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**6TH WORLD CONFERENCE ON LEARNING, TEACHING AND
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ABSTRACTS BOOK

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ABSTRACTS BOOK

ENGAGING HEAD, HEART AND HANDS: HOLISTIC LEARNING APPROACH FOR EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Sustainable development requires simultaneous and balanced progress in four dimensions i.e; social, economic, ecological and political, those are totally interdependent. Sustainability issues often regarded as complex and difficult to be understood through single discipline. Therefore education for sustainability learning requires integration of various teaching and learning approaches. With this concern in mind, the purpose of this paper is to discuss the holistic learning approach which engaging the head, heart and hands, for Education for Sustainable Development in one higher education institutions in Malaysia. By using the multiple case study design, three sustainability related courses which are from various disciplines was selected as cases. The findings from the semi-structured interview with the lecturers, focus group with students, class observations and course outline analysis showed the unifying framework of head, heart and hands learning and teaching approach. This unifying learning approaches that engage and develops the 'whole person': affective, cognitive and practical dimensions and abilities, and in relation to 'real-world' issues and concerns, seems provide better opportunity for learning for education for sustainability.

Keywords: Education for sustainable development, higher education, transformative learning systemic

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INSIGHTS LEARNED FROM COLLEGE STUDENTS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS IN A UNIVERSITY COLLABORATIVE HEALTH SYSTEM

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Abstract

Examining the experience of mental illness among college student participants when they are prescribed medication provides the potential to gain insight into medication adherence in addition to other healthcare service issues and barriers with mental illness in a university collaborative healthcare system that students face. *Purpose and Methodology:* Photo voice methodology allows individuals to use cameras to photograph their everyday health and work realities, thereby focusing on issues of greatest concern and communicating these issues to policy makers, healthcare providers, and influential advocates who can be mobilized to make change. Researchers provided disposable cameras to the participants. These participants captured photographs of their everyday experiences that reflect their individual perspective on their lives with medications. Once the photographs were collected, the researchers held group and individual reflection sessions with the photographers to discuss their photographs and how their photographs essentially gave them a voice about their medications. The researchers then qualitatively analyse the discussions and photographs to develop general themes regarding the research group. Finally, dialog was held between research participants and healthcare providers with the goal of education and action-oriented change. *Findings and Conclusions:* The study included 12 college students prescribed one or more medications to gather descriptive rich data regarding use of photo voice methodology, to assess the collective and individual experience of prescription medication use in this group, and to share findings with a small group of healthcare providers and staff on campus. Photo voice research methodology has not yet been applied to medication-taking behaviour of a college student specific population. The perspective on student experiences provided by this research may be able to enhance the delivery of medications, mental health services and awareness for students within the university campus and the broader community.

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E-LEARNING FOR ALL. A CROSS BORDER PROJECT FOR STRENGTHEN THE OVERALL CAPACITIES OF THE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

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Abstract

This article aims to present an e-learning conceptual framework that will lead to strengthen the overall capacities and accountability of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs). It will also provide ways to guarantee the quality of services of CSOs as well as ways to build up a sustainable role of them in the democratic process through e-learning. CSOs in EU have a well-developed content for the capacity development and taking this into consideration, we will use some already implemented projects as good examples for the present study. An important component of those projects was the Capacity Development of CSOs, the main objective being to increase the capacity of CSO representatives. This was done by offering them new knowledge on contemporary methodologies and techniques as well as the opportunity for exchange and practical knowledge via the development and delivery of e-learning capacity building programmes. This encompasses regional and national trainings, regional and national conferences, development of educational materials and so on. What is important is the fact that critical thinking of CSOs is increasing mostly because of the applied e-learning and blended learning approaches to the trainings and capacity building programmes to the organizations. Many CSOs in EU conduct local/regional/country level training courses on topics of common interest. Manuals and training guides are being published as part of the initiative – but are those of any good? Why not use electronic media to develop a set of basic training components to successfully reach the target audience? The value of this paper came from the research we have made among the e-learning projects implemented in Romania and Turkey, trying to find out if the objectives and the scopes have been fulfilled properly. The way we are going to do that, is by analysing the outputs of the projects we have implemented as partners or leaders, looking mostly to the dissemination plans.

Keywords: Civil Society Organisations, e-learning framework, guideline

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LEARNING BY EXPERIMENTATION: CHILDREN LABORATORY EXPERIENCES AT THE HIGHER ENVIRONMENT OF THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE OF TOMAR

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Abstract

The Polytechnic Institute of Tomar (IPT), located in the center of Portugal, has created the Academy of Science, Art and Heritage for children aged eight to fourteen, during their vacations, since 2013, with the aim to educate, stimulate creativity and learning through observation, experimentation and construction, by making available a scientific, diversified and happy learning environment. Purpose: This paper presents the work and challenges IPT Laboratories of Archaeology, Conservation and Restoration, Chemistry, Engineering, Graphic Arts, Physics, Photography and Tourism were faced with in elaborating and run small practical workshops for two groups of up twelve children. Methods: With a duration of one and a half hour, the workshops run with the help of a teacher or technician, plus IPT student-monitors, and are organized to allow a space to learn how to perform, test, apply and/or be creative with the recently acquired knowledge. For a symbolic enrolment tuition, the children stay within IPT premises for a full day, and provided of lunch and two snacks.

Keywords: elaborating and run small practical workshops

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THE PROBLEMATIC OF TRADITION AND FUTURE IN ART AND DESIGN EDUCATION

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Abstract

In recent years, the traditional motifs and conceptual approach to the apparent authenticity of the design quality is observed that used in many areas. In this way, the tradition established in the future synthesis has led to the formation of a free and original design. This synthesis, design resources training in the artistic development of the individual and provide the best research and questioning the reasons that created them. Thus; new ideas to new situations, new problems have emerged in the need to turn to different events and phenomena. This method and the proliferation of studies aimed at the promotion of Turkish cultural heritage is undoubtedly will be at the forefront of higher quality products.

Keywords: promotion of Turkish cultural heritage is undoubtedly

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CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT OF RESEARCH IN INDIA THROUGH CROWD SOURCING

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Abstract

INDIA is one of the fastest growing countries in the world but researchers in India are facing several problems. India is lagging behind in research as compared to other countries of the world. One of the biggest problems in India for researchers is insufficient communication between various research departments or insufficient communication between students and teachers working in same field or having same fields of interest. In this paper an innovative approach of crowd sourcing has been suggested that will improve communication between people of same field. Crowd sourcing is basically outsourcing of a problem through internet to large number of people resulting into huge number of innovative suggestions to the problem. This large number of suggestions will be mined and best suggestions will be selected. In this paper we will propose a methodology for implementing crowd sourcing of research problems among various universities and various research departments of India which also includes curriculum development or updation by addition of research communication as a mandatory course in every field.

Keywords: Crowd sourcing; Curriculum development; Research India; outsourcing; Indian research Indian education

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EDUCATIONAL MODEL FOR STUDENTS AT RISK

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Abstract

Young pregnant and pregnancy students are one group of students at risk that need to be educated. This research aimed to determine appropriated educational model for pregnancy students of non-formal and informal Education Centre (NF-IEC) in the Northeastern region of Thailand. The principle of curriculum development was a conceptual guideline for 1) exploring the current state, problems and causes from 1301 young pregnant and pregnancy students aged less than 20 years old in Northeastern region 2) drafting and then validating a curriculum with 15 specialists by focus group and 3) trying out to study its effectiveness by using an action research with 10 teachers and 17 volunteers pregnant student of NF-IEC. Results showed that the necessary contents needed to integrate into the curriculum, including pregnancy causes, motherhood's necessary behaviors, and self-efficacy. A validated curriculum comprised of 17 topics of 50 hours-learning activities. Three cycles of action research were performed for 1) prepared readiness 2) classroom adjustment and learning activities and 3) outdoor trips. Results from the comparison of pretest and posttest scores using Wilcoxon signed ranked test showed that there was no significant difference in term of their knowledge. However, the overall picture of volunteer parenting students followed motherhood's necessary behaviors was at the highest level in all aspects. Volunteer parenting students showed to have high self-efficacy and satisfaction with the participation of curriculum process.

Keywords: Students at Risk; Problem and Causes of Young Pregnant and Pregnancy Students; Curriculum Development for Pregnancy students: Non-formal and informal education

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SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH COMMUNICATION DISORDERS IN PRESCHOOL SETTINGS IN THE NORTH WEST BANK IN PALESTINE ACCORDING TO PARENTS' AND PROFESSIONALS' PERCEPTIONS

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Abstract

According to the Palestinian Centre for Statistics (2013), children with communication disorders constitute the highest percentage of special educational needs in Palestine; however, there is a lack of services to support these children. The purpose of this quantitative study is to analyze how the preschool settings (private and public) in the Northern region of the West Bank, Palestine, which contains these cities and towns (Nablus, Jenin, Qalqilya, Qabatiya, Tulkarem, Salfeet, and Tubas), support children with communication disorders from the parents' and professionals' perceptions (preschool teachers and specialists such as physiotherapists, speech and language therapists, psychologists, etc). To collect data, two questionnaires were developed, one for parents, and the other for professionals. The participants in this study were 40 parents and 44 professionals from all these regions. The researcher aimed to clarify the type of support provided for children with communication disorders in preschool contexts in Palestine, also to find out if there is a relationship between the variables of the study (gender, age, professional experience, etc) and the perceptions of parents and professionals towards the support provided in preschool settings. Preliminary data from this study will be provided.

Keywords: parents' perceptions, professionals' perceptions, preschool settings, communication disorders;

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THE EFFECT OF DISTRIBUTED LEADERSHIP ON TEACHER COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS: THE MEDIATING ROLE OF TRUST IN COLLEAGUES

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Abstract

This study examined the effect of distributed leadership on teacher commitment to students, with a particular focus on the mediating role of faculty trust in colleagues within the context of mainland China. A total of 215 elementary school teachers participated in this study. The results showed that distributed leadership had significant positive effect on teacher commitment to students and trust in colleagues. Trust in colleagues positively predicted teacher commitment to students. Further, the mediation analysis revealed that trust in colleagues significantly mediated the effect of distributed leadership on teacher commitment. Implications for leadership in mainland China are further discussed.

Keywords: distributed leadership; trust in colleagues; teacher commitment mediation

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WEIGHTING OF LEARNING FACTORS USING FUZZY ANALYTICAL HIERARCHY PROCESS

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Abstract

Learning is a permanent change in behaviour that occurs from training and education and results vary from person to person. Learning covers knowledge, physical, emotional and social skill so a significant improvement in the person's abilities occurs. There are some factors that affect learning more or less while performing the learning activities. The research results revealed that many factors affect learning. This study aimed to weight factors which affect learning. Factors which affect the learning of primary school students were identified and experienced elementary school teachers benefited from determining the importance degree of these factors. Fuzzy analytical hierarchy process, a multi-criteria decision-making technique, was applied to determine the weight of each factor. Fuzzy logic was used to develop more realistic results of the analytical hierarchy process, a method based on pairwise comparisons for the factors. Consistency ratio was also examined to understand whether the binary consistency rate and pairwise comparisons are consistent. Thus, it is determined which factors affecting a child's learning are important. It also constitutes an input for learning activities to be more effective.

Keywords: Consistency ratio, fuzzy analytical hierarchy process, learn, multiple criteria decision making, primary school students

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THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PERCEIVED LEARNING AND STUDENT ATTAINMENT: LECTURES AND PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING SESSIONS

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Abstract

There has been a paradigm shift in higher education towards the utilisation of problem-based learning sessions instead of the traditional lecture format which is considered obsolete by detractors and simply convenient by its advocates. This move coincides with research highlighting that active learning strategies promote profound rather than superficial learning, encourage critical thinking and increase student attainment. However, there are limited studies quantifying the attainment of undergraduate students presented with varied pedagogical techniques, and still fewer that assess student perceptions of their own learning. Over four different teaching sessions (two lectures and two problem-based learning), n=94 students completed a 10 question questionnaire comprised of Likert style questions assessing how advantageous they perceived the teaching strategy implemented to be to their own learning. In addition, n=64 of the students also completed short quizzes at the completion of three out of four of the sessions (one lecture, two problem-based learning sessions) assessing their knowledge of the content covered. There was no significant difference in attainment (quiz score) between the two delivery methods ($p = 0.113$), however there was a significant difference between individual sessions ($p < 0.05$). Student ratings (total questionnaire score) did not differ between the two delivery methods ($p = 0.487$) or between individual sessions ($p = 0.748$). There was a trend for increased attainment in the problem-based sessions and a decreased student rating in these classes. Findings were in agreement with prior work and highlight the need for a varied approach to teaching in the biological sciences alongside the judicious interpretation of student feedback.

Keywords: problem-based learning; lectures; feedback; attainment; student perception

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STOCHASTIC LINKAGE ANALYSIS CHARACTERIZING THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM IN ROMANIA DURING 2001-2014

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Abstract

Romanian education system faces structural failures due to increased labor market instability and the proliferation of austere economic policies in adjusting the value of GDP.

Open competition on the labor market, both in the EU and countries outside the European Union also stresses the need to adapt the education system to meet current and future needs of society by contributing to the development of information technology research and eco-awareness. The education system in Romania will have to take into account the need to give people the skills and abilities needed to adapt quickly to a changing labor market.

Keywords: high education system, study programs, macro economical indicators, linear trend, labor market

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STUDY AND ANALYSIS ON THE TRANSVERSAL COMPETENCES OF VET TRAINERS/TEACHERS & GUIDANCE PROFESSIONALS ON THE FRAMEWORK OF THE TRAINVET4JOBS EUROPEAN PROJECT

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Abstract

TrainVet4Jobs (Supporting the role of VET professionals to improve the trainees' employability) is a European project implemented within the frame of the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Commission. It comprises by a partnership of nine institutions from six EU countries (Belgium, Estonia, Greece, Italy, Netherlands and Spain), building upon solid relations among the partners and network oriented approach. The project aims at strengthening the capacity of VET trainers and professionals to identify, and validate and teach better the transversal competences, targeting substantial enhancement of the employability of their trainees.

Keywords: Transversal Skills, VET Profess professionals, training needs

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THE ANALYSIS OF THE POSTGRADUATE THESIS WRITTEN ON TEACHING OF HISTORY IN TURKEY

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Abstract

The objective of the study is to scrutinize the theses conducted on instruction of history in Turkey qualitatively and quantitatively. A total of 85 theses conducted in Turkey on instruction of history was analyzed using content analysis. Content analysis techniques of categorical and frequency analyses were utilized to analyze masters' theses and dissertations in the study. Furthermore, the subjects of the theses were identified, and the data were categorized by data coding method and analyzed using descriptive analysis. Study results revealed that the efficiency of different methods and techniques was researched in most of the theses (40%) conducted on the instruction of history course. Another result of the study was the discovery of the gap in literature due to the lack of theses on instruction of history in pre-school, and 1st to 3rd primary school grade levels. It was recommended that further theses could be conducted to essay new uncharted techniques in the field of history to increase academic achievement in history instruction.

Keywords: history education; postgraduate education; thesis written in Turkey

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Higher education as factor for economic development: Lithuanian case

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Abstract

Problem statement. The economic development of each country is related with the modernization of countries' economy. The modernization mostly depends on the knowledge based economy and sustainable development. In Lithuania the key element of economic development is people. This means that the future of economic development more and more depends on education and research. The problem of this paper is defined by the following questions: does higher education and its increasing quality have impact on country's innovation level and economic development? If so, what must be done for further country economic development?

Purpose of study. Due to this the aim of this paper is to show what role higher education plays on innovations and global innovation index in knowledge based economy, on country global competitiveness level and on economic development of country. In order to examine the impact of higher education on innovations the changes of education levels is described and compared in all the 28 European Union Member States (EU-28); the economic modernization is characterized in Lithuania as a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Innovations as the primary driving force of successful economic development on micro and macroeconomic levels is characterized.

Research methods: logical analysis and generalization of scientific literature, both absolute and relative statistical data and case studies (the questionnaire) data.

Findings and results. The productivity growth in Lithuania per person is significantly lower than in the EU-15 average. Higher education, research and innovations should be in focus in Lithuania today. Suggestions to raise productivity and expand economic development: further development of education, including higher education, higher expenditure on research and implementation of innovations.

Keywords: higher education, economic development, innovations, global innovation index.

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ACADEMIC MOTIVATION AS A PREDICTOR OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AMONG TURKISH PROSPECTIVE TEACHERS OF ENGLISH: A STRUCTURAL EQUATION MODELING APPROACH

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Abstract

Academic motivation is widely regarded as one of the key individual differences in academic performance. The present study reports on findings of an investigation that sought to explore the role of academic motivation in predicting the cumulative academic performance of prospective English as a foreign language (EFL) teachers in a Turkish setting. Participants were 98 university students enrolled in an EFL teacher education program at a major state university in Ankara, Turkey. Data were collected using the Academic Motivation Scale (AMS) and the self-reported measure of their cumulative grade point average (GPA). Findings revealed a statistically significant relationship between academic motivation and academic achievement. Further, academic motivation significantly contributed to the prediction of the participants' academic achievement, with stimulus subcomponent being the strongest predictor variable. The intrinsic motivation component was also found to have more predicative power than extrinsically oriented regulations. These findings underscore the importance of intrinsic and extrinsic motivation dimensions of academic motivation on the university students' achievement, lending support to the contention that prospective EFL teachers' behavior can be intrinsically and extrinsically motivated or even amotivated. These findings are interpreted within the context of EFL teacher education programs in order to promote prospective EFL teachers' motivation and achievement.

Keywords: Academic motivation; academic achievement; prospective English teachers amotivation

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THE EFFECT OF ADMINISTRATORS' COMPETENCIES ON QUALITY CULTURE OF WORLD-CLASS STANDARD SCHOOLS

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Abstract

This study aimed to explore the relationship and effect of school administrators' competencies on quality culture in World-Class Standard schools under the Office of Secondary Educational Service Area 25, Thailand. Researchers employed a quantitative survey design using a set of questionnaire as research instrument. A total of 322 teachers were selected using classified random sampling technique based on school size. Data was analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics like mean score and standard deviation, Pearson correlation coefficient, and stepwise multiple regression analysis. Results of the study indicated that school administrators were highly practicing all the eight components of competencies with the mean score ranged from 4.13 to 4.26. The self-development component was the competency found to be the highest mean score while the communication and motivation component was found to be the lowest mean score. Besides, descriptive finding showed that the quality culture was at high level (mean score = 4.19). In addition, Pearson correlation analysis revealed that there were significant, positive, and very strong relationships between all the eight competency components and quality culture. All the eight correlation coefficients ranged from r value 0.739 to 0.820. Stepwise multiple regression analysis showed that there were five significant predictors contributing 79 percent variance of quality culture at significance level of 0.01. The school administrators' competencies with highest predictive power was vision ($\beta = 0.29$), followed by team-working ($\beta = 0.23$), good service ($\beta = 0.19$), and staff's potential development ($\beta = 0.18$). Communication and motivation ($\beta = 0.11$) was found to have the least predictive power.

