

## Innovative Practices in Teaching Social Sciences



**Miss. Saroj Y. Lakhadive**

H.O.D. of Home Economics

Indira Mahavidyalya

Kalamb

E-mail : saroj20lakhadive@gmail.com

### Abstract

*The paper defines the various ways to make the study of Home-economics subject more interacting and interesting. Firstly, as introduction this paper explains the need to learn home economics and how it is beneficiary for the families and society. Then it explains what are the different roles a home-economics teacher has to play while teaching this subject. The different teaching methods explained in this paper are aimed at giving students opportunity to explore, analyse, participate fully and learn to the maximum and make them learn how they can turn their educational learning into earning. The different strategies like use of technology, more practical oriented teaching, group discussions, industrial visits are explained in detailed manner so that students become confident, connected, actively involved, lifelong learners, ready to contribute to the future of nation.*

### Key Words

*Home Economics, Entrepreneur, Food Technology, Innovation, Integration*

### Introduction

Home Economics as a subject gives knowledge with various skills that are important for self-employment and self-reliance. It is not only about how to live in the society but also how to survive in the society. Home economics comprises some important topics such as human development, personal and family finance, housing and interior design, food science and preparation, nutrition and wellness, textiles technology, child development and health care etc. By learning this subject, students can easily grab a job or can easily become an entrepreneur and start his small-scale business. The most important aspect of a Home Economics programme is that it gives more emphasis on practical skills as compared to theory that will constantly be relevant to the recipients in their entire lives. According to the American Home Economics Association, Home Economics is the study of laws, conditions, principles, and ideals which are

concerned on the one hand with man's immediate physical environment and on the other hand with his nature as a social being and is the study especially of the relation between those two factors". Home economics provides vocational and learning pathways for future nutritionists, dietitians, policy advisers, early childhood educators, home economics teachers, university lecturers, food technologists, food writers, food stylists, health practitioners, researchers, food product developers, chefs, hotel management, and sports nutritionists. The main objective of home economics is to help people identify needs of society, make decisions and utilize minimum resources to get maximum outcome which improves the quality of living for the one and its family which ultimate results in improving the standard of society.

### Teaching Methods for Home-Economics

As this subject has huge impact on lives of people, the teacher should use a different and interesting ways to teach this subject and should give students the opportunity to explore, analyse, participate fully and learn to the maximum. Home Economics teacher must be innovative, with effectively prepared lesson to suit student's interest. The purpose of teaching is to be able to get ideas to stick to the memory of students even outside the classroom. For this to happen, teachers must be inventive and easily accessible to students. A teacher must be pioneering towards transforming the outmoded practice where teachers were the lord of the classroom and were not accessible outside the classroom. The teacher should engage interactive sessions. Home Economics teacher is expected to always bring something new to the classroom to acquire the interest of students, and in addition, be able to adjust the curricular to suit capabilities of learner. The teacher is expected to be able to utilize technological learning materials to teach and engage their students during the learning process as present generation is born into technology and must be taught with them.

The true form of education is the one which teaches people to think for themselves and at the same



### Conference Proceeding Volume - III

time prepares them for both present and future life. It is found that students think studying home economics is lifeless, the syllabus is archaic, and that skills given to students are improbable. Hence to increase the eagerness of students home economics classroom should be innovative. Following are some methods that can be used to teach this subject in more interactive way:

