



Introduction to Classical Education

with Dr. Christopher Perrin

Lesson 4: Various Models of Classical Education

Outline:

Classical Christian Education (Dictionary style definition)

- CCE is a **traditional** approach to education rooted in western civilization and culture, developed by the church, grounded in piety and governed by theology, employing the historic **curriculum** and **pedagogy** of the seven **liberal arts** in order to cultivate men and women characterized by **wisdom, virtue, and eloquence**.
- CCE employs the seven **liberal arts** and the **great books** in order to **cultivate** men and women characterized by **wisdom, virtue and eloquence**.
- CCE employs the seven **liberal arts** and the **great books**.
- When we focus on the whole, we lose a sense of the parts. When we focus on the parts, we lose a sense of the whole. We move back and forth between the components part and the whole woven together.



Modeling and Classifying to Define Classical Education

- *Modulus*: small measure, standard
 - Pattern, Design, Paradigm
 - Outline, Plan Structure
- A representation, generally in miniature, to show the construction or appearance of something.
- *Designare*: to mark out, to outline, sketch plan

Traditional ways educators have thought about classical education

- There might be several legitimate options for modelling.
- Because classical education is multi-faceted, it has many components:
 - Cultural
 - Pedagogical
 - Curricular
 - Religious
 - Historical
 - Theoretical



Aspects that may be included in a plan/outline of classical education

- Theme and Variation
- Adaptive, Evolving, Flexible
- Historical/Traditional
- Thematic/Curricular (Content)
- Pedagogical (Method)
- Cultural/Communal
- Religious/Theological
- Humanizing/Anthropological
- Efficacy/Results/Purposeful/Telos
- Theoretical
- Practical

How to Model Classical Education

- Levels/Grades/Steps
- Curriculum/Content
- Scope and Sequence
- Pedagogical Method
- Purpose/End

There are various, complimentary ways to model it

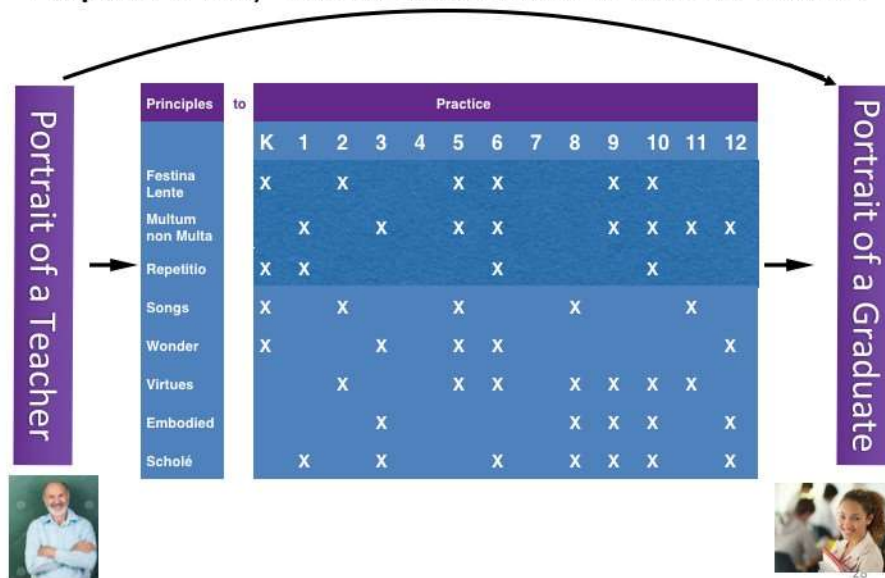
- K-12
- Elementary + Secondary + College
- Elementary + Junior High + High School + College
- Trivium + Quadrivium
- Grammar + Logic + Rhetoric
- Content (Curriculum) + Method (Pedagogy)
- Scope & Sequence (Curriculum Map)
- Student Formation (Purpose)

Theme and Variation

- Some things about classical education that are stable and thematic, such as the studying the seven liberal arts and the study of the great books.
- These themes continued with different flavors (sequence and emphasis has changed).