Keywords: School administrators' competencies; quality culture; World-Class standart school

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CASE TEACHING METHOD IN ENGINEERING COURSES

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Abstract

The case method is an established form of learning in many academic and professional learning programs. The case study method is considered to be the most effective method of teaching. It is proven that it develops practical skills and allows to look at the different situations, from cultural and economic perspective. In addition it shows different possibilities of solving problems based on real-life situations. However, the case teaching method is used mainly in law, medicine and business education. There are not many examples of its implementation in engineering courses. This is due to several problems related to specifics of technical sciences. Due to huge pedagogical benefits of case teaching method it seems to be the right tool in implementation challenge driver education model. In the manuscript the problems with reshaping case teaching methodology to technical sciences requirements are discussed together with method modification examples in order to be effective in engineering courses. Finally the legal and practical framework in European universities is presents and the chances for method implementation is discussed as well.

Keywords: active learning, case teaching method, engineering courses

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DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED CURRICULA

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Abstract

Both at the national and international level, quality assurance becomes some kind of a challenge for higher education institutions because of changing reality in Europe and the world. New requirements identified by the real world should be transferred to the study programs in order to meet individual expectations and the needs of labour market. This article addresses such aspects of the integrated curricula as their development and implementation. Such programs are characterized by a holistic approach where vocational training content is combined with general and academic subjects. The aim of the article is to provide the concept of integrated study program and discuss the possibility of its application in educational institutions. The research problem is formulated on the basis of such questions: 1) what is the meaning of the concept integrated curriculum? 2) what is the basis for development of such study programs? 3) What should be the connection of such curriculum with requirements of the real world? The results of the study show that traditional discipline-based curricula fail to meet the challenges of globalization and the changing realities of the modern world. The educational paradigm should be transferred from what is taught to what the students are to learn. The integrated curriculum responds to the provisions of the Bologna Process 2020.

Keywords: what the students are to learn

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SOCIAL NETWORK TOOLS EFFECTIVENESS ON STUDENT ADVISORY INSIDE THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE INSTITUTION

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Abstract

The world is witnessing a remarkable development in the social networking system where we rarely find a student who does not have an account on the social network sites such as Facebook or Twitter or other sites that makes it possible for him to communicate and stay up to date with many issues that are located in the surrounding community and other societies. Now they become a necessary tool to be in content with every one, especially with the use of smart phones, and other technology machines which facilitate communication in general and Student Counseling, whether from the academic guidance of the faculty or academic advisor who oversees the process and guide students to help them seek and convey the information to the student in order to form a clear opinion on a certain academic issue, and timing of the information is considered one of the most important factor in success of student advising. We will focus, In this paper, on the importance of social network use on the effectiveness of an academic system for a better performance of education faculties students by providing them with information in a real time manner and answering all questions by advising academic unit and college student which is in charge of fulfilling this operation or through the academic advisor who is eligible of taking in charge this kind of missions through this mechanism.

Keywords: social network mediums, student advisory, academic counselor academic performance

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NON-NATIVE ACADEMICS OF ENGLISH AND THEIR ERRORS IN SCIENTIFIC ARTICLES

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Abstract

This article explores scientific prose style with a special focus on its written form. The author of this paper analyses twelve scientific articles on social sciences, and focuses on those errors, particularly the linguistic-stylistic ones, which non-native speaking academics often make, but should avoid if they want to succeed in having their articles published in prestigious English language databases. The paper finishes by listing effective strategies for non-native speaking academics writing scientific articles.

Keywords: scientific writing; errors; non-native speakers; english academics

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FRACTAL IMAGES – A NEW WAY TO REDUCE STRESS AND TO IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL WORKSPACES

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Abstract

Stress is one of the most common side-effects of the educational process, especially in learning, teaching and evaluation. Without proper coping strategies, all those involved in education (pupils, teachers, parents, leaders) might experience burn-out syndrome, anxiety and avoiding behavior. This article reflects on the significant positive effects of introducing fractals images in workspaces. The purpose of this paper is to explore whether fractals can reduce stress, increase openness to experience and raise tolerance to frustration and angst. Fractals are computer generated shapes with the help of a mathematical formula that describes the complex look of geometrical natural things like clouds, trees, ferns, blood vessels, muscle tissues. Even the human brain has a fractal dimension. These shapes can be broken into an infinite number of pieces and still be self-similar with the whole, no matter what scale. Actually, fractals are the mathematics behind nature and behind all dynamic non-linear systems (human behavior, learning, weather and economics)

Keywords: fractals; psychological stress; healthy education; education workspace; environmental stressors

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AN INVESTIGATION OF PRESERVICE ELEMENTARY MATHEMATICS TEACHERS' CONTENT KNOWLEDGE FOR TEACHING GEOMETRY

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Abstract

Over the past decades, various studies highlighted the direct correlation between teachers' competence and students' achievement levels. The results of these studies shift focus towards teachers and particularly teacher training programs, due to the major role they play in developing teaching knowledge of preservice teachers. In this study, we present results from a research project which aims to investigate mathematics teaching knowledge levels of future teachers. The paper focuses particularly in the field of geometry. 1367 preservice elementary mathematics teachers from 21 state universities in Turkey took part in the study. The items identified by TEDS-M project in the field of geometry are used to categorize data. The TEDS-M International Report is recognized for its service in enabling comparisons between Turkish figures and global averages with reference to specific aspects of teaching. The results of this study indicate that future teachers of Turkey performed better against their average counterparts in the rest of the world. On the other hand, the analysis of the results of the subtest show that Turkish trainee teachers score 63% in correct answer rate average, for geometry, and ranks below Taiwan, Russian Federation and Singapore.

Keywords: Teaching knowledge, content knowledge, preservice teachers geometry

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TDL TO SDL TRANSITION BARRIERS IN PAKISTAN

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Abstract

This paper reviews implications and barriers associated with unprepared teacher directed learning (TDL) to self-directed learning (SDL) transition. Self-regulated learning (SRL) shows the impromptu transition from traditional developed TDL to highly eccentric SDL epistemology might bring down the established working standards of education. Improvised SDL transition limitations are discussed in the light of time-honored cultural and religious traditions. Educators generally agree to the surmised benefits of the SDL approach, but fear from ad lib adoption without addressing the fallout of potent barriers. Students and teacher's SDL readiness is viewed more important due to their driver and driven roles in TDL to SDL transition process. Teachers must be well aware of the shifting strategies, potent problems and their timely solutions. Students must be ready to accept the SDL approach before adoption. The overall transition process may reflect terrible if traditional TDL preachers implement it under pressure preaching TDL system. Global accreditation and recognition systems require academicians to develop a unanimous consensus over TDL to SDL transition process. Autocratic TDL to SDL transition may lead to indiscriminate repercussions reprimanding agreed SDL principles. Typical TDL to SDL transition barriers of Muslim countries are critically viewed.

Keywords: SDL, TDL, EBL, PBL, SRL, Autodidact, Barriers, Limitations.

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2014-2015 ACADEMIC YEAR 1ST TERM TEOG CENTRAL SCİENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EXAM QUESTİONS' COVERAGE LEVELS OF THE EDUCATIIONAL TTAINMENTS OF THE CURRİCULUM

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Abstract

This study is carried on to determine 2014-2015 Academic year 1st term TEOG exam questions' coverage level of the educational attainments of the curriculum. Document analyzing method has been applied in the study and the data has been obtained from the Ministry of Education (MEB) Science and Technology Curriculum, MEB's official website (www.meb.gov.tr) and Science and Technology Course book. In data analysis, exam questions coverage level to curriculum attainments and the relation of questions' objectives and the attainments of the related chapters are evaluated. According to the findings, TEOG exam covered last chapters rather than initial chapters in the curriculum predominantly; and TEOG Science and Technology questions were not prepared homogenously in terms of chapters, topics and allocated time to the topics. This study suggests that some questions in the TEOG exam cover only one educational attainment, and in case of exam questions cover more than one attainment, the content validity of TEOG should be raised. Furthermore, when the study is concerned with the content of the exam, it can be suggested that other studies can be applied for method of the exam.

Keywords: TEOG Exam, Science and Technology Curriculum, Educational acquisition.

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EXPLORING THE ROLE OF THE IDEAL L2 SELF IN PREDICTING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AMONG ENGLISH MAJORS

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Abstract

Over the last decade, teaching and learning a second or foreign language (L2) has experienced a huge paradigm shift in motivational research. Thus, the present study attempted to explore the relationship between the ideal L2 self and academic achievement. The participants were 100 university students enrolled in an English as a foreign language (EFL) teacher education program at a major state university in Ankara, Turkey. Data were mainly collected using the ideal L2 self scale. The participants' cumulative grade point (GPA) scores consisting of their formative assessment and academic achievement scores were used as the criterion variables for the study. Findings revealed that there was a statistically significant relationship between the ideal L2 self and overall academic achievement. More specifically, the ideal L2 self was a strong predictor of the participants' success in their final exam and overall academic achievement. It accounted for the 24% of the variance in the participants' academic achievement. The results also revealed significant differences among the participants' academic achievement scores in terms of gender differences. These findings suggest that one's self imagery aspects coupled with his/her future self guides, especially the ideal L2 self, will result in motivated and successful language learning.

Keywords: Ideal L2 self; Academic Achievement; English majors; Self imagery self guide

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COLLABORATION AND JOB SATISFACTION AMONG TEACHERS OF A PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Abstract

Teachers' perception of principal's transformational leadership showed to be related to both teachers' job satisfaction and collaboration among teachers. Furthermore a cooperative climate positively affect teachers' job satisfaction. Results of the present study showed that principal transformational leadership increased both overall teachers' satisfaction with their work and a cooperative climate with colleagues. More important the positive relationship between transformational leadership and job satisfaction was mediated by collaboration among teachers. Results showed that school leadership may play an important role on teachers' wellbeing if transformational leaders promote and support team work cooperation and collaboration among teachers.

Keywords: Education; Student; Head teacher; Leadership practices

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THE EFFECT OF LEADERSHIP STYLES ON PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY

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Abstract

The main aim of this study was to investigate the effect of school administrators' leadership styles on professional learning community in those schools under jurisdiction of the Office of Secondary Educational Service Area 27, Thailand. A total of 3,012 samples consisted of school administrators and teachers were selected from a population of 27,459. A survey quantitative method was employed using questionnaire which was constructed by researchers as an instrument to collect data. Data was analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics like frequency, percentage, mean score, standard deviation, correlation Pearson Product Moment Coefficient and stepwise multiple regression analysis. The results of the study indicated that all the aspects of leadership style of school administrators were at high level particularly supportive leadership style. However reward and punishment leadership style was found to be the most unpopular leadership style. On the other hand, all the aspects of professional learning community were found to be at high level. The highest mean score was learning enhancement and information technology whereas the lowest mean score was team empowerment. Implementation of professional learning community was significantly affected by three types of leadership style at significant level of 0.01. The significant predictors of professional learning community were reward and punishment leadership, the directive leadership, and the charismatic leadership style. The multiple regression coefficient was 0.836 and the predictive power was 69.9 per cent. Finally, this paper also provided recommendations and suggestions for future research.

Keywords: Leadership style; professional learning community

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THE INVESTIGATION OF GEOGRAPHY TEACHERS' PERCEPTION ON THE CONSTRUCTIVIST APPROACH IN TURKEY

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Abstract

In Turkey, curricula based on constructive approach have been implemented since 2005. The success of such curricula is primarily related with positive attitude of the teachers and pre-service teachers in charge of implementing the curricula. In this study, opinions of 246 pre-service geography teachers on constructivist approach in 3 Turkish state universities (Karadeniz Technical, Atatürk and Marmara) were analysed against various variables. An attitude scale was used for data collection. Pre-treatment reliability coefficient of the tool was found as .92 (Cronbach's Alpha) for overall scale. Study variables such as gender, teaching experience, grade level and type of high school graduated were analysed with SPSS 16 software by using t, Mann-Whitney U and ANOVA tests. Average attitude of 246 pre-service geography teachers was calculated to be 3.51 points towards this approach. This average score can be said at "high level". No significant differences were found between grade levels of participants and type of high school graduates. On the other hand, there was a significant difference between pre-service teachers' attitudes towards this approach with gender and teaching experience. The difference was in favour of female and experienced pre-service teachers.

Keywords: Geography teacher candidates; attitude constructivist approach

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DESIGN-BASED RESEARCH: THE WAY OF DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION

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Abstract

Innovations and their appropriate implementation in practice are important elements in improving educational practice. During the implementation process, there is, however, often a lack of interaction between designers and practitioners that would enable the latter to become competent enough to implement theoretical knowledge into practice and to have an ongoing support from designers. In the paper, we discuss design-based research which is based on close cooperation between researchers, practitioners and designers which consequently allows greater integration of research and practice in education and could thus present the important bridge among the involved stakeholders. In this context the beginnings, development, basic characteristics, advantages, disadvantages and the research process of design-based research are reviewed and an example of design-based research is presented.

Keywords: design-based research; educational research; educational innovation; mixed methods research; educational improvement

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TEACHERS' OPINION ABOUT THE E-MATERIALS IN THE SUBJECT ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

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Abstract

Digital literacy is becoming a key competence also in the area of education. Among other methods, we teach using e-materials in the study process. The purpose of this article is to present the viewpoints of elementary class teachers in the Republic of Slovenia towards e-materials in teaching the subject Environmental Studies in the first triennium of elementary school. The sample are the teachers that participated in the seminar *e-learning materials for the Subject Environmental Studies in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Year of the 9-year Primary School* from the northeast part of the Republic of Slovenia. The data were collected with a questionnaire. The results show that the respondents graded the selected material as suitable for the development stage of children, and that they include them more frequently in the study process. They also state the impediments that limit a higher usage of them. The majority believe that the virtual world is not more attractive to students than the real world, and that e-materials cannot be a substitute for students' active exploration of natural and social environment.

Keywords: elementary school, Environmental Studies, e-materials, teachers opinions

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THE PROBLEM-BASED TEACHING/LEARNING METHOD OF MATERIAL ENVIRONMENT IN THE URBAN SPACES

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Abstract

Globalized world offers almost an abundance of things to the customer. Therefore, the article focuses on disclosing theoretical and practical problems of development of different urban space objects. The evolution of the user's knowledge about the application of the functional and aesthetic principles of harmony regarding the material environment is the main aspect of the qualitative formation of urban spaces and the main objective of the study. The article discusses theoretical and practical preconditions for harmony in the urban spaces of the designed material environment applying the methods of *alternative, generalized and comparative analysis*. Also, rational and irrational reasons influence techniques on the formation of urban spaces and the creation of the material environment. These techniques are analysed through references, literature and specific case studies. The focus of conducted research, in the context of the perceived traditional context, is on the relationship of objects with the forms of urban spaces and the human being. At a later stage, the focus shifts from the historical origins of the phenomenon onto a discussion about the relationship between modern aesthetics and art.

Keywords: analysed through references, literature and specific case studies

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IMPLEMENTATION OF HEALTH PHYSICAL EDUCATION IN SELECTED SCHOOLS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

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Abstract

The presented study monitors the readiness of physical education teachers for the use of health physical education on pupils in 1st and 2nd grade of elementary schools. A large amount of research in the field of the health physical education highlights the alarming situation in the posture of children at elementary schools. These studies mostly deal with the monitoring of poor posture (scoliosis, hyperkyphosis, hyperlordosis), which occurs more frequently with children who are not sufficiently physically active. The question is whether a mere two hours of physical education a week can adequately compensate for sedentary activities of children outside the school (playing on PC, watching TV). If the amount of hours of "normal" physical education is maintained in its present form, it is necessary to deal more and more with health physical education lessons in "normal" physical education. Research results, however, clearly point to the fact that physical education teachers do not have sufficient qualifications or fail to identify poor posture in children at an elementary school. The teacher should be interested in innovations in physical health education. Teacher achieves success when perfectly informed, educated, professionally capable to think about his task and to apply theoretical knowledge to work with children.

Keywords: poor posture; elementary school; health physical education; qualification identification

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THE PERCEPTION OF PITCH PATTERNS IN RELATION TO PUNCTUATION MARKS IN TEACHER EDUCATION

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Abstract

This research aims to explore the perception of juncture phonemes via shadow listening in connection to punctuation marks by the prospective students of English language education. The subjects are 30 first year students of English Language Education Department, who had no idea about the juncture phonemes listened to 20 sample sentences, numbered from 31 to 50, three times between three second intervals. The sample sentences are given from the voices of native speakers by a computer. After evaluating the pre-test, the students got through a three-hour treatment. Then two weeks later, they are given the same pre-test in the same manner as a post-test. Thus, their perceptual abilities on the perception of juncture phonemes are evaluated by comparing the pre and post-tests. In simple sentences, the success of the participants developed from 39,4% to 52%; the success of the participants in compound sentences developed from 48% to 57%; in complex sentences form 49% to 50%;in compound-complex sentences 3,3% to 72%. In the sentences with no punctuation marks, the rate of success moved positively from 36, 65% to 56, 48%. Apparently, treatment of 3 hours was helpful, but not good enough. In relation to non-existence of a punctuation mark, averagely, the pre-test result is 36.65%, which is raised up in the post-test to 56.48% as a success rate. Overall general success in the pre-test is averagely 36,48%, and 57,83 in the final test

Keywords: juncture phoneme, shadow listening, shadow reading minimal pairs

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GUIDELINES FOR EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION BASED ON SUFFICIENCY ECONOMY PHILOSOPHY

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Abstract

This study aimed to examine the existing situation of educational administration thus developed guidelines based on Sufficiency Economy Philosophy in the five educational extended schools under the Office of Khon Kaen Primary Education Service Area 4. Researchers utilized qualitative method multi-cases design. This study was carried out in two phases involving document analysis, interview and observation to examine the situation of educational administration followed by focus group discussion to develop guidelines. Data was analyzed using content analysis and presented it in descriptive manner. Results from the first phase of the study indicated that stakeholders are meeting together to set the vision and mission which integrated the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy in every administrative aspect in terms of policy. In addition, all the five research schools were implementing the specified mission and vision as they planned. Furthermore, stakeholders participated in planning for academic development and Sufficiency Economy Philosophy was integrated in school curriculum specifically in academic aspect. Improvement in the plan for the following year was conducted through evaluation. The second phase of the findings regarding the guidelines for educational administrators as such administrators and stakeholders should participate in setting policy based on the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy and implement it in school administrative management. Meanwhile the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy should be integrated in school curriculum by having stakeholders worked out the plan for academic development. The implementation of plans should be based on the concepts of saving, worthiness, and optimal outcomes. Finally environmental factors were needed for Sufficiency Economy Philosophy instruction.

Keywords: Sufficiency Economy Philosophy; extended schools guidelines

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ADAPTATION OF TWO YEARS OLD CHILDREN IN PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

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Abstract

The article presents current topic in Czech preschool education. Czech preschool education has been dealing with placing of two years old children to kindergartens. There is economic and social pressure for receiving two years old children into kindergartens, however, contemporary pre-primary education is for children from three until six or seven years old in the Czech Republic. The network of facilities caring and education for children a up to three years of age are missing in the Czech Republic. The article presents results of qualitative research focusing on adaptation of two years old children from teachers' perspective. The methods of questionnaire and observation were used. The research brings findings on kindergarten teachers working with two years old children in Czech kindergartens and how children develop in current conditions.