1. **Use of Technology** : In this digital era all students are computer literate. The rise of smartphones technology supports the students and teacher's interactions beyond the college environment. Utilizing technology should be an integral means of learning as this provokes the interest of young learners and improve their learning outcome. The teachers can show some short videos and documentaries featuring some practical demo sessions of the events covered in their syllabus on projector and can ask students to create their own videos which results in active participation of students.
2. **Interactive sessions** : Teachers must recognize that learners are of different approaches including social economic background, intellectual differences, and interest differences, consequently teachers must manage the classroom to accommodate to these differences by arranging activities that hold, motivate and maintain learners' concentration and attention. To make lecture more interactive give different topic to each student and in next lecture let them explain that topic. This will make the students to study that topic in detailed manner and also will give them stage daring. Due to this method the students become active learners rather than passive recipients of information.
3. **Live visits** : Arrange industrial visits of students to some small scale and large-scale businesses, Women Entrepreneurship Establishment centre, Cottage Industry etc which will help them to understand entrepreneurial skills and it will also motivate them to start their own business. Also Take them to old age home, orphanage, places like Anandvan (Stay for people with disabilities) for their social and emotional development.
4. **Group discussions** : Divide students into small groups and give certain topic related to syllabus. Each group will have a leader who initiates the discussion of the issue or subject matter. Give two minutes to entire group to take out points on respective topic. Students will then discuss their views on topic. This method will improve their thinking capability and will teach them how to interact with other members of society.
5. **Arranging competitions among students** : Arrange some competitions among students like dish decoration, flower decoration, home decoration, art and craft creation and facilitate the winners. This method will not only motivate the students but also work as training for their future work.
6. **Arranging business exhibitions** : Let students arrange their business exhibition where they can sell their handmade frocks, handkerchief, baby panties, sweaters, food preservative items like Papad, Achar, Jam, Jelly etc which they have prepared as a part of their practical. They can sell hand crafted embroidery bedsheets, Sarees, table cloth, printed paper bags, wall hanging etc. and also can arrange Anandamela (food stall) and sell food items which they have learned in their syllabus. This method will give them confidence to turn the things they have learned from subject into actual earning methods which enhances their entrepreneur skills.
7. **Arranging conferences for students** : Arrange some national international level conferences for students where they can present their papers, give presentation and can interact among the students from other universities or even other nation and can exchange their knowledge.
8. **Arrange some expert lectures** : Arrange some lectures of experts like fashion designer or chef or some industrialist which can give detailed information about their fields and can guide students about how to enter into the field of their interest.
9. **Arrange a conversation with male members** : As we know in SGBAU only female students are learning home economics so arrange a conversation meeting with male students where they can discuss the point of views of male students about certain topics like child development, home management, nutrition etc. Each gender has different point of views about society, families so they will come up with some good solutions for the issues.
10. **Arrange question and answer session** : Once a week arrange a question-and-answer session where students can come up with all their doubts and teacher will give appropriate and satisfactory answers to their doubts.

### Conclusion

This paper explored the various innovative mode of teaching Home Economics. The different roles which home economics teacher has to play while teaching this subject such as facilitators, having cordial relationships

with students, tourist guide for the industrial visits, event organizer etc. Teacher can make use of technology wisely in Home Economics lessons, inspire students to work with others and creating a place for all categories of learners during Home Economics lessons. The traditional epoch where teachers were apprehensive and students had no access to them is gone. Nowadays teachers have to help, advice and have an affable relationship with their students. No method is best to teach any subject so teacher should use combination of these strategies and also should come up with some new ways to teach home economics. The ultimate aim is giving students opportunity to explore, analyse, participate fully and learn to the supreme so that after completing their education they can easily find a way of earning for their families.

#### References

- THE METHODOLOGY OF TEACHING HOME ECONOMICS by Dorcas Bola Odu
- METHODS AND RESOURCES IN TEACHING SOCIAL STUDIES. Journal of Contemporary Educational Research and Innovations, Vol.8, No.2, pp.207-216., April, 2018, ISSN 2250-0618
- Innovative Teaching Methods of Social Science by By Vijay Pal Singh
- Creating Innovative Home Economics Classrooms: The Role of the Teacher, American Based Research Journal, Vol-8-Issue-7 July-2019 ISSN (2304-7151)
- Farah Naz, H.S.M (2017) Innovative Teaching has Positive impact on the performance of diverse Students.
- American Home Economics Association Journal, "The Wonderful World of Home Economics".

\*\*\*\*\*