

Johann Friedrich Herbart



(1759 – 1841)

1. Blyth, A. (1981). "From individuality to character: the Herbartian sociology applied to education". *British Journal of Educational Studies* **29**: 69–79. from J-Stor database.
2. Hilgenheger, Norbert. "JOHANN FRIEDRICH HERBART (1776-1841)." *International Bureau of Education*. N.p., 1993. Web. 16 Jan. 2013.

- Herbart was born in Oldenburg, Germany – he was considered a “fragile child” because of an accident, which led him to be homeschooled by his mother until the age of 12².
- He took a great interest in philosophy and psychology and even wrote some opposing papers in regards to the idealist methods of teaching².
 - His mentor was an idealist at the time
- This led Herbart to become one of the founding realists in education during the 19th century and create an updated version of the term “pedagogy” (the art of teaching) ².
- Herbart was quoted stating that “every child is born with a unique potential, but that this potential remained unfulfilled until it was analyzed and transformed by education” which is in accordance with what he regarded as the “accumulated values of civilization” ¹.
- Herbart valued the concept of using ethics and moral reasoning as a basis for education, because he felt that it was a platform in which children could not only understand but use as a tool for learning¹.
- Herbart’s fans designed a 5 step teaching method based on his theories:

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1. Prepare pupils to be ready for the new lesson
2. Present the new lesson
3. Associate the new lesson with ideas studied earlier
4. Use examples to illustrate the lesson's major points
5. Test pupils to ensure they had learned the new lesson