Keywords: research focusing on adaptation

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ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECT OF TAILOR-MADE FIELD TRIPS ON THE UNDERSTANDING OF PROBLEMS IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Education for sustainable development (ESD), as an extension of environmental education, should be based on knowledge and skills gained during fieldwork. The next step should be the evaluation of such fieldwork and the assessment of its effectiveness in improving students' understanding of sustainable development problems. In this study, we test the impact of field trips on the knowledge shown by bachelor students about sustainable development. Case studies areas were chosen from protected sites with a strong human impact. Ex-ante and ex-post tests were used to measure knowledge progress. The results confirm that field trips significantly contribute to achieving the improvement of sustainable development awareness. Extensive and common ESD requires greater involvement of academic staff and development of new evaluation methods.

Keywords: education for sustainable development; higher education; field trips polad

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MULTIMEDIA IN SCHOOLS – FROM TEACHERS’ AND STUDENTS’ ANGLE

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Abstract

The aim of the paper is to examine the implementation of contemporary multimedia in a school environment from the perspective of the main participants in the teaching process – teachers and students. The results of the research conducted on a sample of 166 teachers and 212 students have confirmed the initial hypothesis that contemporary multimedia are still insufficiently used in a school practice. With regard to teachers, the results of the research show that the largest number of teachers rarely use multimedia, and even when they do, it is usually not for the purposes of education, but for some other purposes. The main reasons behind this are poorly and inadequately equipped schools and insufficiently developed IT competencies of teachers. The results obtained from the surveyed students suggest that students generally have a positive attitude towards multimedia-assisted learning. However, according to them, multimedia are not sufficiently applied, computer rooms are not used to the desired extent, and even they themselves rarely use multimedia to broaden their school knowledge. In the conclusion it has been pointed out that multimedia tool is neither sufficiently nor adequately present in schools, and that their more extensive use requires additional training of teachers in this field, as well as systemic solutions regarding a better material and technical equipment in schools.

Keywords: IT competencies, teaching process, multimedia-assisted learning, school environment

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PIECEWISE GROWTH MIXTURE MODELING: LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG CHILDREN

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Abstract

The piecewise growth mixture model is used in longitudinal studies to deal with non-continuous trajectories and unobserved heterogeneity; however, the covariates may influence the model estimation. The study applied this compound model to depict the language development of children from kindergarten to junior high school. An advanced 3-step method was introduced to control the effects of the covariates on classification. With the publicly available data from the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 1998-99, results supported the 2-period growth trajectory with a 3-group solution best describing the population. Most of the children (normal group, 86% of the population) had fast language growth before Spring Grade One, but slowed down thereafter. The higher ability group had substantial higher initial level but with slower growth compared to the normal group; the lower ability group developed slowly, and was hardly to catch up with the normal group. Furthermore, among the background variables, socio-economic status was able to predict children's grouping in a moderate power.

Keywords: Peicewise growth mixture model; The 3-step method language development

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FACTORS AFFECTING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THAI SECONDARY WORLD CLASS STANDARD SCHOOL

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Abstract

This study aimed to explore the relationship and effect of administrative factors that affecting the effectiveness of Thai World Class Standard Schools. A total of 375 samples were selected by using stratified random sampling. Researchers employed a survey designed questionnaire as research instrument to collect data. Data was analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics such as percentage, mean score, standard deviation and stepwise multiple regression analysis. Findings of the study revealed that all the factors affecting the effectiveness of Thai World Class Standard Schools were at high level. Strategic planning factor was identified as highest mean score whereas teacher professional development factor was found to be the lowest mean score. Consequently, result also revealed that there were four significant predictors toward effectiveness of Thai Secondary World Class Standard Schools. These four significant predictors were the use of information and communication technology (X_8), teacher and staff development (X_6), process management (X_2), and student and stakeholder focus (X_7) which have successful contributed 65.60 percent variance of effectiveness of Thai World Class Standard Schools at 0.01 significance level with multiple correlation coefficient as 0.81. This study is able to promote the importance of factors that affecting effectiveness of Thai World Class Standard Schools.

Keywords: School effectiveness; World Class Standard School; administrative factors

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THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PERCEIVED LEARNING AND STUDENT ATTAINMENT: LECTURES AND PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING SESSIONS

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Abstract

There has been a paradigm shift in higher education towards the utilisation of problem-based learning sessions instead of the traditional lecture format which is considered obsolete by detractors and simply convenient by its advocates. This move coincides with research highlighting that active learning strategies promote profound rather than superficial learning, encourage critical thinking and increase student attainment. However, there are limited studies quantifying the attainment of undergraduate students presented with varied pedagogical techniques, and still fewer that assess student perceptions of their own learning. Over four different teaching sessions (two lectures and two problem-based learning), n=94 students completed a 10 question questionnaire comprised of Likert style questions assessing how advantageous they perceived the teaching strategy implemented to be to their own learning. In addition, n=64 of the students also completed short quizzes at the completion of three out of four of the sessions (one lecture, two problem-based learning sessions) assessing their knowledge of the content covered. There was no significant difference in attainment (quiz score) between the two delivery methods ($p = 0.113$), however there was a significant difference between individual sessions ($p < 0.05$). Student ratings (total questionnaire score) did not differ between the two delivery methods ($p = 0.487$) or between individual sessions ($p = 0.748$). There was a trend for increased attainment in the problem-based sessions and a decreased student rating in these classes. Findings were in agreement with prior work and highlight the need for a varied approach to teaching in the biological sciences alongside the judicious interpretation of student feedback.

Keywords: problem-based learning; lectures; feedback; attainment student perception

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THE EFFECTS OF LANGUAGE PARTNERSHIP (TANDEM) METHODS IN TURKISH TEACHER CANDIDATES ON CULTURAL INTELLIGENCE

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Abstract

The Purpose of this Research: In this study, the effects of language partnership known as TANDEM in Europe on the Turkish teacher candidates' cultural intelligence have been researched.

Method: In this study, pre-test – final test random selection design was used from the real test models. In experiment group, out of classroom language partnership program and in control group, normal procedure were being continued.

The work group of the research is consisted of students who are student teachers at Turkish Language Teaching department at Nevşehir Hacı Bektaş University.

The program was designed as two hour interview sessions twice a week. At the end of the 6 week period, the scale "Cultural Intelligence Scale" by Ilhan and Cetin (2014) with high validity and reliability will be applied on both the experiment and control groups and the data obtained is analyzed through SPSS program. To analyze the data, for frequency, percentage, average and standart deviation Independent Groups T-test, for correlated samples T-test (in case of inaccuracies with normality hypothesis Wilcoxon signed rank test will be used to conduct necessary measures) is used.

Data Collection Tool: A scale with a name of "Cultural Intelligence Scale" which was prepared by Ilhan and Cetin (2014) for the purpose of reliability and validity study has been applied to both experiment and control groups before the application. This scale is consisted of four factors whereby "Cognition", "Metacognition", "Behavior" and "Motivation". The Alpha value of the scale is .70.

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THE ANALYSIS OF THE POSTGRADUATE THESIS WRITTEN ON TEACHING OF HISTORY IN TURKEY

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Abstract

The objective of the study is to scrutinize the theses conducted on instruction of history in Turkey qualitatively and quantitatively. A total of 85 theses conducted in Turkey on instruction of history was analyzed using content analysis. Content analysis techniques of categorical and frequency analyses were utilized to analyze masters' theses and dissertations in the study. Furthermore, the subjects of the theses were identified, and the data were categorized by data coding method and analyzed using descriptive analysis. Study results revealed that the efficiency of different methods and techniques was researched in most of the theses (40%) conducted on the instruction of history course. Another result of the study was the discovery of the gap in literature due to the lack of theses on instruction of history in pre-school, and 1st to 3rd primary school grade levels. It was recommended that further theses could be conducted to essay new uncharted techniques in the field of history to increase academic achievement in history instruction.

Keywords: history education; postgraduate education; thesis written in Turkey

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THE CHARACTERISTICS OF INTELLECTUAL LEADERSHIP: THE ROLES OF RESEARCHER IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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Abstract

Literature on higher education and leadership has been growing rapidly indicating intellectual leadership as a natural function, mission or role of researcher. There is a lack of scientific literature on the specific characteristics of intellectual leadership and the essential aspects of researcher roles in higher education. *The aim* of the research was to describe the conceptual content of “intellectual leadership” in higher education. The following *research questions* were addressed: “What is the scope of processes within the concept of “intellectual leadership”? What are the differences between the concept of “intellectual leadership” and other related concepts such as “intellectual capital”, “academic leadership” and “managerial leadership” in higher education?” The literature review *method* was applied to analyze conceptually the concept of “intellectual leadership” and narrate the descriptive text about this term. Conceptual analysis consisted primarily in breaking down or analyzing concepts into their constituent parts in order to gain knowledge or a better understanding of a particular concept of “intellectual leadership”. *Findings* revealed that intellectual leadership consists of multifunctional roles and is not related to formal administrative or managerial positions. With the growth in administrative demands, it becomes difficult for intellectual leaders to achieve an appropriate balance between leadership, teaching and research activities in higher education. *Conclusions* highlighted that intellectual leadership is a complex concept or phenomenon which does not take place in a vacuum: there are many significant processes and activities related to researcher’s or scientist’s roles within which his/her intellectual leadership is also important. The roles of researcher within the concept of “intellectual leadership” might be seen through activity spheres: mentor represents educational sphere, guardian – moral sphere, enabler – managerial and administrative spheres, and ambassador – political and communication sphere.

Keywords: academic leadership; higher education; intellectual leadership; leader researcher

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MAPPING SCHOOL CULTURE: SEARCHING FOR THE THIRD SPACE

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Abstract

The aim of the paper is to theoretically and empirically analyze the role of space in contemporary school culture and to rethink possibilities to deterritorialize the strictly framed school life. Modern social as well as school space is structured by the encountering of powers, consumerism, media and the ideology of standardization. How to avoid blind acceptance of dominant structures and to create some alternative spaces for a more authentic life at school? The theoretical investigation is based on a post-structural viewpoint regarding creation of space, which is called the third space or the space in-between (Lefebvre, de Certeau, Deleuze and Guattari).

Keywords: school, culture, space, teaching, learning.

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AESTHETIC SENSIBILITY AND TECHNICAL SKILLS OF AN ARCHITECT AS A RESULT OF THE FINE ARTS LEARNING – CURRICULA CHANGES AT THE FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE, SILESIAIAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY IN GLIWICE

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Abstract

Problem Statement: The paper presents the consequences for the architectural profession resulting from the evolution of the process of fine arts teaching on the example of the changing curricula at the Faculty of Architecture, Silesian University of Technology.

Purpose: The curricula in arts subjects will be analyzed, range from the 90 up till now. The changes arised due to new laws and rules on higher education in Poland, adapting it to the requirements of European Union. The research will be carried out also for the results of learning – the architecture adepts and professionals ability of sketching the initial concepts of their projects in relation to their works: constructed buildings. Such ability is often essential for investors. Participant observation of both authors. Analysis of selected law regulations and works by students and graduates of the Faculty of Architecture, Silesian University of Technology.

Findings: Conducted analysis of the changes lead to a number of conclusions about impoverishment of aesthetic sensitivity and artistic skills of students and contemporary graduates, who are handicapped in providing their own design ideas. Currently, students mostly use computer drawings because they have poor ability to create understandable freehand sketches.

Keywords: fine arts teaching programmes, handwritten sketches, architecture student's aesthetic sensitivity

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THE TRANSIMAGINARY AND THE HYMENEUTIC ART

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Abstract

The study is an innovative one because it sets the base, also in Romania, for the transdisciplinary paradigm. It thus contributes to the institution, in the meta-language of the theory of culture/literature/art of new concepts like: the transimaginary (the symbolic and poetic capacity of the artist to describe, as if he had seen them or even more, as if he had created them himself, the worlds beyond), the trans-style (alchemic transcendence of the rhetoric language, as a transgression of persintology to other dimensions of expression of the spirit which let himself "contaminated" by the thirst of idealism by the perfecting of the inaugural/instituting gesture).

Keywords: hymeneutics, hymenology, transimaginary, non/transgression, imagination

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APPLYING EUROPEAN PRACTICES OF ENGAGING EMPLOYERS IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF RUSSIAN HEIS

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Abstract

Currently, the priority trend of the Russian Higher Education System is cooperation between the business community and higher education institutions. We consider the European practices of interaction between universities and potential employers, which are being implemented in the Russian HEIs, within the project “Evaluation of Quality of Cooperation in Education Ecosystem as a Mechanism for Building Professional Competencies - E3M”, that was approved for funding within the European Commission Tempus IV in 2013. The paper focuses on the state of cooperation between Nizhnevartovsk State University and the local business community, considering new market conditions, and offers solutions to the challenges of productive collaboration with potential employers, applying best practices implemented by European partner universities and project consortium members.

Keywords: cooperation, quality of education employers, university

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A SERIOUS GAME DESIGN FRAMEWORK FOR UNDERSTANDING PLAYER-LEARNER'S DECISION MAKING PROCESS

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Abstract

By leveraging the power of engagement and entertainment for learning purposes, serious games are reducing the complexity of real world problems without losing the link to reality. Although many game design frameworks have already been proposed, little is known about how the different game design elements are influencing on the learning outcomes and motivation of a player. In fact, serious game design processes and the theories relating learning are somewhat disconnected. Significantly, there are no proper frameworks to evaluate player-learner's decision making processes during the game playing. Therefore by following a cross-disciplinary research strategy and bibliographical search, this study identifies fourteen factors from psychology, behavioral- and neuroscience disciplines which can potentially influence player-learner's decision making process during the serious game playing. Secondly, according to constructive action research principles, the proposed theoretical framework is tested and four serious games varying learning goals and game designs are evaluated and compared by game designers and researchers according to framework principles. As a result of this multiple case study, some of the theoretical framework factors are well-known for game designers, whereas others are novel and not consciously considered during the game design. It is argued that the proposed framework can make game development more professional and transparent and could reveal (latent) differences between game designs. The framework can help to gain deeper insight in game design choices and provide a better foundation for empirical evaluation of the effectiveness of the serious games.

Keywords: Serious game; Edutainment; Gamification; Game design; Decision making framework development

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THE IMPLEMENTATION OF QUALITY FUNCTION DEPLOYMENT METHOD IN TEACHER SELECTION

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Abstract

The parents which register their children to the school for the first time are forced to choose among teachers and schools. Because it is a decision about the future of their children, they probe into it. In particular, they are forced to decide the teacher selection. Teacher selection consists of the most important part of the school and education quality. Because primary education constitutes the first step of his life for their children which are trained during four years by the same teacher, the parents take many factors in the selection of teachers for their children into consideration. In this study, the quality function deployment method helps transforms parent requirements into teacher characteristics. The importance of parents' requirements was also determined. Thus, it is found which requirements are important. The relationship between the teachers' characteristics for these requirements was demonstrated. In addition, competition analysis which embraces other class teachers were conducted in terms of parents' requirements. The current situation was evaluated according to the desired destination. In short, quality function deployment was determined and a house of quality was established.

Keywords: Parents requirements, primary schools, quality function deployment, teacher, teachers characters

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STEM EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR SCIENCE TEACHERS: OPINIONS AND COMPETENCIES

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Abstract

Today, in the context of the current conditions of economy for the countries, educating the engineers of the future and training individuals who are expert in the field of science is more crucial than ever before. In the center at the study of reforms in the education field in recent years, targeting the integration with the level of K-12, which has composed of the disciplines in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to take part of the configuration of the curriculum and also showing itself in the situation of the country policy is a natural reflection of this situation. So that "education of axis at STEM " statement are emerges even as a slogan in reports prepared by civil society organizations in different fields. Unfortunately, these rhetoric works has follows a different course in practice. Likewise, such an approach, all of the existing elements on education (curriculum, assessment approaches, teacher training programs, etc.) are need to restructure, this situation causes to incremental costs. In this regard, focusing on how to apply under the existing conditions of STEM education is seen as a rational choice. Such a plan of teachers' preferences, competence and thoughts shall be decisive. In this study, organized a nine-day program in order to the science teachers' able to develop specific applications for STEM education and acquisition of competencies to apply them in the classroom. Aim of this study is determination to programs' effect on science teachers' thoughts and competencies about STEM education. The study was carried out on qualitative paradigm. The study groups of the current research are 24 science teachers. The data of the study was collected within "Thoughts Form over STEM" which have developed by researchers and STEM lesson plans developed by science teachers. The teachers were found to be believing that STEM education is needed for improving creativity, problem solving, inquiry and technology-utilization skills in and developing positive attitudes towards these disciplines both before and after the application but more strongly after the application. After the application, the teachers made suggestions for the engineering-based (design-based) science instruction for the adaption of STEM education approach.

Keywords: STEM Education, Interdisciplinary education, science education

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THE INFLUENCE OF SCHOOL CULTURE AND ORGANIZATIONAL HEALTH OF SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS IN MALAYSIA

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Abstract

This study aimed to determine the level of school culture practices by school principals in the national secondary schools in the state of Kedah, Malaysia. The six dimensions of school culture studied were teacher collaboration, unity of purpose, professional development, collegial support, learning partnership and collaborative leadership. The study also looks at the level of teachers' job satisfaction as well as the relationship with the practice of a positive school culture by the national secondary school principals'. The respondents consisted of 385 teachers employed in 22 national secondary schools in the state of Kedah. The data obtained was analyzed using SPSS version 20.0. Descriptive analysis and Pearson Correlation Coefficient were used to analyze the strength of the relationship. The findings of this study revealed that there was a positive correlation between school culture and job satisfaction according to teachers' perceptions. In addition, the school culture was statistically determined to be an important predictor variable of job satisfaction.

Keywords: school culture, job satisfaction, school principals and teachers.

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A STUDY OF TRAINEE-TEACHERS' IMAGE OF PRACTICING TEACHERS AND THEIR ICT EXPECTATIONS

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Abstract

Digital illiteracy is one of the great challenges of education. In our information society an adequate level of digital proficiency is an important requirement and teachers' skills, personality, competence and professional experience are important factors in determining the efficiency of the teaching-learning process. This research has two goals. First we tried to find out what characteristics a "good" and a "bad" teacher would have based on the trainee-teachers' own experience as secondary school students. We also wanted to know what they think about the social roles of teachers; about the importance of native language in education; what expectations they have regarding the computer skills and competences of secondary school teachers; and what experience they have regarding the use of ICT equipments in the education process. The respondents were first-year trainee-teachers from different fields of technology. The questionnaire contained twenty groups of questions. The answers to the open questions about teachers were grouped in four categories: professional expectations, preparedness, teaching skills, personality traits and behaviour. We developed four statistically relevant factors to determine the level of teachers' computer skills, and we used a group of questions containing ten items to examine the experience of trainee-teachers regarding the use of ICT in education. Our study reveals the situation of Hungarian vocational training from Romania, which is a key factor to high quality teacher training.

