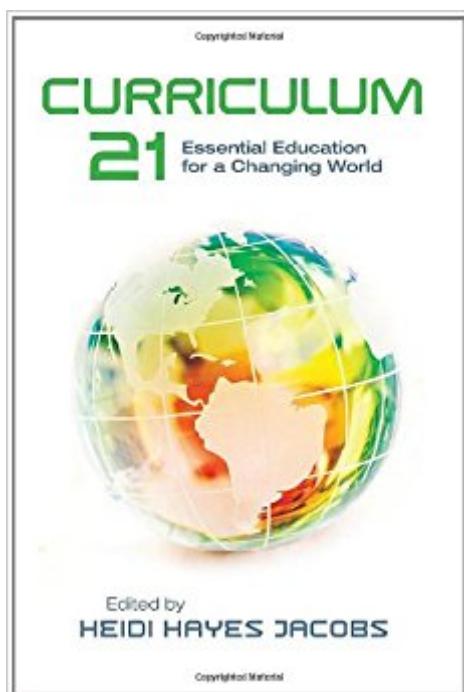


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# Curriculum 21: Essential Education For A Changing World (Professional Development)



## **Synopsis**

What year are you preparing your students for? 1973? 1995? Can you honestly say that your school's curriculum and the program you use are preparing your students for 2015 or 2020? Are you even preparing them for today? With those provocative questions, author and educator Heidi Hayes Jacobs launches a powerful case for overhauling, updating, and injecting life into the K-12 curriculum.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"What year are you preparing your students for? 1973? 1995? Can you honestly say that your school's curriculum and the program you use are preparing your students for 2015 or 2020? Are you even preparing them for today?" With those provocative questions, author and educator Heidi Hayes Jacobs launches a powerful case for overhauling, updating, and injecting life into the K-12 curriculum. Sharing her expertise as a world-renowned curriculum designer and calling upon the collective wisdom of 10 education thought leaders, Jacobs provides insight and inspiration in the following key areas: 1. Content and assessment--How to identify what to keep, what to cut, and what to create, and where portfolios and other new kinds of assessment fit into the picture; 2. Program structures--How to improve our use of time and space and our groupings of students and staff; 3. Technology--How it's transforming teaching, and how to take advantage of students' natural facility with technology; 4. Media literacy--The essential issues to address, and the best resources

for helping students become informed users of multiple forms of media; 5. Globalization--What steps to take to help students gain a global perspective; 6. Sustainability--How to instill enduring values and beliefs that will lead to healthier local, national, and global communities; and 7. Habits of mind--The thinking habits that students, teachers, and administrators need to develop and practice to succeed in school, work, and life. Curriculum 21 is the ideal guide for transforming our schools into what they must become: learning organizations that match the times in which we live.

In Curriculum 21 Heidi Hayes Jacobs (ed.) and ten other authors combine to provide essays on what they term an essential curriculum for a changing world. In the first four chapters Ms. Jacobs covers what is essential for the schools of the 21st century. In chapter five Stephen Wilmarth reports on five socio-technology trends that change the way school has to be taught. Vivien Stuart, in the next chapter, discusses global education. In chapter seven Tim Tyson provides an example of a school that is successfully teaching a 21st century curriculum, the Mabry Middle School in Marietta, Georgia. In the following chapter Frank Baker discusses media literacy that are needed for modern education. Digital portfolios and curriculum maps are covered in the next chapter by David Niguidula. Jamie Cloud covers the topic of educating for a sustainable future. Alan November then discusses technology. Finally, Arthur Costa and Betta Kallick summarize the whole process of rethinking the curriculum for the 21st century. This book will be particularly useful for educators, but may have value for parents and students as well. Anyone interested in how education has to change in the modern era will also benefit. I rate it at four stars instead of five because it is a compendium of assorted topics and views and thus lacks the kind of coherence a single author might have.

I had the opportunity to see Heidi Hayes-Jacobs speak earlier this summer, so I was excited to read her book. While there was interesting content, it wasn't what I thought it would be. Several of the chapters were contributions from other authors (shame on me for not looking more closely before I purchased the book), and I didn't have much interest in some of the topics. I was also hoping for more practical classroom strategies that I could implement even with the constraints of a traditional classroom, but much of the book was about wholesale change in schools - something that simply isn't going to happen overnight. I did find the ideas intriguing and agree with much of what was written; it's just that I was expecting something different from what I got.

If you're looking for a book that makes you think this is a great one. It is a very thought provoking

book on preparing students for 21 century learning. It really emphasizes a need to teach students for the future world and prepare students for jobs that may not even exist. This was used as a textbook in one of my masters courses and was one I really enjoyed reading.

Really good book. Very informative. If you are experienced in 21st Century education some of the chapters might be useless but there are others which are really enlightening. I do recommend buying this book.

This book add new perspectives to the meaning of 21st century learning. Excellent resources and classroom examples are provided. This book has been added to my personal library for future reference.

I have read many books about the integration of technology and teaching. This is the best of them. Although some of the chapters were less useful than others, the amount of ideas and, frankly, an inspiring way of looking at the possibilities in the classroom offered here blew me away and made me excited to lead some changes at my school.

Nice.

Excellent writing. Most of the information is relevant. The only issue is that, with technology, by the time it is published some information is already old.

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