Purpose: A Fully-Trained Student Will Be Like Her Teacher



Models

- To focus on the means and the ends that we are seeking.
 - If our purpose is a fully trained student (characterized by wisdom, virtue, and eloquence), we might want to start with an idea of what characterizes that student.
 - With the end in mind, we can think about the means by which we get there.
 - We can consider the principles that are translated into educational practices.
 - Eight Essential Pedagogical Principles
 - *Festina Lente* – Make haste slowly
 - *Multum Non Multa* – Much not many
 - *Repetitio Mater Memoriae* – Repetition is the mother of memory
 - Songs, Jingles, Chants
 - Wonder and Curiosity
 - Educational Virtues
 - Embodied Education
 - Scholé/Contemplation/Leisure
 - *Docendo Discimus* – By teaching we learn
 - *Optimus Magister Liber Bonus Est*
 - Luke 6:40 says that when a student is fully trained, he will be like his teacher.
 - A big part of teaching is a teacher replicating himself or herself in a student.

Content: The Trivium Arts



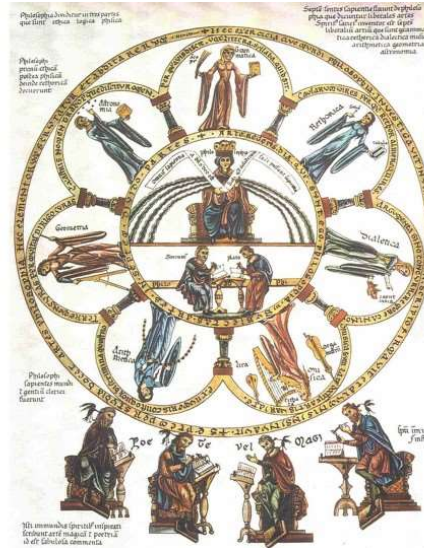
Grammar



Logic

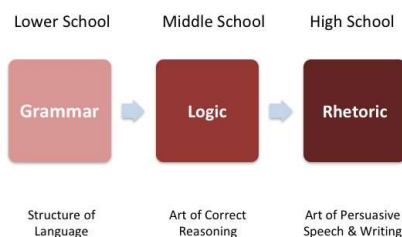


Rhetoric



- We could focus on the content
 - Trivium Arts: to teach the content of grammar, logic, and rhetoric.
 - This is the threefold way of cultivating language.
 - To be fully capacitated as a human being is to master the use of words. Being created in God's image, we use words.
 - **Grammar** focuses on the structure of language.
 - **Logic** focuses on the art of correct reasoning (by implication the art of incorrect reasoning). How we think, reason, and argue. It is a way of seeking what is true.
 - **Rhetoric** is a study of persuasive, beautiful speaking and writing.
 - These arts become embedded in a person as truth fishing arts helping us to discern what is true, good, and beautiful. They are connected in a web.
 - Ambrose Curriculum Map is included for ClassicalU subscribers.

Content: The Trivium Arts



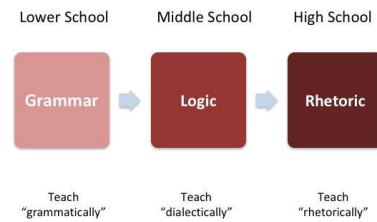


- Dorothy Sayers considers how classical education can be merged with what we learn about developmental psychology.
 - The ways of teaching grammar, logic, and rhetoric seems to be line with how children are able to learn.
 - She began to think of trivium as a method/pedagogy.
 - The arts don't exist for themselves, but they are like tools to master other subjects.
 - Grammar can become of tool.
 - The student learns how to learn.
 - The trivium can become stages of learning.
 - A lot of schools name their schools according to this pattern: grammar, dialectic, and rhetoric.