Keywords: teacher image; computer skills and competences trainee teachers

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TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONAL CITIZENSHIP BEHAVIOUR: A CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP MODEL

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Abstract

This research aimed to examine the direct, indirect, and overall influences as well as validate the appropriateness of the causal relationship model of teachers' organizational citizenship behaviour under the Office of Khon Kaen Secondary Educational Service Area 25. A total of 300 teachers were selected as research samples utilizing multistage random sampling technique. A survey quantitative research design was employed using questionnaire as an instrument to collect data thus developed evident from theories. The instrument comprised of five sections including demographic factors, factors influencing organizational citizenship behaviour namely job satisfaction, organizational commitment and servant leadership and organizational citizenship behaviour. Data was analyzed by using the mPlus program. Results of the study indicated that causal relationship model of teachers' organizational citizenship behaviour is appropriately fit in accordance with the statistic values ($\chi^2 = 76.461$, $\chi^2/df = 1.274$, CFI = 0.994, TLI = 0.990, SRMR = 0.027 and RMSEA = 0.030). In addition, result of the study revealed that all the three independent variables have significant direct influence toward organizational citizenship behaviour. Organizational commitment ($\beta = 0.748$) and servant leadership ($\beta = 0.195$) have positive, significant and direct influence but job satisfaction ($\beta = -0.303$) has negative, significant and direct influence on organizational citizenship behaviour at 0.01 level. School administrators should emphasize on servant leadership, organization commitment and job satisfaction in order to have overall influence on organizational citizenship behaviour.

Keywords: Organizational citizenship behaviour; job satisfaction; organizational commitment; servant leadership

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PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS INVOLVED IN LABORATORY ACTIVITIES DRAWING ON ALL THE APPROACHES ARE DESIGNING AN APPLICATION: WHICH APPROACH? WHY?

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Abstract

The main focus of the current study is to determine what kind of process will be designed, which approaches will be adopted and how this process will be evaluated by pre-service teachers having been involved in applications based on all the laboratory approaches while planning a laboratory process for themselves. The study was carried out on the basis of qualitative paradigm. The study group of the research consists of 40 pre-service science teachers. The first stage of the process (14 weeks) started with a theoretical presentation introducing laboratory approaches and was conducted with the guidance of five experiment manuals designed on the basis of different laboratory approaches ranging from confirmatory laboratory approach to inquiry-based laboratory approach by the researcher. In the second stage of the study having lasted 14 weeks, first the participants were asked to examine the units and objectives of *Teaching Program of Science Course* and then to select a laboratory approach and set the objectives to design an activity manual. The pre-service teachers worked for 5 weeks to determine the objectives, appropriate approach and to design an experiment manual in line with the selected approach. Then, each group conducted the laboratory class under the guidance of their experiment manual they developed for each week. The data of the study were collected within two periods through the difficulties experienced, skills attained through the process, reflective texts presenting course-related suggestions and semi-structured interviews. It was determined that the students experienced some difficulties in the selection of the laboratory approach for the given topic and design of experiment manuals; they preferred inquiry-based laboratory activities as they are believed to be more effective and administration of experiment manuals to peers is believed to be conducive to professional development.

Keywords: Science laboratory, laboratory approaches, pre-service science teachers

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MORE INTERACTIVE HISTORICAL VIGNETTES

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Abstract

One of the main components of science education, science literacy entails possessing the conception of the nature of science (NOS). One way of teaching the NOS is to make use of the history of science. Interactive historical vignettes (IHV) that are based on the history of science, through which students can find many opportunities for discussion and that are prepared on the basis of the life stories of scientists can be used as an effective technique in the instruction of the NOS. The purpose of the current study is to see how effective enhanced with concept cartoons and visuals are in teaching of the NOS and in contributing to students' scientific thinking and argumentation.

Keywords: Nature of science, Interactive historical vignettes, Concept cartoons concept school

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WHAT IS MATHEMATICS? PRE-SERVICE MATHEMATICS TEACHERS' ANSWERS IN THEIR SHORT FILMS

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to determine how pre-service elementary mathematics teachers define mathematics in their short films. Study is designed as a qualitative study. In order to achieve the purpose, third grade elementary mathematics teacher education students were asked what mathematics is. They wanted to answer this question in short films that they made. Ten short films that were produced by different groups were analyzed according to which perspectives they mention about mathematics, which daily life relations they make and how they use mathematical language in these films. Results reveal that pre-service teachers define mathematics from different perspectives. They form various relations between mathematics and daily life. Their mathematical language use differs according to how they define mathematics.

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A DESIGN OF GIFTED PERSONALITY TRAITS SCALE

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Abstract

This study aimed to design the “gifted personality traits scale”. The dimensions of this scale are determined in the following personality traits: motivation, emotional stability, positive self esteem, internal control and deep learning style. A scale of (62) items was applied on (54) gifted students of the secondary level in order to extract the psychometric properties. The statistical analysis revealed (45) distinct items. The indicative correlation coefficient of the scale validity (by using split half) reached (0.881). As for the reliability, the alpha coefficient rate of the internal consistency reached (0.873). At last we consider this scale as a valid tool to identifying gifted students at Algerian secondary school.

Keywords: Scale- gifted- Traits- Students.

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INCREASING THE EFFICIENCY OF MOTOR LEARNING WITH THE HELP OF VIDEO ANALYSIS IN DOWNHILL SKIING

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Abstract

The paper deals with the problem of increasing the efficiency in motor learning with the help of video analysis. The text approaches the system providing a feedback in the process of downhill skiing skills acquisition. The platform influencing the movement notion introduces innovative means of the acquisition of essential downhill skiing skills in ski courses organized by the University of Hradec Kralove, the Department of PE and Sport. The paper is focused on the selected results of the survey realized by an enquiring method, which was aimed to find out opinions on a monitored platform among 131 students specializing in PE and sport in 2010 – 2015. The research results indicate that the use of video analysis in providing feedback has a positive effect on the process of downhill skiing skills acquisition. Positive opinions of the majority of respondents showed that the use of video analysis, combined with verbal correction, is an effective support within the downhill skiing practice. It is an efficient platform accelerating results in learning downhill skiing technique. However, conclusions also point to some negative aspects that can accompany the use of video analysis in the field of psychology of learning, e. g. feeling of demotivation after the video analysis.

Keywords: Downhill skiing; video analysis; motor learning

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INVESTIGATING KEY FUNCTIONS OF HAND MOVEMENTS BY INDIVIDUALS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS: IMPROVING TEACHING PRACTICES IN SPECIAL EDUCATION THROUGH RESEARCH

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Sofia Chamonikolaou,

Abstract

Research is still ongoing with regard to types of exploratory movement by active touch and its key functions in individuals with visual impairment. The aim of the present study was to describe and identify different types of exploratory movement performed by individuals with visual impairment in their exploration of geometric shapes. A total of twelve participants were asked to explore a number of simple and complex geometric shapes. The research design consisted of two research phases. In the first phase, the participants were asked to describe and, if possible, to identify the properties of each shape. In the second phase, the participants were asked to describe their hand movements during active exploration. The findings indicated that the participants utilized different movements to extract the featural and global properties of the shapes. It was also observed that some patterns of exploratory movement were present in all of the participants' strategies, which indicated issues of laterality. Finally, the research highlighted that by observing patterns of exploratory movement, educators of students with visual impairment can determine which strategies may be worth exploring with a view to their adoption in teaching practices and instruction.

Keywords: visual impairment, active touch, geometric shapes, think -aloud protocols, laterality, teaching practices

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GAMFIYING ICT COURSE: QUANTITATIVE RESULTS FROM AN IMPLEMENTATION

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Abstract,

Gamification as a use of game mechanics and dynamics in non-game contexts also is used for enhancing students' experiences and providing their engagement in learning environment in education. This study aims to investigate the effect of gamification on student engagement in Internet Communication Technology Literacy (ICTL) course carried out in a real classroom. Participants were 37 primary prospective teachers. Engagement survey was implemented before and after the ICTL course to investigate the effect of gamification on student engagement. The results indicate that students' engagement evaluations were affected positively in all dimensions. Particularly, positive perceptions were addressed in the quest and point dimensions of gamification dynamics. Moreover, a consistency is noticed between the evaluation scores of engagement dimensions and gamification dynamics. Suggestions for educators consider using gamification dynamics were also included in the study.

Keywords: gamification engagement dynamics

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TECHNOLOGICAL PEDAGOGICAL CONITENT KNOWLEDGE OF PROSPECTIVE MATHEMATICS TEACHERS REGARDING EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT

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Abstract

The ‘technology integrated assessment process’ is an innovative method to capture and determine students’ understanding of mathematics. This assessment process is claimed to provide a singular dynamism for teaching and learning activities and it is also claimed as one of the most important elements of instructional parts in the educational system. In this sense, this study aims to investigate technological pedagogical content knowledge (TPACK) of prospective [mathematics teachers](#) regarding the ‘evaluation’ and ‘assessment’ process. To achieve this aims, the method of qualitative research was conducted with 20 teachers. Video records and lesson plans were collected and Mathematics Teacher TPACK Development Model was utilized to reveal themes and key features of the data. The findings revealed, although the majority of teachers stated that they would like to use technology integrated tools in the assessment and evaluation processes, they strongly preferred to use traditional assessment and evaluation techniques; such as, pen and paper activities, multiple-choice questions in virtual environments, etc. So, the evidence suggests that teachers could not appropriately accomplish to use the technological assessment process in order to reveal students’ understanding of mathematics. As seen from the lectures of teachers, they received that technology would be suitable for evaluation and assessment but in a limited

Keywords: Technological pedagogical content knowledge, prospective [mathematics teachers](#)

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EFFECTS OF KAYSERI MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION (MONE) STEM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ON DEVELOPMENT OF TEACHERS' KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS RELATED TO STEM

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Abstract

Many developed or developing countries including the USA, Britain, China, South Korea and Japan are conducting studies to increase their citizens' interest in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields and educate STEM-literate individuals. These studies include STEM-related curricula and professional development programs to enhance knowledge and skills of teachers who will implement them. In the last five years, Turkey has also been following these developments closely and carrying out activities to this end. One example of these studies is in-service training activities conducted by Kayseri STEM Center affiliated with Kayseri Directorate of National Education (MoNE). The aim of this study was to find out the effects of Kayseri MoNE STEM Centre on teachers' Professional development. It was implemented as a special case study. Study data were collected by means of semi-structured interviews, field notes and semi-structured observation tools. Results of the study revealed that Kayseri Professional Development Program of Ministry of National Education has an enhancing effect on STEM-related knowledge and skills and implementation of these skills in their classes.

Keywords: STEM approach; professional development; in-service teacher training

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VIEWS OF 6-8TH GRADERS TOWARD THE CONCEPT OF TOLERANCE

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to determine the views of secondary school students toward the concept of tolerance. For that aim 3-point Likert-Type Tolerance Scale including 26 questionnaire items was developed by researchers. The population of the study includes 476 students in five secondary school within Diyarbakir in the 2011-2012 academic year. Data is analyzed in terms of grade level and gender variables. In addition to the statistical values such as mean and standard deviation, independent groups t-test and one way ANOVA are used to analyze the data. According to the findings, students point out that role of the family is great in the upbringing of tolerant people. They think that their parents value themselves. They indicate that they value other people's feelings and thoughts. They point out that the role of education, especially teachers, family, religious and social environment is high in upbringing of tolerant people. Besides, no statistically significant difference is found among the views of the students in terms of grade variable. But, statistically significant difference was found in favor of male students in terms of gender variable. Teachers can create good examples with their democratic attitudes and behaviors in the classroom in the upbringing of tolerant people.

Keywords: Secondary school, tolerance and perception.

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FINANCING OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR – A LEXICAL ANALYSIS OF THE TITLE KEY WORDS

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Abstract

The article describes a partial lexical analysis of the *Programme Declaration of the Czech Republic Government*. The aim of this paper is to reveal the most common collocations reflecting the topical issues of the financing and development of the public sector, to depict the language typical of this field, and thus provide specialists in this field with corresponding vocabulary in the English language.

Keywords: financing; public sector

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PRE-SERVICE PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS' SPATIAL ABILITIES

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Abstract

Spatial abilities are used in many aspects of everyday life, thus developing these abilities should be one of the most important goal of Mathematics Education. These abilities should be developed starting with early school years, thus pre-school and primary school teachers have an important role in setting the foundation of these abilities. A teacher can successfully develop students' competencies/abilities if she/he possess those competencies/abilities. Thus evaluating and developing pre-service primary school teachers' spatial abilities is an important goal of their training. This paper presents a research on pre-service primary school teachers' spatial abilities. Students were tested using an online problem sheet and the results were quantitatively and qualitatively evaluated, trying to identify some common misconceptions. The results show the necessity of developing these students' spatial abilities. Based on the results, some hands-on activities and paper based problem types are proposed for developing students' spatial abilities.

Keywords: Spatial ability, pre-service primary school teachers, Mathematics Education, teacher training

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EVALUATION OF E-LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES WITH VIKOR METHOD

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Abstract

Developing technologies have a major contribution to the advancement of the education system. Now we can easily reach information worldwide via the internet. We quickly reach information with more choices through the development of computers, smart phones and tablets and other tools. It takes seconds to reach information we want where we want it. Similarly, education and teaching become more important day by day. Intellectual capital draws attention as a decisive factor increasing competition. For this reason, countries have allocated more budget to develop intellectual capital now. It is possible to use different technologies for e-learning programs which offer time flexibility. In this study, e-learning technology used in universities was evaluated. The most appropriate technology for university students was determined by applying the VIKOR technique which is one of the multi-criteria decision-making techniques. Lecturers at the university were consulted for determining and evaluating criteria and alternatives. According to determined criteria, it is aimed at choosing e-learning technology which is the closest to ideal solution among existing alternatives.

Keywords: Education, e-learning, multi-criteria decision-making techniques, technology, VIKOR

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PRE-SERVICE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS' UNDERSTANDINGS AND DIFFICULTIES ABOUT THE PRISMS

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Abstract

The aim of this study was to investigate the pre-service elementary school teachers' conceptual understandings and difficulties about the prisms. There were a total of eighty-eight senior pre-service elementary school teachers involved in this study. Twenty of the participants were male and sixty eight of them were female. The researcher collected the data by using a test including fifteen questions that were about the definition of a prism, properties of prism, comparisons and rotations. After the collection of the data, the researcher examined the data with descriptive statistical procedure. According to the results of the study, the pre- service elementary school teachers did not have adequate content knowledge regarding prisms and other 3D geometric figures. Especially, the knowledge of prism definition of the participants misled them in the selection of some 3D figures. 74% of the participants did not identify the prisms among 3D figures including several convex prisms, a cone and pyramid. Likewise, the study showed that the participants confused prisms with pyramids. A great majority of the participants did not perceive cube, square and rectangular prisms as polygonal prisms. They had some misconceptions about the understanding of polygonal prism. In addition, most of the participants had some misunderstandings when they named the prism with its position. The findings of the current study imply that the elementary school teacher preparation programs should include a geometry course that offers teaching and learning activities regarding 3D figures and their properties.

Keywords: Prisms; definitions; 3D; pre-service elementary teachers; misconceptions; difficulties

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ACTUAL STATE OF THE POSTURE IN CHILDREN IN CZECH REPUBLIC

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Abstract

The aim of the study is monitoring of actual state of the posture at schoolchildren in Czech Republic. A large number of recent studies shows declining trend of application of physical activities at children attending basic schools all over the world. We may assume, that factors which attract children's attention more than everyday physical activity are significantly helping to children's inactivity. As these factors we may understand watching TV, playing video and PC games, internet and other technological achievements of the new era. The other factor which negatively affect the posture is eating habit. Surely we may assume that children with obesity will have changes in posture more likely than children who are not obese. The results of our study clearly point to the fact that basic school children don't have good posture. At children with obesity there was observed higher appearance of the defective posture and very defective posture in comparison with children of normal weight. We also found that children who are less physically active have higher appearance of poor posture than children who do exercise. Children who were doing physical activities three times a week, had perfect posture. Almost 83% of the children who were not doing any sport or were doing some exercise just once a week was detected defective posture or even very defective posture. Prevention of this problem may be higher number of lessons of the Physical Education in schools or linking state institutions, schools, families and sport clubs which would ensure sufficient amount of physical activity during children's daily program. One possible solution might be the introduction health physical education into primary schools.

Keywords: posture; obesity; physical activity; physical education; health physical education primary school

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EVALUATION OF TEACHING ENVIRONMENTS CREATED BY PRE-SERVICE SCIENCE TEACHERS

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to examine teaching environments that prepared and performed by pre-service science teachers in order to determine characteristics of these environments and conformity of these environments with referred to argument driven inquiry. In this context, teaching practices performed by the participants were observed and recorded for 10 weeks. Data obtained from 31 followed groups were examined with content analysis. According to results of the analysis, it can be said that all of the participating groups defined the concepts and partially made statements to reveal relationships between the concepts, while evaluation between concepts could rarely be made by means of activities that allow reaching a common judgment. Considering the teaching environments referred to argument driven inquiry, it can be suggested that revealing the relationships between concepts and performing the evaluation process is more appropriate than making definitions of the concepts. Also it was found that throughout univocal-descriptive dialogues which defining dialogues based on teacher-student interaction often took place in practices, whereas dialogic interaction was not as often despite being desirable in today's science classes. In the case of interaction only between teachers and students, it is rather difficult to create a rich argument driven inquiry environment. In addition, it was found that triadic dialogues which based on initiate-respond-evaluate/feedback (IRE/IRF) often were used during practice, pre-service teachers finished the chain at that point not asking follow-up questions for eliciting in-depth knowledge. It is essential that teachers need to acquire professional efficiency in this domain, so various courses to improve pre-service teachers' skills and knowledge in this domain could be included in curriculum as compulsory or elective courses. Moreover, it could be useful to revise common compulsory courses of education at the undergraduate level so that pre-service teachers can develop their skills and perform practices in relation with these skills.

Keywords: argument driven inquiry, teaching practices, pre-service science teacher

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VIEWS OF PROSPECTIVE TEACHERS FROM NORTH CYPRUS AND ENGLAND TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT: A COMPARATIVE CASE STUDY

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Abstract

The aim of the study is to determine the views of prospective teachers (Geography, Classroom, Pre-school, Guidance and Counselling) in Northern Cyprus. In this study, the qualitative research method was used in contrast to the methods used in older studies. The semi-structured interview form; which is composed of five questions was developed for the study by the researchers and was applied to 201 prospective teachers from North Cyprus and England. The data was gathered in the form of an open ended survey. Assessments of validity and reliability of the form were carried out on the form. The content analysis was employed. The study determined that receiving environmental studies alone is not sufficient enough to explain the positive views of prospective teachers towards a sustainable environment. The study was carried out bearing in mind this perspective, considering that the views of prospective teachers, socioeconomic status and culture also affected the positive outcome of sustainable environmental studies. This study is the first as well as being an extensive study aimed at identifying the views of candidate teachers in Northern Cyprus towards a sustainable environment, while the results of this study will make a contribution to the format of environmental studies offered in universities, and will help students to identify how they might approach the act of conservation of the environment.

