Organization Model of Curriculum Integration (Fortarty, 1991)

Name	Description	Advantages	Disadvantages
Fragmented O O	Separate and distinct disciplines	Clear and discrete view of a discipline	Connections are not made clear for students; less transfer of learning
Connected	Topics within a discipline are connected	Key concepts are connected, leading to the review, re-conceptualization assimilation of ideas within a discipline	Disciplines are not related; content focus remains within the discipline
Nested	Social, thinking, and content skills are targeted within a subject area	Gives attention to several areas at once, leading to enriched learning	Students maybe confused and loss sight of the main concepts of the activity or lesson
Sequenced	Similar ideas are taught in concert, although subjects are separate	Facilitates transfer of learning across content areas	Requires ongoing collaboration and flexibility, as teachers have less autonomy in sequencing curricula
Shared	Team planning and/ or teaching that involves two disciplines focuses on shared concepts, skills or attitudes	Shared instructional experiences; with two teachers on a team it is less difficult to collaborate	Requires time, flexibility, commitment and compromise



Webbed	Thematic teaching, using a theme as a base for instruction in many disciplines	Motivating for students helps students, helps students see connections between ideas	Theme must be carefully and thoughtfully selected to be meaningful, with relevant and rigorous content
Threaded	Thinking skills, social skills, multiple intelligences, and study skills are "threaded" throughout the disciplines	Students learn how they are learning, facilitating future transfer of learning	Disciplines remain separate
Integrated	Priorities that overlap multiple disciplines are examined for common skills, concepts, and attitudes	Encourages students to see interconnectedness and interrelationships among disciplines, students are motivated as they see these connection	Requires interdepartmental teams with common planning and teaching time
Immersed 88	Learner integrates by viewing all learning through the perspective of one area of interest	Integration takes place within the learner	May narrow the focus of the learner
Networked 88	Learner directs the integration process through selection of a network of experts and resources	Pro-active, with learner stimulates by new information, skills or concepts	Learner can be spread too thin, efforts become ineffective

Source: Fortarty, R. (1991) The Mindful School: How to Integrate the Curriculum. Palatine, IL: Skylight Publishing, Inc.