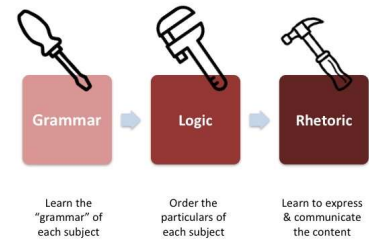
GRAMMAR	→ LOGIC →	RHETORIC
Age: 5-11	Age: 11-14	Age: 14-18
Poll-parrot Stage	Pert Stage	Poetic Stage
Language: Grammar, syntax, structure, vocabulary	Language: reasoning, debate, clarity	Language: Eloquence, beauty, persuasion
Philologists	Philosophers	Poets
Basic Facts, Fundamentals	Principles, relations	Expressive communication, application; synthesis
Method: Singing, Chanting, Repetition	Method: Argument, discussion, debate	Method: Discussion, speeches, imitation, practice
Writing: clarity, narrative, description	Writing: compare/contrast; praise/blame, argumentative	Writing: persuasive, legal, polemic, poetic, creative

Method/Pedagogy: The Trivium

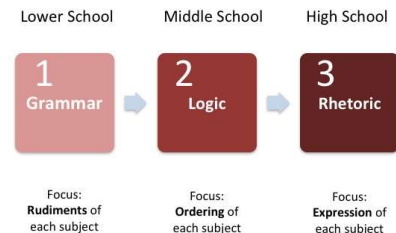
See Dorothy Sayers, "Lost tools of Learning"



"Tools" of Learning: The Trivium

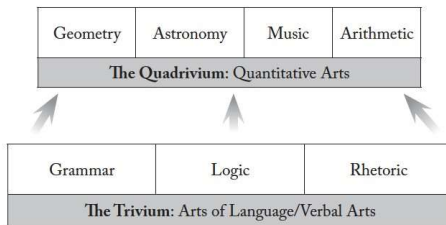


Stages of Learning: The Trivium

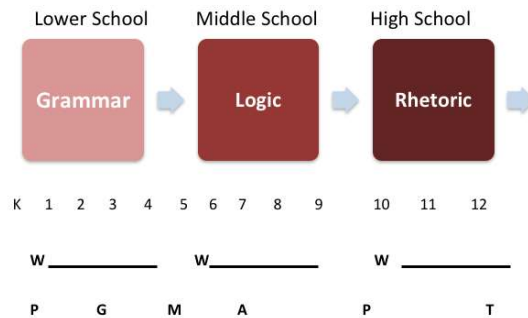




Sequence: Trivium to Quadrivium



Classical Scope & Sequence



- There is a sense in which the Trivium leads to the Quadrivium, however, viewing it this way leads to some challenges.
 - Moving through the stages, each art has a particular emphasis, but all three arts are present at each stage.
 - During the Grammar Stage, Logic and Rhetoric may not be present as a formal subject, however, they are present. Teachers can point out logical fallacies to younger students. Teachers are using and modelling rhetoric with younger children.
 - The Quadrivium focused on number, objects, and shapes. It helped to explore the Cosmos. We use both language and number as fully capacitated human beings.
 - Arithmetic: a study of discrete number
 - Music: a study of number in motion
 - Geometry: a study of discrete shape
 - Astronomy: a study of shape in motion
 - Sciences are born out of the use of both the Trivium and the Quadrivium.

What about Math and Science?

- Math and science would be approached at each stage. They are integrated with the other arts. This is because we don't only pay attention to the Trivium. We cannot neglect the Quadrivium.

Integration of Trivium Arts

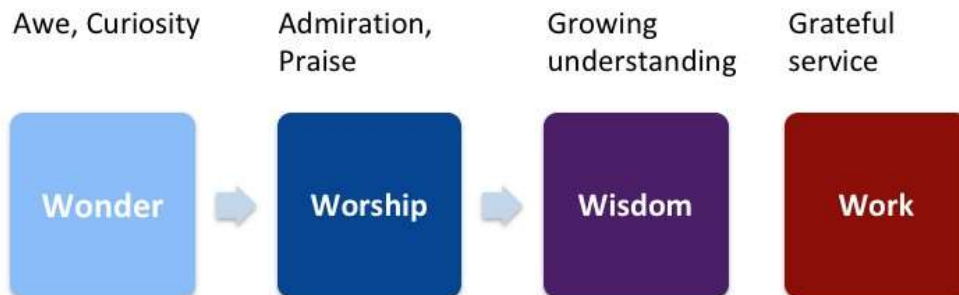
	K-6	7-9	10-12
Grammar	Math	Math	Math
	Science	Science	Science
	History	History	History
	Literature	Literature	Literature
	Fine Arts	Fine Arts	Fine Arts
	Bible/Theology	Bible/Theology	Bible/Theology
Logic		Math	Math
		Science	Science
		History	History
		Literature	Literature
		Fine Arts	Fine Arts
		Bible/Theology	Bible/Theology
Rhetoric			Math
			Science
			History
			Literature
			Fine Arts
			Bible/Theology