Keywords: Environmental education, North Cyprus, socioeconomic status, qualitative method,

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NEW LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS FOR STREET CHILDREN

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Abstract

Despite many efforts and programs meant to improve the life and the access to education for children in need, the number of children living or working on the street is not decreasing. In order to rehabilitate and to reintegrate this category of children in society, we conducted studies in order to understand their needs and perceptions better. The tests we performed proved that the needs of a child who lives or lived on the street are totally different from those of other children and also there perception of the architectural environment also. The aim of this article is to present the tests which were performed on four categories of children: children who were in an orphanage, children who are in a centre, street children and children from common families; and the results that prove the necessity of creating special learning and rehabilitation environments for children who live or lived on the street.

Keywords: children in need, learning environment, institutionalized children, orphanages;

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EXAMINATION OF RELATION BETWEEN PERSONALITY TYPES AND DEMOGRAPHIC PROPERTIES OF ACADEMIC STAFF

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Abstract

Universities are top institutions among education organizations. The personality types of academicians employed in these organizations are very important in terms of their own development and development of students they educate. The aim of this study is to examine the relation between personality types of academic staff and gender, mother education level and father education level variables. The research model is relational scanning. While determining the research group, teleological sampling method was selected among non-random sampling methods. The research was conducted through data obtained from 67 academic staff employed in different universities of Turkey in 2011-2012 academic year. As data collection tool, "Holland vocational preference inventory" and "personal information form" were used. Chi square (χ^2) test was performed in order to determine whether personality types of academic staff vary according to gender, mother education level and father education level. It was observed that the personality types of academic staff do not demonstrate significant difference according to gender. ($\chi^2= 1.01$ and $p>0.05$) It was observed that personality types of academic staff have significant relation with mother education level ($\chi^2 = 9.29$ and $p<0.05$) and father education level. ($\chi^2 = 9.79$ ve $p<0.05$) In line with the research findings it was observed that academic staff has social personality type containing helpfulness, socially cooperative, sincerity, patient, etc. properties. The relation of academic staff personality types with mother and father education levels emphasize the importance of parent education in determination of preferences and interests. Related with determination of academic staff personality types, their relation with variables such as attitude towards profession, academic success, etc. can also be checked.

Keywords: Holland vocational preference inventory, academic staff, demographic properties

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INTERNET BASED LEARNING FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF EMPLOYEES: STUDY ON ANALYSIS OF AWARENESS, USE CASE AND EFFECTIVENESS

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Abstract

The increasing importance of knowledge, rapid developments in information and communication technologies caused changes on habits in the field of work, academic, social lives and so on. Education is one of these areas. Today, information technology products and internet have become indispensable components of the education. Also different educational terms come into our lives such as e-learning, mobile learning, r-learning. People, have the chance to improve themselves by participating in online trainings without the constraints of time and space. In addition to this, especially corporate companies are providing trainings to their employees through learning management systems contributes to the improvement of its employees in both the professional and technical issues. However, awareness of these developments, usage of internet and information technologies and attitude towards the new learning methods are interesting topics. This study aims to find out results such as how and how much individuals benefit from internet and available technological devices for their education, in particular do they use mobile devices, are aware of them and what their opinions about new education methods are. Within the scope of this study, we used a questionnaire consisting of two different types of questions as multiple choices and five point Likert scale to learn demographic information, internet and computer usage in individual education and attitudes towards internet based and mobile education. For the internal and external validity of the questionnaire the expert opinion is taken and questionnaire is applied to the five people who represent the sample of the study as well as possible then with the feedbacks questionnaire is revised. The study group includes 34 people use computers and the internet, work in different sectors, are randomly chosen. The study results will be shared in full text. For the analysis of the questionnaire frequency, percentage and certain statistical methods are used.

Keywords: Internet based learning; mobile learning; learning methods employees

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AN ANALYSIS ON POLITICITY OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

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Abstract

A historical construction in education (learning, teaching, etc.) is seen mostly as an independent process of the actor who built it. Education is seen only "pedagogical / technical" as a field and examined without the actors who built it. This study aims to analyze the education field in context of the actors. The paper is a scanning survey that made with document analysis. The study group is four parties, AKP, CHP, MHP and HDP, that passed 10% electoral threshold in general elections of parliament in Turkey in June 7, 2015. The study data was collected from documentation which the election manifesto of the parties. One of the content analysis species, critical discourse analysis was used in the paper. It was collected the statements relating to education in the election manifesto of the parties. Educational discourse of the parties have been resolved in the context "political identity". In the paper are found that the parties have different discourses such as "quality education for human development, qualified community"(AKP), "reform in education for restoration" (CHP), "social repair and peaceful future for education" (MHP) and "education for great humanity" (HDP).

Keywords: analysis species, critical discourse analysis

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DETERMINING AND COMPARING THE SCIENCE PROCESS SKILL LEVELS OF 5TH AND 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

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Abstract

Science process skills are basic skills that facilitate learning, help students to acquire necessary knowledge and methods to perform an inquiry, and develop a sense of responsibility for their own learning (Çepni, Ayas, Jonhso and Turgut, 1997). According to Lind (1998), scientific process skills are thinking skills that persons use in creating knowledge, reflecting on a problem and formulating the results (Tan & Temiz, 2003). The aims of this study are to determine and compare the levels of scientific process skills of 5th and 8th grade students. The skills which were examined specifically for this research are as following: Observation, classification, measurement, recording data, establishing space and number relationships, predicting, identifying variables, interpreting data, inference, hypothesizing, modelling, and experimenting.

Keywords: specifically for this research are as following

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AN ANALYSIS OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL STRUCTURE IN TERMS OF HUMOR ELEMENTS IN ILLUSTRATED STORY BOOKS FOR CHILDREN AGED 3 TO 6

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Abstract

Being happy and laughing are indispensable elements of human life even under the hardest conditions. These actions occur in children spontaneously and smoothly – unlike the case in adults. Children get happy and laugh owing to many details that adults sometimes hardly understand. One of the resources that make children happy are illustrated story books, which should be a part of their life in all stages of childhood. In addition to many other benefits, illustrated story books provide children with the opportunity to have fun and start integrating humor into their lives.

Keywords: part of their life in all stages of childhood.

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A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE METHOD OF DIALOGIC READING BY A MOTHER AND A CHILD

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Abstract

Dialogic Reading is a reading activity carried out by adults and children together based on active interaction in order to support the development of language and early literacy skills in preschool children. This method helps children to expand their vocabulary and has positive impacts on reading skills in the first year of primary education and reading comprehension skills in the future.

Keywords: their vocabulary and has positive

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STUDENTS' REPRESENTATION ABOUT ACMEOLOGY AND PROFESSIONAL BECOMING

Alla Grigorivna Mikhaylova,

Abstract

The objective of the paper is to research how the students define their future practice through analysis of their representations of acmeology and its influence on professional becoming. Two methods of the research were used: theoretical analysis and diagnostic tests. The results indicate that students share representations about acmeology and their future professional becoming. There were indications of differences according to students' type of course. Two methods of the research were used: theoretical analysis and diagnostic tests. The meaning of a professionalism and the association of acmeology and professional stereotype may explain the social representation of graduate students as good specialists.

Keywords: indications of differences according

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STORIES FROM THE SKY: A CASE STUDY OF MALAYSIAN FLIGHT ATTENDANTS' PERCEPTIONS ON AN AVIATION ENGLISH COURSE

Darshini Nadarajan,

Abstract,

Aviation safety is certainly not a laughing matter. Aircraft accidents such as Avianca Flight 052 and United Flight 2860 were a direct result of miscommunication (Ragan, 1997). In fact, with the recent aviation disasters such as the missing Malaysian Airlines Flight MH370 and the airplane crashes of Malaysian Airlines Flight MH 17 and AirAsia Flight 8501, aviation safety has never been more crucial than now. Helmreich and Foushee (1993, p. 21) suggest that the “theme of these cases is human error resulting from failures in interpersonal communication”. In light of this, it is imperative to revisit the English training courses conducted by airline companies. This qualitative study examines an Aviation English training course organised by an airline company in Malaysia and explores the perceptions of five flight attendants’ towards the course content. The findings show that the flight attendants favoured content that showcased the instructor’s knowledge, had relevance to their career, provided adequate depth and provided a platform for career advancement. It also suggests some changes to further enhance the course content.

Keywords: course organised by an airline company

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PEDAGOGIC FORMATION EDUCATION: OPINIONS AND EXPECTATIONS OF THE CANDIDATES ON THE ROAD TO THE TEACHER PROFESSION

Zafer ibrahimođlu,

Abstract,

Many different applications were used on teacher training during the historical process in Turkey. One of these applications is pedagogic formation training. Only a quota for 50 thousand teachers is defined for the education year 2014-2015; and thousands of new teachers/ candidates from different branches were trained. This table reveals clearly that formation training on the subjects related to teacher training and assignment policies and the teachers graduated from such training.

The fundamental aim of this research is to express the opinions and expectations of the teacher candidates – having been trained on formation training certificate program defined above in brief- related to formation training and afterward;

- On what grounds should the students prefer the pedagogic formation certificate program?
- What are the expectations of the students from this certificate program?
- How did the students design their career plans after the training?
- Do they think that the education given in this training would be sufficient for their teacher professional life?
- What are their expectations for the future? (Do they believe that they would become teachers?)

This study is designed and planned to be applied on qualitative research procedure. The participants of the research are 12 teacher-candidates being trained at the pedagogic formation training certificate program at a state university in Istanbul. In the study, semi structured interview is used as the data collection method; and content analysis technique shall be used for data analysis.

Keywords: Formation, teaching, professional career.

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A HOLISTIC MODEL OF SELF-REGULATED LEARNING

Leonor Adriana Cárdenas-Robledo,
Alejandro Peña-Ayala,

Abstract,

Due to the emergence of new technologies and the dissemination of classroom and online learning courses, it is necessary that learners know how to adopt self-regulated learning (SRL) practices during their learning activities to take advantage of educational contents and improve the way they acquire domain knowledge. Thus, the purpose of this work is to describe a conceptual proposal that shapes a holistic viewpoint of SRL processes through the integration of diverse models of SRL with metacognitive strategies. Such strategies are targeted to be applied by learners during their cognitive activity and behavior at learning, as well as their interaction with the surroundings. It is thought, that our proposal could contribute learners to become aware and be more responsible of their own learning processes in a self-sufficient manner.

Keywords: models of SRL with metacognitive strategies

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BETWEEN SOCIOLOGICAL THEORY AND PRACTICE: EXPERIENCE OF INTEGRATION IN UNIVERSITY INTERSHIP

Marco Acorinti,

Abstract

The paper presents a reflection on the integration of sociology and social service within a degree course taught by the Faculty of Sociology of Sapienza - University of Rome. In particular, it deepens the experience of instructional design of the course (with emphasis in the change from the Ministerial Decree 3 November 1999, n. 509, to those provided for under Ministerial Decree 22 October 2004 n. 270) and the experience of designing the training for social workers and for sociologists (or other experts of social policies), students to which it was possible to access the course master.

Keywords: possible to access the course master.

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AS AN EXPERT IN CHILD PROTECTION - FORMAL CO-OPERATION OR COLLABORATIVE LEARNING AND EXPERTISE?

Ilkka Uusitalo,

Abstract,

My study concerns social workers' work-based learning in child protection and their experienced needs for develop their expertise in the field. Further, I will examine how theory and practice are integrated in child protection practices and how social workers' expertise is developing along their working experiences. The study is cross-disciplinary. The processes are examined by using the Critical Incident Learning research tradition. The data is gathered by asking social workers to write descriptions of significant situations and interviewing them. Child welfare social workers in Finland are educated through scientific training, which will give the formal qualifications for them. In general, an expert is a person who is expected to have in-depth information in the field and who is capable of solving difficult and challenging problems. Yet, the practice and empirical evidence have shown that the development of an expert is not reached by taking part in a long theoretical training. It is not either a collection of individual characteristics and abilities but the work experience needs to be an essential part of the education, as well as participating in the work practices of the community of experts (Wenger 1998). Expertise has been studied from the perspectives of information retrieval processes, production of knowledge and as a process of participation (Hakkarainen, Palonen & Paavola, 2002).

Keywords: to be an essential part of the education, as well

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POLICIES OF CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION IN TURKEY AND FRANCE: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

Seyfettin Arslan,

Abstract,

France where the concept of citizenship has been matured in terms of its modern meaning has become a source of inspiration for many countries. Especially it can be said that the revolution that took place in 1789 brought a new dimension to the policies and concept of citizenship. It was observed that the concept of citizenship emerging in the modern sense affected especially the citizenship policies of newly established nation-states deeply. One of these countries was Turkish Republic which is like the successor of the Ottoman State. In this respect, it can be said that Turkey got the mature form of the citizenship concept exactly from France.

Keywords: these countries was Turkish Republic

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INVESTIGATING THE IDEAL TEACHERS' QUALIFICATIONS BASED ON REPERTORY GRID TECHNIQUE: A PHENOMENOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Şenol Sezer, Ordu University, Faculty of Education, Ordu/Turkey

Abstract

Purpose: The purpose of this study is to reveal school administrators' cognitive constructs related to ideal teachers' qualifications.

Method: In this study, the phenomenological approach was used to determine the ideal teachers' qualifications. The study was conducted on 24 school administrators working in the Giresun and Ordu city centres during 2015-2016 academic year. Criterion sampling technique was used to determine the study group.

Problem: Teacher quality has long been an important issue for parents, educators, and policymakers. Phenomenological patterns aim to put out the facts that stored in mind structure of individuals. With this respect the most important thought in phenomenological studies is to try to understand their meaning structures and intentions by looking from perspective of each single individual.

Findings: As a result of analysis, school administrators have produced 240 valid cognitive constructs related to ideal teachers' qualifications. The cognitive constructs were analysed and then similar constructs were classified. After the classification eight main construction groups were determined. The main construction groups are namely, (i) personal characteristics ($\eta=51$, %21,2); (ii) professional competency ($\eta=45$, %18,7); (iii) organisational commitment ($\eta=35$, %14,6); (iv) professional commitment ($\eta=27$, %11,2); (v) openness to development ($\eta=26$, %10,8); (vi) student-centeredness ($\eta=22$, %9,2); (vii) collaboration/ coordination ($\eta=20$, %8,3); (viii) communication skills ($\eta=14$, %5,8).

Conclusion: Considering the cognitive constructs of school administrators related to ideal teachers' qualifications it can be said that the school administrators give more priority to "personal characteristics", "professional competency", and "organisational commitment" for ideal teaching.

Keywords: Qualification, teacher, administrator, cognitive constructs.

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CALCULATION OF NET WAGE

Sarka Hubackova,

Abstract

Calculation of net wage is the basic procedure, that already each HR system operating in the Czech legal frame must know. Czech law is in determining net wage relatively strict. This is due to the fact that the private nature of the labour law is affected by public institutions – income tax and social security and health insurance. The article attempts to summarize this calculation with the emphasis put on the specifics of the Czech legislation.

Keywords: fact that the private nature

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DEVELOPING TEACHERS' EFFICACY TOWARDS MATHEMATICS AND NUMERACY AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR LEARNERS WITH DISABILITIES

Bronwyn Frances Ewing,

Abstract

Understanding how experienced teachers' efficacy in mathematics and numeracy develops and can be strengthened through professional development (PD) programs is an important yet often neglected feature of efforts that seek to improve their learning through the sometimes difficult transition from PD to classroom contexts. Much less understood are classrooms where students with intellectual impairment and with additional disabilities, struggle to learn essential mathematics and numeracy concepts and skills. Understanding how teachers' efficacy can be strengthened in this context is much more challenging.

Keywords: strengthened in this context is much more challenging.

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MIDAS FACTOR STRUCTURE ANALYSIS FOR ROMANIAN 12-14 Y.O. STUDENTS

Sanda Bordei,

Abstract,

Nowadays education plays more than ever a key role for the economical development of a country and also for its citizens`life quality, therefore teachers and policy makers become more and more essential actors at the social level . Due to the latest and quickest technological and informational advances , many voices claim that the teaching and learning process in schools should be changed from a traditional one to different or multiple educational perspectives. Teaching taking into account the multiple intelligences of the students might prove thus to be a winner approach, by enhancing students`academic performance and understanding , but also school motivation and self-esteem. The present paper analyzes for the first time in the Romanian literature Branton Shearer`s 93 items Multiple Intelligences Developmental Assessment Scale for Kids- All About Me (MIDAS™) for Romanian students of 6th grade (12-14 years old). A sample of 300 students was used for adaptation of the scale for my PhD research paper purpose and the main findings will be discussed.

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EXPLORING THE CYBER BEHAVIORS RELATED TO HUMAN VALUES OF ACTIVE SOCIAL MEDIA USERS

Vildan Çevik,
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Ahmet Naci Çoklar,

Abstract,

In this study it was aimed to investigate the behaviors of social media users about cyber human values in cyberspace. How do the core values change when identities are unknown? Do people behave different from who they really are in this virtual world with lots of profiles? Does the rapidly changing structure of new media also change the attitudes and/or personalities of its users? Which of the core values are perceived to be more important than others? To answer all the questions above the researchers have developed a questionnaire on cyber human values and collected online data from participants through a Turkish popular social gaming application in Facebook. 2550 volunteer participants are aged from 10-65 years with a mean of 23.64 ± 8.02 years with 2431 male (95.3%) and 119 female (4.7 %) users. The data collection tool have demographical variables, usage behaviors of internet and there are five-level Likert type items from strongly disagree to strongly agree. The items are based on five core human values as follows; respect, truth, love and tolerance, non-violence/peace, and solidarity. According to the findings the all participants, whose daily internet usage is four hours and use minimum six social media tools actively, perceive "truth", "non-violence/peace", and "solidarity" as the most important values. Also, most of the participants are (f: 1677, 65.7 %) the same person in social media as in real life and they (f: 1457, 57.1 %) use their real identities in social media. As a result of this study considering human values in cyberspace is as similar as face-to-face situations.

Keywords: cyber human values, social media, cyber behavior

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THE USE OF CLASSROOM BLOG: PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY COURSE

Ayşe Akkurt,

Abstract,

This study aimed at investigating the pre-service teachers' opinions about the use of blogs in the Physical Geography Course. The participants were composed of 65 pre-service teachers. The instructor created a classroom blog on www.blogger.com, and put it into the use of the students. Then, the instructor determined a variety of sub-topics among the topics of Land Forms, Climate, Hydrography, Soil, Vegetation Cover, Animal Communities, and monitored the students' processes of preparing their own topics and what they share on the predetermined dates. The students were asked to share at least one comment in the weeks when they didn't have a sharing task. Each student added his or her name on the comments

Keywords: preparing their own topics

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THE ROLE OF MOBILE TECHNOLOGIES IN THE TEACHING/LEARNING PROCESS IMPROVEMENT IN PORTUGAL

**Maria João Ferreira,
Fernando Moreira,**

Abstract

Over the past few years, there has been a large investment in information and communication technology in the teaching/learning process. In this context, mobile technologies, including smartphones and tablets emerge as an innovative tool associated with different methods and strategies. Mobile technologies are technological products and, nowadays, a very representative number of so-called "digital generation" own and use them in your day-to-day, to recreational and educational activities. In this way, the mobile technologies contribute to a teaching/ learning process more motivating and personalized.

