limits of self-knowledge: Is self-knowledge different in kind or different in

degree from knowledge of other minds? Freud and the unconscious.

***Truth & Beyond***

1. The nature of truth: correspondence; coherence; pragmatism.

2. The limits of knowledge

3. Towards wisdom