Classical Scope and Sequence

- Josef Pieper proposes another model in *Leisure the Basis of Culture*:
 - Begins in wonder and it leads to wisdom.
 - Plato and Aristotle says that all learning beings in wonder (awe and curiosity).
 - You do not really have a student unless they are full of zeal for what is true, good, and beautiful.
 - A large part of what classical education is to do is to cultivate, preserve, and sustain the wonder they are born with so they would lead a life of worship and growing in wisdom.
 - Wonder → Worship → Wisdom leads to becoming grateful servants of others as a proper view of work.

Stages of Learning: W-W-W-W

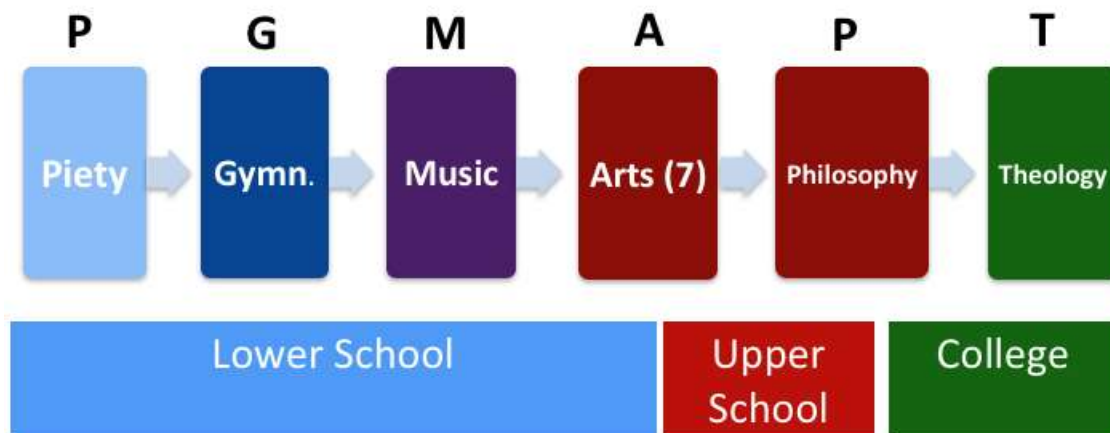




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- *The Liberal Arts Tradition* by Ravi Jain & Kevin Clark
- Piety – This is cultivated in younger children. This is loving all of our mothers and fathers who have created the tradition and civilization that we enter into.
- Gymnastic – The bodies of children are being trained. What happens with our body has a lot to do with what happens with our minds.
- Music (MUSE – ical Education) – The education in wonder, that which the muses inspire. Teachers become muses who inspire students to love the things that are lovely. Singing the songs, enjoying the art, collecting the bugs, they begin to love the natural world before they begin to analyze it.
- Arts (Seven Liberal Arts)
- Philosophy – Often studied after age 16. When is it appropriate to study philosophy and theology?
- Theology – The dedicated study happens after we have mastered the seven liberal arts.

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Four Essential Elements (Another Classification)			
Community	Curriculum	Pedagogy	Practices
Growing Together	Content of Wisdom	Effective Teaching	Tradition
Weekly Gathering	Curriculum Map	Festina Lente	Liturgical Learning
Special Events	Truth, Goodness, Beauty	Multum non Multa	Church Calendar
Supportive Relationships	Scope & Sequence	Repetitio Mater Memoria	Fellowship and Hospitality
Student-Teacher-Parent Partnerships	Piety	Embodied Learning	Beautiful Settings
Collaborative Learning	Gymnastic Musical Education	Songs, Chants Wonder, Curiosity	Singing and Worship Garden of Delight
	Seven Liberal Arts	Student Virtues	Like a Museum
	Philosophy	Scholé, Contemplation	Like a Conservatory
	Theology		Like a Home

Communal Aspects of Classical Education

- The whole community comes together to educate and train up a child.