Keywords: educational activities. In this way, the mobile

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Evaluation and Assessment in the Early Social Science

Vlasta Hus,
Jasmina Matjašič,

Abstract,

Authenticity is an important element in the newer models of teaching, evaluation and assessment. Due to the fact that it is quite unclear how authentic evaluation and assessment should be implemented into practice, teachers still cling too much to traditional forms of knowledge evaluation and assessment. First, some basic theoretical facts on evaluation and assessment with an emphasis on authentic evaluation and assessment are listed. Next, an outline of empirical research findings on the characteristics of evaluation and assessment of the subject Social Science in Year 4 is presented. Data were obtained with a web questionnaire on a representative sample of teachers who were teaching the subject Social Science in the school year 2009/2010 in Year 4 at various primary schools in Slovenia. We discovered that teachers very commonly use a summative knowledge evaluation and assessment form. Among the authentic and alternative forms research and simulation are predominant.

Keywords: primary school, Social Science, evaluation, assessment, teacher, Year 4.

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EVALUATION OF FACULTY MEMBERS' OPINIONS ON POST-GRADUATE EDUCATION

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Abstract

This research aims to evaluate the postgraduate education in the departments of educational sciences from faculty members' perspectives. With this aim, faculty members are asked about the problems faced, their suggestions to that problems and actions to be taken for a more qualified postgraduate education. The study group includes 10 faculty members who work at Konya Necmettin Erbakan University Education Faculty with different academic degrees. Qualitative research methods were chosen as the best to reflect the aim of the study and descriptive analysis methods were used to analyse and interpret the data gathered. From the views of the faculty members the most frequent problems of the postgraduate education are the students' skipping the lessons because of their working places and conditions, studying long terms on the dissertation stage, supervising too many students at the same time and the lack of time restriction of the postgraduate education period.

Keywords: Postgraduate education, educational sciences faculty members

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ONLINE GRADING RUBRICS: A WAY TO PERFORMANCE

Saleha Guerroudj,

Abstract

When students feel they are controlled and assessed on a regular basis, there is more cooperation and participation on their side. An online scoring rubric tracking students 'attendance, homework submission, tests' scores...shows that its use reflects intended outcomes. It has the potential to measure students' progress and make them responsible for their learning. Also it facilitates teacher's work and control. This paper explores the impact of using online grading rubrics on students' performance. A quasi-experimental evaluation was carried out in 38-level undergraduate enrolled in written expression course. The researcher served as the instructor of the course and wanted to try online grading rubrics instead of traditional ones to see their impact on students' behaviour and performance. Students can track their work results over time and have become aware of the standards of their achievements. The results of this online control encourage their regular attendance and reduce delays in submitting their assignments. It constitutes an effective pedagogical tool that alerts students, makes them aware of their progress and encourages their creativity. Indeed, it has contributed to developing their awareness and performance.

Keywords: work results over time and have become

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THE ANALYSIS OF MIDDLE SCHOOL 5TH GRADE STUDENTS' PROBLEM POSING AND PROBLEM SOLVING ABILITIES

Tuğrul Kar,
Cemalettin Işık,
Ali Sabri İpek,
Ercan Özdemir,

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to determine fifth-grade middle school students' problem posing and solving abilities for one, two and three-step operations. The study was conducted with 221 fifth-grade students studying at middle schools located in Erzurum city center. Each of the problem posing and problem solving tests consists of three items and they were developed in line with the sub-items. In the problem posing test, the students were asked to pose a problem related to real-life situation for the each item, which could only be solved using the given operations. In the problem solving test, the students were given word problems and asked to solve these problems.

Keywords: problem solving test, the students were given word

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SCHOOL DIFFICULTIES AND PUPILS' DROP OUT IN ALGERIA: LINGUISTIC DIMENSIONS

Fouzia Guerroudj,

Abstract,

This study represents my reflection upon potential challenges and implications of introducing mother tongue languages within the Algerian primary public school while exploring perceptions about the place and role of languages notably in cultural representation of their speakers. While advocacy of mother tongue language teaching has become well established in sociolinguistics, language planning and human rights literature, it has also come under increased criticism for a number of limitations and it still seems easier to formulate than to implement. Many children come to school with varieties that are markedly different from the language of instruction at school.

Keywords: varieties that are markedly different

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PRE-SERVICE ELEMENTARY MATHEMATICS TEACHERS' TECHNOLOGICAL PEDAGOGICAL CONTENT KNOWLEDGE ON GEOMETRIC SOLIDS

Neslihan UZUN,
Ercan ATASOY,
Berna AYGUN,

Abstract

One of the main topics of school mathematics is geometry which is among the issues that students have difficulty to learn. The integration technology in education provide conceptual perspective in teaching and learning geometry concepts, especially geometric solids. However, the effective use of technology in classrooms depends on teacher's professional knowledge. The purpose of this study is to investigate pre-service mathematics teacher's technological pedagogical knowledge regarding Geometric Solids. In this context, this study focused on how teachers integrate technology and pedagogy knowledge with their knowledge of geometric solids in classroom instruction. From methodology point of view this research is a case study which has qualitative and interpretive paradigm. The data for the study were obtained from video recordings of 4 pre-service mathematics teachers teaching sessions and semi-structured interviews that made after teaching practice. Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge (TPACK) framework which developed by Mishra ve Kohler (2007) is used as a framework in order to obtain concepts and relations to clarify collected data. The analysis of the data is continuing. Results and conclusions will be given later.

Keywords: how teachers integrate technology

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STUDENTS EXPERIENCES OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS IN THE UK

Pimprae Buddhichiwin,

Abstract

The growing number of international students worldwide makes the competition between education exporters' countries more severe. As the second leader, after the US, the UK has to discover strategies that are suited to its target market. At the same time, providing high standard service quality in UK higher education in order to meet international students' expectations is one of the key successes of UK universities. This paper aims to compare the initial expectations of Thai students with their actual learning experiences in the UK. 17 full-time Thai students in a UK university were selected. The survey involved interviewing the same students twice, once at the beginning and then again at the end of their studies in the UK.

Keywords: key successes of UK universities.

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RE-THINKING AND EXPLORING DOCENDO DISCITUR CONCEPTS

ROSANNA del GAUDIO,

Abstract,

Here I present results of an innovative ideas for the teaching of some more complexEs and hates topics as well as aimed topics of Molecular BIOLOGY to University students but also to middle-school students.I've suddiviso la classe in gruppi a ciascuno e' affidato un particolare aspetto che deve svolgere e presentare alla classe.

Keywords: suddiviso la classe in gruppi a ciascuno

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A STUDY ON FREE PLAY BEHAVIORS OF PRESCHOOL CHILDREN IN A REDESIGNED CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

Dilek Acer,

Abstract

Children's play behaviors provide a great number of hints about their development, including primarily how they learn. The physical environment in which children play is as important as what they play. In this respect, this study examines free play behaviors of children in a nursery class from the perspective of classroom environment. The research data were collected through observing free-time activities of children attending a nursery class, where the number of children ranged between 4 and 13, before and after the classroom was redesigned. The children were five years old.

Keywords: observing free-time activities of children

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INNOVATION AND ORIGINALITY IN DESIGN

Secil Satir,

Abstract,

The concept of originality signifies the original idea that comes from the source and is conceived by its creator. The concept which is the opposite of imitation products also means unusual, rare, and exceptional. Originality is a talent of creativity which evolves from an idea to a behavior, then to a product. It is also a quality of the idea that results in innovation and of the product, which is its embodiment

Keywords: Originality is a talent of creativity

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PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY OF UNIVERSITY TEACHERS

Zivile Sederevičiūtė-Pačiauskienė,

Abstract,

Clothes and non-verbal communication are central to how we perform our identities. Our image is a mean of non-verbal communication, which is very important when combined with the oral message. University teachers sends the message to their students about their professional identity by their appearance and it builds students attitudes and develops values. The article explores how identity is performed in University through dress in social interaction, and what message university teachers send to their student by non-verbal communication.

Keywords: professional identity, non-verbal communication, university teachers appearance

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MASTERY-AVOIDANCE GOAL AMONG MEDICAL STUDENTS AND ITS RELATIONSHIPS WITH DEVELOPMENT OF LOW FRUSTRATION TOLERANCE

Nir Madjar,
Talma Kushnir,
Yaacov G Bachner,

Abstract

Recent studies have demonstrated the role of motivational orientations in the development of psychosocial aspects among medical students. It has been established that aiming to learn and develop new skills promote adaptive self-perceptions, whereas aiming to demonstrate competence impede these perceptions. However, these studies have not included mastery-avoidance orientations, defined as the aspiration to avoid losing skills or forget knowledge that had already been acquired. Based on goal orientations theory we hypothesized that mastery-avoidance will predict change in low frustration tolerance, defined as intolerance of physical or emotional discomfort.

Keywords: Based on goal orientations theory

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USING NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION TO TEACH INTERGROUP RELATIONS

Brian Fry,

Abstract

Nonviolent Communication (NVC) assumes that our usual ways of listening and talking provoke defensiveness and resistance among the very people whose behaviors upset or concern us. So, instead of setting up conditions for people to listen empathically and identify their needs, we default to judgment, blaming, and denying responsibility for our own thoughts, feelings, and actions (Rosenberg 2003: 15-24). The NVC process “helps us connect with each other and ourselves in a way that allows our natural compassion to flourish” (Rosenberg 2003: 12).

Keywords: judgment, blaming, and denying responsibility

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SCHOOL CULTURE AND RITUALS: AN EMIC VIEW

Irena Stonkuvienė,

Abstract

When we talk about rituals as an integral part of school culture, usually we have in mind formal ceremonies. In fact, the ceremonies, such as proms, are performative and reflect school life very well (Quantz, Magolda, 1997; Chappell et al, 2011).), whereas little or daily interaction rituals may be invisible or insignificant at first sight. However, according to Richard A. Quantz (2011), one of the most prominent ritual researchers, namely these small actions, which are seldom perceived as rituals, which mainly organise the daily school life and influence processes of teaching and learning. These are rituals of interaction such as greetings, expressions of non-verbal communication, use of humour, etc.; rituals of solidarity, which facilitate expression of own identity, as well as rituals, which aim to express respect or regret and, moreover, hundreds of other things, which are not included into any syllabuses but which are experienced in school daily. Irrationality and symbolism are characteristic of rituals, whereas the majority of teachers and administrative staff concentrate on rational aspects, such as goals and learning outcomes, ignoring or refusing to acknowledge or just ignoring what is irrational. In general, as regards acknowledgement, according to Quantz, there exists a relatively strange rule of a ritual: the more we recognize it as a ritual, the less likely it is to affect us; while the less we realize we are participating in a ritual, the more likely it is that its effects will be experienced (2011, p. 3).

Keywords: less likely it is to affect us;

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THINKING ON THE GAPS AND OPPORTUNITIES THAT EXIST IN ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION THROUGH GLOBALIZATION PROCESS IN TURKEY

Seven Yücel,
Gonca Büyükmihçı,

Abstract,

In recent years, enabling the quality in higher education has become a more important issue in education area. The Bologna process and the developments in European higher education area under the effect of globalization emerged as an urgent issue to work on with the economic crisis especially for Europe. We think that understanding the current dynamics and a process centered view is vital to develop predictions for the future. In this context, nowadays the efforts to establish quality and standards in education area seems to be European centered attempts, in fact is a global concern for all countries. Enabling better quality education systems by the terms of mobility, flexibility, accessibility, equality as a common intention for whole world, results in differences by each country's specific and local dynamics. This paper aims to reveal gaps and opportunities occurred while standards and qualifications are being implemented on architectural education by analyzing the current architectural area and schools of architecture in Turkey.

Keywords: mobility, flexibility, accessibility, equality

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THE MEETING WITH ART. EXPLORING NEW WAYS TO ADVANCE AN AESTHETIC EDUCATION

Laura Detti,

The research questions are: 1. How is it possible to promote an aesthetic education for children aged 3 to 10 years? 2. How does the approach to art can contribute to the development of aesthetic education for this age group?The field of the research: The survey is carrying out on the field of the modern and contemporary art museums: the activities for children (3-10 years) of the Education Departments in Italy with a view to Europe (France, UK, Holland).The survey is conducted according to a qualitative methodology. The research tools used are: interviews with the heads of Education Departments and the museum educators; observation of educational activities for children; interviews with artists who work with children, creating workshops at museums, libraries and schools.This research project is in progress. It was born inside the PhD programme “General Pedagogy, Social Pedagogy and General Education” in Free University of Bozen, Italy. I’m a PhD student at the second year.

Keywords: children, art, aesthetic education, art museums

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VARIOUS APPLICATIONS DURING EDUCATION PERIOD IN SOCIAL STUDIES OF GIFTED CHILDREN IN THE USA AND TURKEY

Hüseyin Mertol,
Yasar Barut,

Abstract

The aim of this research is to identify the opinions of teachers that teach social studies to children having superior intelligence in Turkey and the USA, regarding their applications in social studies lesson after handling conceptual datas about intelligence and gifted children. The case study among qualitative research methods was used in the research. The social studies education programmes of students that are known as wunderkid in Turkey and the USA, were examined closely; similar and different situations were presented in the frame of opinions and applications of teachers teaching in those schools. In the study integrated multi-state condition design was used as a design. The analysis part of datas: In the first step of data analysis; in each two groups the opinions of social studies teachers that are work in Science and Arts Centres in Turkey and the ones teaching social studies to gifted children in the USA were categorized by examining them comprehensively. In the second step of analysis; after itemizing of interview, the questions of interview were handled one by one then the options were ordered in the direction of all the answers given for each question. At the end of these evaluations "Interview Coding Key" was prepared in which answer options relating each question item were written. At the last part similar and different opinions were separated and the frequencies of these options in subtitles were presented in "Findings and Comments" part.

Keywords: Education Of Social Studies, Comparison of Turkey and the USA, Giftedness

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ONLINE TEACHER EDUCATION: USING BEST PRACTICES TO FLIP THE CLASS

Katherine Green,

Abstract

The notion of flipping the class is rapidly becoming the current buzzword in education with the rise of such sites as Sophia.org and the Khan Academy plus the interest in increasing technology integration in our classrooms. At face value, flipping the class involves the use of videos and materials studied by students prior to their class time. Content is learned *before* class. During class time, students engage in hands-on activities and discussions and educators can work more closely with students and personalize feedback and guidance. In order to best guide this practice, teachers can benefit from experiencing the flipped learning approach themselves during their own learning. Online teacher education programs are ideally situated to provide this flipped immersion and Best Practices in online learning include working with the material prior to interacting with the faculty and peers in the Learning Management System.

Keywords: Online teacher education programs are ideally

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FACTORS DETERMINING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WELL-BEING: SCHOOL

**Anita Stasulane,
Janis Priede,**

Abstract

Over a last decade a number of instruments have been developed to measure children's and young people's own assessment of their lives. One of the most widely used is Huebner's Multi-Dimensional Student Life Satisfaction Scale which measures well-being in five domains: family, friends, school, living environment and self. There are many challenges in conduction a new longitudinal study on children's and young people's well-being in EU. The EU FP7 project „Measuring Youth Well Being“ (MYWEB, grant agreement no.613368) takes a balanced approach to assessing the feasibility of a European Longitudinal Study for Children and Young People through prioritising both scientific and policy imperatives. The presentation outlines the results of fieldwork that has been done in eleven project consortium countries: Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, and United Kingdom. The fieldwork was undertaken with the goal of finding out the meaning and significance that children and young people allocate to well-being. Individual and focus group interviews provided an opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of the method for obtaining the data and to find out potential difficulties in undertaking longitudinal research. The presentation will discuss one of the most relevant domains of well-being – school and how it relates to happiness, life-satisfaction and psychological well-being of children and young people

Keywords: how it relates to happiness, life-satisfaction

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FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT AND NIGERIA ECONOMIC GROWTH

MAYOWA OGUNDARE,

Abstract

Most economic rationale for granting special incentive for attracting. Foreign Direct Investment is based on the belief that FDI bridges the “idea gaps” between rich and poor nations in addition to the generation of technological transfer and spillovers. This is an attempt to study the impact of Foreign Direct Investment {FDI} on Nigeria Economic growth, using time series data from 1980-2009. The key point is to understand the impact of FDI on the Nigerian economy as well the ability to attract adequate amounts sufficient enough to accelerate the pace of economic growth. From related research and studies, it was revealed that multinational corporations are highly adaptive social agents and therefore, the degree to which they can help in improving activities through FDI will be heavily influenced by the policy choice of the host country. Secondary data were collected for the period 1980-2009. In order to analyse the data, both econometric and statistical methods were adopted. The economic regression mode of Ordinary Least Square was applied in evaluating the relationship between Foreign Direct Investment and the major economic indicator; Gross Domestic Product {GDP}. The result revealed a positive relationship between FDI and GDP.

Keywords: Direct Investment and the major

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DEVELOPMENT OF THE MATHEMATICAL COMPETENCE OF ENGINEERING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Galyna Lutsenko,

Abstract

Mathematics is a fundamental element of the engineering education. Versatility of mathematical training has to be taken into account during the development of the engineering curriculum, since higher mathematics is both an independent discipline and significant component of engineering subjects. Harmonization of pedagogical approaches to mathematical training and formation of generally accepted system of concepts for the engineering and mathematics faculty is the important applied problem. Therefore, the necessity of consultation between mathematics and engineering academic staff is established. The results of such consultation have to be a foundation of renewed engineering curriculum development.

Keywords: consultation have to be a foundation of renewed engineering

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FACTORS AFFECTING ON THE DISSERTATION QUALITY IN HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Thanyasinee Laosum,

Abstract

The quality of doctoral dissertations is a major issue in Thailand private university administration. The study for the improvement of the quality at this level is therefore considered necessary. Purpose: The purposes of this study were to (1) assess the quality of dissertations in humanities and social sciences of private universities, and (2) analyze factors effecting on the quality of the student, the adviser, and the institute levels. Methods: 750 dissertations, 108 advisers, and 12 administrators of the 12 universities were sampled. The dissertation quality evaluation forms were developed. The student, the adviser, and administrator questionnaires for the evaluation of dissertation quality were developed. The descriptive statistics were used with the checklist data. The HLM package was used to analyze the factors effecting on the quality of dissertations.

Keywords: student, the adviser, and administrator questionnaires

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MANAGEMENT SYSTEM MODEL OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING OF RESEARCH PHYSICIST AT THE UNIVERSITIES OF UKRAINE

Gregory V. Lucenko,

Abstract

Analysis of main aspects of informational support of management system of educational institution is scientific and applied foundation for the design of model of management system of vocational training of research physicist. It gives an opportunity to describe the rules of design, operation and development of this system. Identification of strategic objectives as well as prognostic and operating aims makes possible to state the aim of vocational training, namely, development of their preparedness to professional activity.

Keywords: development of their preparedness to professional activity.

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THE USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES IMPROVES THE HEALTHY AND UNHEALTHY ELDERLY PEOPLE'S QUALITY OF LIFE. THE KEY-ROLE OF TRAINING SETTING

Orazio Licciardello,
Manuela Mauceri,
Grazia Di Marco,

Abstract

A link between the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Quality of Life (QoL) has been argued yet just because the ICT is not, *per se*, a right and plain tool to improve the elderly people's QoL. We aimed to investigate whether elderly people's QoL was influenced by higher beliefs Self-Efficacy and positive Attitudes towards the ICT. We verified if the perceived elderly people's QoL increased just because of a training focused on the ICT and, more specifically, on FaceBook. We conducted three studies: the first two involved n. 107 healthy and n. 149 unhealthy seniors, respectively. All of them were approached individually. The third involved n.25 seniors who took part in training on the ICT.

Keywords: We verified if the perceived elderly people's

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INVESTIGATING MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS' ABILITY IN SCIENCE: FINDINGS FROM A TEST DEVELOPMENT STUDY

**Çiğdem Akkanat,
Murat Gökdere,**

Abstract

Student's ability to use and manipulate scientific concepts has been widely explored; however there is still a need to define the characteristics and nature of science ability. Also, the tests and performance scales that require minimal conceptual knowledge to measure this ability are relatively less common. The aim of this study was to develop an objective measure of science ability of middle school students. In order to assess this ability, Science Ability Test Battery was developed by the researchers. The test battery was divided into two sub scales containing: a multiple choice questions test (Science Ability Test) and a performance assessment (Science Performance Test). The initial Science Ability Test consisted of 23 multiple choice items with one correct answer that required students to use science process skills and reasoning.

Keywords: required students to use science process skills and reasoning.

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INTERVENTION STUDY ON KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN'S SOCIAL SKILL AWARENESS AND RELATIONSHIP FORMATION WITH TABLET GAMES

Yili Wang,

Abstract

The purpose of the present study is to examine whether the inclusion of tablet-game play into early childhood pedagogical practices would become the enforcement on the perspectives of small children's social skill enhancement and peer relationship construction. The sample is comprised of 16 children aged 5-7 from one local Finnish kindergarten. Sociometric nomination with 3-scale likelihood was employed to investigate the length and stability of reciprocal and unilateral friendships under the longitudinal intervention. Videos data were collected during the half-year intervention period to analyze the function of a mixture of tablet games and teachers' enforcement in improving social skills. Different types and length of children's friendships are studied in the research, and various channels to improve children's social skills are verified through practice, for the purpose of creating an additional method in early childhood pedagogy.

Keywords: teachers' enforcement in improving social skills.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS IN FILMS: AN ANALYSIS OF HOW THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS WAS REFLECTED IN A SELECTION OF HOLLYWOOD FILMS BETWEEN 1999 AND 2013

Unvan atas

Abstract

This study examines the images of the public relations (PR) practitioners in Hollywood movies that covers the period of 1999 and 2013. Miller's 1991 study on the images of PR in film and fiction has been seen as milestone, hence employed. Further to Miller's conceptual framework analysis, we further add a well-established four PR theories to pinpoint which approaches did PR practitioners pursued in the analysed movies.

Keywords: practitioners pursued in the analysed movies

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LIFE CYCLE ASSESMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES : APPLICATION OF SUSTAINABILITY ICT IN TURKEY

Ayşenur Erdil,
Ertuğrul Taçgın,

Abstract

The concept of the digital divide; it is defined like that individuals in different socioeconomic status, companies or countries have inequality about accessing ICT (information and communication technologies) and using it. These continuous technological developments, every individual in a society cannot reach and use the same level of ICT. This difference is not only between individuals but also between groups, regions, countries, and continents. In recent years, Research to examine the digital divide has been increasing in Turkey. For example, In education system in Turkey, we can see this difference very clearly.

Keywords: technological developments, every individual in a society

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FACING UP TO THE DEMANDS OF MODERN TEACHING, WHICH MEANS ACTIVE LEARNING IN PROJECTS BASED LEARNING

Lucyna Czarnowska,

Abstract

The aim of this paper is to show the way of improvement of the frame of the classes. The development of the frame should focus not only on the engineering approach but also on the society demand and economic viability to show the influence of proposed engineering solution. The primary role of the lecturer is to observe the progress of work and guide students to develop the variety of their skills to obtain the expected results. The expected pedagogical benefits will be defined. Moreover, the emphasis will be placed on a team working with the active learning in a frame of project-based learning, which can be called the modern way of teaching to help students in their future work.

Keywords: learning in a frame of project-based learning,

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PLAY OPPORTUNITIES AS A MOTIVE FOR KINDERGARTEN ARCHITECTURE: A DESIGN STUDIO EXPERIENCE

Semra Arslan Selcuk,
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M. Tayfun Yildirim,
M. Semih Tuncer,

Abstract

A number of researches have revealed that kindergartens have a major influence on children's development in creative skills. For children who spend their preschool years in the kindergartens, their experience with that environment are vital for the development of their future attitudes as they spend most of their time in there. As experts argue, creativity development is shaped substantially during the first six years of childhood together with their basic motor skills and physical abilities. In these years, *play* is the most effective tool for teaching/learning activities as a central part of childhood. Indoor and outdoor play opportunities encourage creative behavior, which improves imaginary and social skills and finally shape their behaviors.

Keywords: activities as a central part of childhood

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WOMEN'S GETTING INVOLVED INTO EDUCATION and PROBLEMS FACED BY WOMEN TEACHERS AT INDUSTRIAL VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS IN TURKEY

**Zehra Deniz Kutlu,
Melda Medine Güleç,**

It was not until the second decade of the 20th century that women got involved into education in Turkey, which has hosted number of civilizations throughout the history, and which is a bridge between Europe and Asia. After the collapse of the Ottoman Empire and foundation of the Turkish Republic, the period when women got involved into the social life in every sense began and women, who had not been able to take even a primary school education previously, obtained an important status of being an education leader. Today, in Turkey, the vast majority of the teachers, trainers, educators and academicians consist of women. However, as a result of both the problems in the education system of the country and the patriarchal structure of the community, women educators, teachers and academicians face quite a number of problems

Keywords: majority of the teachers, trainers, educators

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DECISIONAL PROCRASTINATION MODERATES THE EFFECT OF ACADEMIC PROCRASTINATION ON GPA: A COMPARISON BETWEEN STUDENTS WITH AND WITHOUT LEARNING DISABILITIES

**Meirav Hen,
Marina Goroshit,**

Abstract

Both academic and decisional procrastination were found to have a negative effect on college student's GPA. Recently several scholars argued that the growing numbers of LD students in academic settings stresses the need to research their unique learning processes, and what effects their academic achievements.

Keywords: argued that the growing numbers of LD students

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TEACHER CANDIDATES' SELF-EFFICACY BELIEFS CONCERNING THEIR TEACHING ABILITIES

Suleyman BALCI,

Abstract

This study aims to examine the self-efficacy beliefs of teacher candidates, who are graduates of mathematics, nursing, sociology, turkish language literature departments and completed preservice teacher education curriculum courses. Participants of this study is teacher candidates, who are graduates of mathematics (n=44), nursing (n=32), sociology (n=62), turkish language literatüre (n=36) departments and completed preservice teacher education curriculum courses at Education faculty of Kırıkkale University in 2014-2015 academic year. Teacher self-efficacy scale, which was developed by Tschannen-Moran and Hoy (2001) and adapted into Turkish culture by Capa, Cakırođlu and Sarıkaya (2005) were used in order to collect necessary data.

Keywords: Teacher self-efficacy scale, which was developed

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THE EFFECT OF TIMBRE ON MELODY RECOGNITION OF SONGS AMONG PRESCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

Ana Isabel Pereira,
Helena Rodrigues,

Abstract,

Research on timbre perception has shown that timbre affects children's melodic recognition. To our knowledge, there are no studies relating instrumental timbre and the learning of songs with or without words. The aim of this study is to disclose preschool-aged children thinking process facing a recognition task of two melodies learned with and without words respectively, played by the flute. It is important to find out this relation in order to clarify teaching strategies for songs. Fifty-two preschool children (4-6 years old) from a private school in Lisbon participated in a two-stage investigation: in the instruction phase they learned two unfamiliar songs (a song with words and a song without words) followed by an individual recognition test (melodies of both songs played by the flute) where they were asked to say if it sounded like the song learned with words or without words, justifying their choices. The results show that 80% and 86% of the participants respectively, recognised the melody of the song presented with words and without words. Answers reveal two different criteria: the melodic contour (valuing the melody) and the absence of text (valuing the melody or the words). Also, different expressions were used regarding the same choices: "it's the same", "it sounds like" or "it's seems like". Findings are discussed in terms of the importance of melody and timbre categorization on musical perception and cognition in children, which has implications on teaching strategies. Further studies should replicate these findings using different instruments and melodies.

Keywords: timbre perception; melody recognition; songs with words; songs without words

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THE EFFECT OF NLP EDUCATION ON TEACHING PROFESSION IN TURKEY

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Abstract,

The purpose of this research is carried out to determine whether the use of NLP (Neuro-Linguistic Programming) techniques effect the teacher's professional achievements and motivation in Turkey or not. Today's education system tends to student-centered education instead of teacher-centered education. Teachers' responsibilities increase day by day. Especially, different methods and techniques are required because of changing student profile in the information communication age. In recent years, NLP known as "Neuro Linguistic Programming" aims at to discover and reveal the inner resources of the individual and it is able to benefit from these resources at the highest level. For this, this study has been carried out by applying a survey to 68 teachers which trained from an academy that provides NLP education in Ankara. After NLP education, paired sample t test was applied for analyzing data which includes the effect on teacher's professional achievements and motivation and the relationship with school, student and parents.

Keywords: Education, NLP, paired sample t test, teacher, teaching

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THE CONDITION OF PEGAGOGICAL FORMATION PROGRAM MATHEMATIC DEPARTMENT STUDENTS' USING MATHEMATICS IN REAL LIFE AND VIEWS ON USING MATHEMATICS

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Abstract,

In order to adapt continuous changes experienced in technology and other issues today, there is an increasing need for wise, skillful and creative individuals who would participate in mathematical practices, use mathematics effectively in every condition, develop effective solutions for the problems they encounter in daily life, have functional mathematical knowledge and skill. In parallel to this need, current education programs of countries are also revised and measures are taken for mathematics taught being utilizable. In the new curriculum, skill of using mathematics is focused on daily life problems which would support development of mentioned skills are included both in the process of education of mathematical terms and in the process of practice.

Today some researchers state that especially students of faculty of science and letters do not have sufficient information about usefulness of mathematics and have difficulty in using pure mathematics knowledge suitably since they are rather interested in the pure aspect of mathematics. From this point, in this study it was aimed to interpret how mathematic department senior students use mathematics in their daily life following their four year of undergraduate education by analyzing together with their view on usefulness of mathematics. The study group is composed of 88 students who have graduated or still attend final class Ordu University, Faculty of Science and Letters in 2014-2015 Academic Year. As data collection tool, an opinion survey was used which includes one open ended real life problem and six questions in total. As a result of study, process of students' understanding problem, determining strategy for solution, applying solution and evaluating solution will be analyzed separately and relation (if available) between views of students and their performances will be put forward.

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THE VIEWS OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS REGARDING INTERNET ADDICTION

Sevda Aslan, University of Kırıkkale, Faculty of Education

Abstract,

In this study, it is aimed to determine the views of university students regarding Internet addiction. The study group consisted of 64 4th year students studying at Kırıkkale University Faculty of Arts and Sciences' department of philosophy and Kırıkkale University Faculty of Health Sciences' department of child development in Spring 2013-2014 academic year. In this study, University Students' Views Regarding Internet Addiction Form were developed by the researcher in order to determine the views of university students. The study is a descriptive type of study. These forms consisted of nine open ended questions in the form were combined and gathered under common headers. The frequencies and percentages will be calculated later on.

Keywords: University students, Internet addiction, students views;

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NET GENERATION – THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX BY USING ONLINE LEARNING METHODS

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Abstract,

The main feature of the NET Generation is the fact that it is the first generation which “grew up digitally”. Young adults today are so immersed in bits that they perceive them as an integral part of their natural environment, thus developing and imposing their culture and beliefs to the rest of the society, specifically by using digital media. Objectives: The purpose of this article is to provide a framework on young people’s possibilities to develop a creative and innovative thinking by using online methods of obtaining and sharing information. Approach: It shows the specialty literature that focuses on online learning, with priority to the generations’ updated skills and abilities. Results: With their reflexes adjusted to today’s speed and freedom, these resourceful young persons are starting to transform all institutions of modern life, replacing a culture of control with one based on performance. Value: In this paper, we have seen that technology has started to play a main role in the social evolution, but this fact will not necessarily lead to a better society. This does not mean that technology should be blamed, but the other way around – in the digital world, there are sketched many developments that raise legit hopes in regard to the existence of new forms of human cohabitation and social interaction. It is required however, in this context, to place technology in a new economic, political and social framework.

Keywords: e-communication; online learning; digital generation; education; technology.

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THE IMPACT OF HIGHER EDUCATION ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE LABOUR MARKET: LITHUANIAN CASE

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Abstract,

Problem statement. This study aims to investigate the employment of higher education graduates in the labour market. Today, this problem is relevant to Lithuania, as high school graduates employment in the labour market is very different by separate counties and specialties. However, researches investigating such changes are missing. For this reason actual problem arises to analyse the impact of higher education on employment in the labour market.

Purpose of study. Due to this the aim of this paper is to evaluate the impact of higher education on employment in the labour market.

Methods. This study involves analysis and synthesis of the scientific literature discussing the problems of the impact of education on employment in the labour market; the systematic statistical data analysis of Lithuanian education and labour market outcomes; correlation and regression analysis determining relationship between education and employment in the labour market.

Results. On the basis of statistical data was determined that expenditure on education is positively correlated with earnings in Lithuania. It was found that for different employment indicators were influenced not only demand of specialties in the labour market, but also graduates of previous work experience, employment sector, gender, acquired qualification degree, nature of the profession and study duration.

Conclusions. It was determined that higher education is the most important factors in helping individuals successfully employed in the labour market, because it plays a key role in providing them with necessary skills to access in the labour market.

Keywords: higher education, employment, labour market, labours market outcomes

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TEACHING TRADITIONAL MUSIC IN MALAYSIAN SCHOOLS: CONSIDERING THE CULTURAL CONTEXT

Shahanum Md Shah,

Abstract

When dealing with traditional music, cultural context and authenticity are issues that need to be considered in designing the teaching of local music traditions. Traditional music is, by nature, an oral tradition. Learning traditional music among musicians was by non-formal education, i.e., by listening, observing and playing. The transfer of skills and knowledge was carried out orally within the community of musicians. With the advent of formal music education in schools and universities, notation is now being used in part to facilitate and expedite the learning process. However, teaching certain traditional music using notation may not only be a misrepresentation of the authentic practice of this music but may also not give students the skills necessary in playing traditional music as opposed to playing in western ensembles. Establishing an accurate context for practical activities on the gamelan can provide not only a sound methodology but also allow for appropriate evaluation.

This study examined the teaching approaches of selected Malay traditional music in Malaysian schools and universities. This study utilized a qualitative approach. Fifteen schoolteachers were interviewed on the nature of the transmission process of traditional music in the classroom. Based on the responses provided by these respondents, it appears that the nature of the transmission process may not occur in the cultural context and that preservation is of the music and playing techniques.

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THE PERCEPTIONS OF STUDENTS IN THE SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION CENTRE ABOUT MATHLIFE

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Mustafa Serkan Abdüsselam, Giresun University,
Zeynep Seymen, Karadeniz Teknik University,
Serpil Reisoğlu, Karadeniz Teknik University,
Nesrin Yangın, Can Şelale Özel Eğitim ve Rehabilitasyon Merkezi
Muhammet Sarı, Can Şelale Özel Eğitim ve Rehabilitasyon Merkezi

Abstract

OECD and UNESCO acknowledge that we need lifelong learning-oriented educational programs both inside and outside of school. Nevertheless, Turkey has a lack of non-school practices; therefore, schools prefer to establish and develop “everyday life” practices by themselves. It is known that these practices are mostly failed to fulfil the need because there is a big gap between established practises and natural living conditions. Activities developed by modules of traditional teaching approach are limiting student to transfer their real-life skill. To address this issue, there are many recent studies approaching to 3D virtual environments; such as Second Life, Active Worlds, and so on. This kind of environment provides the opportunity of living situation as in real life problem, thereby can be used as a supportive tool for making connection between real life and educational experience. The purpose of this study to study perceptions of students in the special education and rehabilitation centre about Mathlife, in particular to investigate (a) the positive and negative features of Mathlife, (b) whether or not it is possible that Mathlife can be used as a supportive tool to improve social life skill, (c) why/how students want to use this kind of leaning environment, (d) what kind of role student should have, (e) the integrations and suggestions, and (e) whether or not there are any changes in their perceptions about Mathlife. In this study, a particular case study is used as a methodology, and interviews were gained for the data. The data were then presented descriptively to the reader without changing the discourse of the participants. The sample of this study is consisted of 2 special education teachers and 8 special education students (2 Autism, 2 Down-Syndrome, 2 mild mentally retarded and 2 physically disabled). Students stated that the learning process has become more permanent due to the fact that they spent playing in a virtual learning environment and they also noted that it is more exciting than dealing on paper. The literature indicates that a visual characteristic of 3-D virtual learning environment is more fun and as a facilitator to make problems easier. Furthermore, students stated that there is no physical barrier in this kind of environment, as in the real world, and so that makes it safer to gain these skills. For example, one physically disabled student noted that even though he cannot walk in daily life, he is being able to fly in there, so he is so excited and happy. In addition, teachers and students indicated that there is a lack of modules to learn and teach social life skill; therefore, it is needed to develop this kind of 3D virtual environment. Thus, the data indicates that there should be an interdisciplinary study, including in particular counsellors, special educationists, computer and technology specialists and special education teachers, not only to develop but also to improve the approach of 3D learning environment and its technology.

Keywords: Special Education, 3D virtual environments, Perceptions

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INVESTIGATING TEACHING SATISFACTION OF PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS IN TURKEY

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Abstract,

The current paper primarily investigates the teaching satisfaction of teachers working in public high schools of Ankara. The latter aim of this study is to determine whether teachers' satisfaction levels vary in relation to some demographic variables as gender, education, type of high school, tenure, marital status, and membership to an educational union. The study group consists of 337 (182 female and 155 male) high school teachers from eight public high schools located in Ankara. The data collection tool was "Teaching Satisfaction Scale (TSS)" developed by Ho and Au (2006). The data was analyzed by utilizing *t* test, ANOVA, and LSD test of post hoc tests. The construct validity of the five-item scale was tested by confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) on LISREL 8.8 program. The goodness of fit indices validated the single-dimension construct of the TSS. For the reliability of the scale, Cronbach alpha coefficient was calculated, and the result verified that the TSS is a reliable assessment tool of teaching satisfaction. Further, the implications of teaching satisfaction in educational organizations will be discussed based on the findings of the study.

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THE ROLE OF PERSONAL SELF-EFFICACY BELIEFS OF TURKISH ACADEMICIANS ON THEIR WORK-RELATED GOAL PROGRES

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Abstract

In the present study, the relationship between personal self-efficacy beliefs and work-related goal progress of university academicians was investigated primarily. In a similar vein, the relative impact of gender, marital status, tenure, position title, and gaining master's and/or doctoral degrees abroad was also tested. The study group was consisted of 292 academicians (37% women, 63% men) from 62 state universities located across Turkey. The participants were surveyed by the "Personal Self-Efficacy Beliefs Scale" and the "Work-Related Goal Progress Scale". The data was collected through 2013/2014 academic year. The construct validity of the scales were tested by confirmatory factor analysis, and the internal reliability of the scales were analyzed by Cronbach alpha coefficients. The validity and reliability results were verified that the scales used in the current study were adequately valid and reliable for data collection. The Pearson correlation analysis showed that there was a moderate relationship between academicians' personal self-efficacy beliefs and work-related goal progress ($r = .44$). Accordingly, linear regression analysis revealed that academicians' personal self-efficacy beliefs, tenure, and title were significant predictors of their work-related goal progress ($R^2 = .28$). Overall, the results are discussed regarding their reflections to work settings in universities, and further implications and recommendations are made concerning organizational administration.

Keywords: self-efficacy; goal progress; Turkey; academics; state university.

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USE OF GIS FOR THE INTEGRATION OF STEM DISCIPLINES: CASE OF SCIENCE CLASSES

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Abstract

STEM educational approach aiming to integration of Science – Technology- Engineering and Mathematics disciplines suggests that confines between disciplines should be abolished and applications similar to technology production processes should be brought to classes. This suggestion requires radical changes in all the elements of the existing educational perception. In this line, attempts should be made to investigate how STEM education can be conducted under the current conditions.

Incorporation of other STEM disciplines into science courses in education programs can be regarded as one of such attempts. Of course, this incorporation should be conducted in such a way that professional engineers and scientists look for solutions to problems together. At that point, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) can be one of the basic resources because GIS allows students to collect actual data for real life problems related to STEM disciplines, to analyze them and to develop technology-assisted solutions. Moreover, the fields where GIS is used (climate change, energy efficiency, establishment of secure ecosystems) overlap with the content of science courses to a great extent. Thus, GIS holds the potential to lay the ground for science classes in which STEM disciplines are used together.

In the current study carried out in line with qualitative paradigm the focus is how a sample STEM teaching application constructed around GIS axis is evaluated by third-year pre-service science teachers (N=34). The data collection instrument of the study is the reflective texts written by the participants before and after the application to express their opinions about GIS in relation to STEM teaching and science teaching and about the applicability of STEM educational approach in science classes.

At the end of the study, it was concluded that an application having lasted 5 weeks positively affected the opinions of the pre-service teachers about the applicability of STEM education approach, improved their beliefs that they could develop new applications and raised their awareness of GIS.

Keywords: STEM education, Geographic Information Systems GIS, Integrated education, Pre-service science teachers

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QUALITY IMPROVEMENT IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS: DEVELOPING SCHOOL SELF-EVALUATION SCALE

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Abstract

The purpose of the study is to develop a "School Self-Evaluation Scale (SSES)" at secondary schools based on the expectations of all education stakeholders. A sample of 600 students were selected on 95 percent confidence level and 3,81 percent sampling error. KMO value is calculated as 0.94 and the result of Bartlett's test, Chi-square value was calculated as 16.918 so that Bartlett's test is significant ($p= 0.00$). Confirmatory factor analysis χ^2/df value is 3,08. RMSEA value of the model developed is 0.06. GFI value of the school self-evaluation scale is 0.94. CFI value of the scale developed is 0.93. NFI value of the school self-evaluation scale is 0.96. Result of the split half test reliability calculated with Spearman Brown formula is 0.85 and calculated with Guttman split half technique is 0.94. Cronbach alpha coefficient for overall scale is 0.95 and reliability coefficient of sub items is between 0.75 and 0.92.

Keywords: Education, Quality, School Self-Evaluation

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RE-ENGAGING DIS-ENGAGED ADOLESCENT STUDENTS THROUGH DANCE: A CASE STUDY

Cheryl Halliburton,

Abstract

The purpose of this case study was to investigate how studying dance, as evidenced through the perceptions of the adult stakeholders who work with interventionist dance education organizations, can reignite the desire to learn by re-motivating and re-engaging adolescent students at-risk of academic and social failure. This dissertation surveyed a minimum of 10 professional stakeholders, including teachers, teaching artists, choreographers, and staff members, involved in dance intervention for at-risk adolescent students. Framed by the theoretical lens of cognitive and motivational perspectives, this qualitative study employed an exploratory and descriptive design to observe the relevant strategies and tools the educators and organizations utilized to re-engage dis-engaged youth that might also be transferable to the American education system. The data was triangulated from the results of class and rehearsal observation, and in-depth interviews with a convenience sampling of adult teachers and staff. The results were extrapolated from the emergent themes revealed via a qualitative data analysis program. The dissertation findings suggested best practices for educational organizations to re-envision and incorporate dance within the curriculum to re-engage dis-engaged adolescents in their learning processes. The implications are far-reaching in terms of impact on secondary school retention and future successes of adolescent youth.

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INVESTIGATIONS OF HISTORY TEACHER CANDIDATES' APPLICATIONS AND OPINIONS TOWARDS "INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGIES AND MATERIAL DESIGN" COURSE

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Filiz ZAYIMOĞLU ÖZTÜRK, Ordu University, Faculty of Education

Abstract

'Instructional Technologies and Material Design' course is given to history teachers during undergraduate education since they need to know educational environments, equipment and make tools when in need. The purpose of this study is to examine the contribution of 'Instructional Technologies and Material Design' course to history teacher candidates' professional development in their perspective and to present material samples. The content analysis, which is one of the qualitative research methods in data analysis, was used in this study. History teacher candidates have expressed that 'Instructional Technologies and Material Design' course has contributed their professional, personal, and social development significantly. Therefore, they have stated that the course should be included in teacher training program. The teacher candidates expressed that the course; helped to develop their creative thinking, changed their opinions of educational environment in a positive way and was fruitful how to develop materials in their field. Also they got difficulty in what the material will be (decision) however they found it easy to prepare the material.

Keywords: history teacher candidates, instructional technologies, material design

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AN EVALUATION OF HANDS ON PHYSICS ACTIVITIES BASED ON PRE-SERVICE SCIENCE TEACHERS VIEWS

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Abstract

In this study, the effect of hands-on laboratory activities on pre-service teachers' perceptions of achievement and self-efficacy was investigated. The participants of the study were 66 pre-service teachers enrolled in a physics laboratory course in 2014 – 2015 spring semester. The data were collected through open-ended questions developed by the researcher and the Laboratory Self-Efficacy Scale (LSES). The study lasted for 10 weeks. The study was completed in three steps. First, pre-service teachers filled LSES. Then, they conducted different hands-on activities in a period of ten weeks, and finally they answered open-ended questions. Results indicated that pre-service teachers find hands-on activities beneficial in developing laboratory self-efficacy, divergent thinking and problem solving skills because the activities required them to think deeper. However time constraints limit the effectiveness of the activities.

Keywords : Hands-on Activities, Science Education, Teacher training

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TIME CAPSULES IN 5th GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES CLASS

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Abstract

Time capsules are placed with the intention that they will be opened or accessed at a future date. The use of time capsules in education is not a new fact but it is also appropriate in social studies classes. Children will record and graph information about themselves and the class. Then they will include this information in a time capsule that they will reopen at the end of the year to see how they have changed.

The purpose of this study is to present how to use time capsules in social studies and examine students opinion about it. The research application will be done in an elementary school in Ordu province/Turkey in five main steps. The content analysis, which is one of the qualitative research methods in data analysis, will be used in this study.

It is expected that 'Use of Time Capsules' is going to contribute 5th grade social studies students' development in their history perspective.

Keywords: time capsules, social studies

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INVESTIGATION OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' AGRESSION LEVELS IN TERMS OF EMPATHIC TENDENCY, SELF COMPASSION AND EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to investigate the correlation between aggression, empathic tendency, expression of emotions and self-compassion, and to find out whether empathic tendency, expression of emotions and self-compassion significantly predict aggression. The sample of study consists of 526 female and 290 male in total 816 students who are studying different faculties in Selcuk University and students are chosen with random sample method. In the study for the personal information of students 'Personal Information Form', to determine their aggression scores 'Aggression Scale', to specify empathic tendency 'Empathic Tendency Scale', to determine their self-compassion 'Self-compassion Scale' and also to determine their expression of emotions scores "Expression of emotions Scale have been used. Correlation and multiple hierarchical regression analysis were used to analyze data. For statistical analysis of data SPSS 15.00 program was used. According to results of study, university students' empathic tendency, expression of emotions and self-compassions explain their aggressive behavior significantly. There is a negative and significant correlation between aggression and empathic tendency, expression of emotions and self-compassion. In regression analysis, empathic tendency, expression of emotions and self-compassion are significant predictors of aggression.

Keywords: Agression, Empathic tendency, Emotional Expression and University students

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EFFECT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION ON ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION

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Abstract

The youth of today dream of being a social media boss just like in the entrepreneurship stories that begin in a garage. Such stories, as the foundation of giant companies like Facebook and Apple are grounded on, are the subjects of films and books.

Defined as setting up one's own business and/or taking risk, entrepreneurship is a fact that universities and states support. New and creative projects are supported through education and the young are encouraged. In the last twenty years, entrepreneurship education is highly improved in developed countries and it is quite effective on entrepreneurial intention. Based on these facts, in this study effects of entrepreneurship education on entrepreneurial intention on students of Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences in Trakya University are analyzed.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurial Intention, Entrepreneurial Education, University Education

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PRESCHOOL TEACHER EDUCATION AS AN EXAMPLE OF OPEN SOCIAL SYSTEM

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Abstract

With the realization of the substantial long-term educational, social, and economic benefits produced by high-quality preschool education, preschool teachers' education is becoming more focused on in recent years. Moreover, other than the studies focus on providing evidence for the impact of the preschool education on the children outcomes, studies showing large benefits occur only when teachers are professionally prepared and adequately compensated are also increased. On the other hand, studies focusing on the program evaluation or educational systems mainly consider the issue from a more structured and multidimensional view. In this respect, as an example of open social systems, teacher education depends on many interrelated components that affect each other directly or indirectly. The aim of this study is to review and discuss some of these components of preschool teacher education Turkish context such as the student selection policy, faculty development, recruitment policy and competencies of the graduates. Current issues of preschool teacher education are reviewed within the light of the research and related documents in order to understand the context within a macro perspective.

Keywords: preschool teacher education, educational policy, issues in teacher education, Turkish context.

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Investigation of Shyness Levels of the Adolescents': Turkish Sample

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to analyze the adolescents' level of shyness according to "gender", "the place where the students spent most of their lives", "perceived attitude of mother", "perceived attitude of father" variables. The research study group consists of 628 freshman students of a state university in Ankara. In collecting the data related to the independent variables, the Personal Information Form, developed by the researchers; in collecting the data related to the students' shynesslevels, the Shyness Scale has been used. To compare the dyadic groups t-test and to compare the multiple groups one way ANOVA were used. According to the results, the shyness levels of the university students showed significant difference based on "gender", "the place which the students spent most of their lives", "perceived attitude of the mother", "perceived attitude of the father". In accordance with the obtained data, the results have been discussed on and some suggestions have been made.

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Factors Affecting Failing Programming Skill Examination of Computing Students

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Abstract

This descriptive study utilized a validated instrument to determine the factors that affect failing a programming skill examination. Through this finding, the study attempted to provide solutions to address the concerns of the students. The top three reasons why students failed the PSE were due to the insufficient time dedicated to programming courses, self-inefficacy in programming, and unmatched question-time allotment. Overall, respondents attributed their failed mark in PSE due to question-related factors. This was confirmed through regression analysis. Hence, it was concluded that students failed the PSE due to the fact that the perceived ability of the students in the PSE did not correspond with the degree of difficulty of the PSE questions. Further, the null hypothesis stating that student-related concerns do not predict the number of times the PSE would be taken was partially rejected. Hence, it was recommended that the PSE questions had to be calibrated based on the ability of the students. Future research directions were also presented.

Keywords: computing curriculum, difficulty in programming, programming, programming skill, tutoring

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INCLUSIVE ARTISTIC STRATEGIES IN TEACHING

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Abstract

We share in this forum some of the fundamental aspects of teaching innovation project developing PIE 180: Experience curricular adaptation. Visual impairment and training in Fine Arts, funded by the University of Málaga in the Research Plan.

The outcome of the workshop held at the Department of Visual Arts at the University of Évora strategic lines of action to adapt the general curriculum to individual needs of potential students with low vision who attend are also discussed in this communication and Degree in Fine Arts.

Low vision or blindness of some artists have attempted on more than one occasion rarities, enrichment and enhancement of their works.

Their ability to approach creating a very different state from the seer is reflected in the work. The artwork generated, in turn, projects to the viewer a new and disturbing visual image, sound and / or haptic.

Meet or approach the perception of students as budding artists, with low or no vision, and observe and reflect on their way to create and experiment and apply in total students these creative strategies is one of the objectives in the project presented, may be a key to the investigation of new methodologies in artistic creation.

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A Review of Researches on Teacher Evaluation in Turkey, 2004 -2014; Dimensions and Methodologies

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Abdulkadir Kurt,**

Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to review the research on teacher evaluation in Turkey and to arrive at a synthesis on the methodological issues and the conclusions through a content analysis strategy. Review of research on the selected studies were undertaken considering pre-determined criteria; studies (1) done with Turkish sample, (2) presented empirical data, (3) done between 2004 and 2014, and (4) published in refereed journals and defended as graduate studies (Master and PhD). These studies were analyzed across their purpose, design, sample, data collection, findings and implications. A total of 93 studies satisfied the criteria were included in the analysis. The content analysis of the selected studies indicated that the researches on teacher evaluation Turkey mainly focuses on six main dimensions, each related to (a) classroom management competency, (b) instruction (curriculum implementation), (c) teacher development (d) teacher knowledge, (e) teacher evaluation process, and (f) teacher thinking. At the end of the research study, a model reflecting the dimensions of research on teachers in Turkey was presented and the suggestion chart was constructed.

Keywords: content analysis, teacher evaluation

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A Meta-Analysis of the Research on the Effect of Project-Based Science Instruction on Science Achievement

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Murat Özel,

Abstract

In parallel with the reform attempts in and modernization of science education curricula in the world, Turkish education system has undergone curriculum renewal studies to meet the goal of scientific literacy to cultivate scientific literate person. Research on the effectiveness of Project Based Science Instruction (PBSI) in different science subjects under varying educational settings has received great attention of researchers especially after 2005, and thus, became a very popular area of interest by teachers, researchers, and educational policy makers. As a result of this increasing interest, the literature on science education in Turkey revealed many research aimed at assessing the effectiveness of PBSI and comparing it with other instructional strategies even for undergraduate level courses. The literature surveyed in Turkey, however, emerged no study aimed at combining all available studies, selecting, and analyzing them to reach to common findings and trend, and also draw an overall conclusion on the effectiveness of the PBSI in the field science education. In this regard, the purpose of this study was to conduct a meta-analysis of the existing research that assessed the effect of the PBSI on students' science achievement in Turkey. Experimental studies with statistical outcomes, undertaken with Turkish samples, and published through 2000 to 2014 in the referred journals or as master theses or doctoral dissertations were included in this. Of the available research, a total of 62 studies were found to satisfy the pre-determined inclusion criteria. Selected studies were coded by two researchers separately and consistency among the coders was found to be very satisfactory. Based on the random-effects model, the magnitude of the overall effect-size estimate showed that PBS instruction has a strong impact on the students' science achievement in Turkey (Cohen's $d = .963$, 95% CI = [.80- 1.12]; Hedges's $g = .912$, 95% CI = [.74- 1.89]).

Keywords: Meta-analysis, Project-Based Science instruction, achievement

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Teachers' Assessment of Values Education Implementation

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Abstract

The purpose of the study is to assess the implementation of values education in K-12 schools based on teachers' views. A total of 4153 teachers in various field and level (i.e. primary, secondary) constituted the sample of the study. Developed by the authors, a Questionnaire on Values Education Implementation with 33 items on a five point Likert type scale (5-strongly agree to 1-strongly disagree) was used to collected data from teachers. Description of the data were grouped into four components; aims, content, learning-instruction process and evaluation process. As for the component of "aim", teachers believed that the aims of values education clear and understandable ($M=3.96$, $SD=0.94$) and the aims are concurrent with the aims of other course curricula ($M=3.80$, $SD=0.96$). In terms of content, most of the teachers indicated that the values selected for the infusion were in line with our culture ($M= 4.14$, $SD=0.85$). In terms of learning process, teachers reported that the activities in related to values were successive to one another ($M=3.63$, $SD=0.91$), teachers were seen to be role models for achieving the aims values education ($M=4.13$, $SD=0.93$), principals should make a claim to values education for effective implementation ($M=4.06$, $SD=0.91$). As for evaluation, teachers believed that evaluation criteria set for values education were clear ($M=3.37$, $SD=1.03$). On the others hand, teachers reported that the classroom were crowded and this was not appropriate for values education implementation ($M=2.75$, $SD=1.16$) and separate course should be designed for the values education ($M=3.78$, $SD=1.21$). In short, this study revealed teacher' views on the implementation of values education in K-12 grades in Antalya.

Keywords: values education, teacher views

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The use of conceptual maps to promote the knowledge building in eLearning: An exploratory study

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Abstract

Background: The elearning contexts appeals to the autonomy of the learner in the construction of knowledge. The teacher has a very important role in designing environments that are appropriate for the development of this competence. Furthermore, the proposed tasks, and the methodologies as well, have a significant impact on the achievement of this goal.

Purpose of Study: Our study aimed to understand how the use of concept maps it is perceived, as a working method in the construction of individual knowledge and in helping to collaborative work.

Research Methods: The students worked over a semester with this approach. One maps were prepared in groups, and in the other one, maps were prepared individually. At the end of the semester it was requested for them to answer a questionnaire regarding the relevance of the concept maps in different aspects, including the construction of knowledge. The questionnaire was composed of 3 parts.

Findings: Preliminary results of this study indicate a positive evaluation of concept maps, particularly in the construction, representation and organization of knowledge. They help to simplify complex realities, promoting collaborative work and learning.

As a general observation, concept maps were considered a tool that allows a better understanding and representation of the different themes contents. However, the construction of concept maps in group is a more complex process.

Conclusions: This study and its preliminary results show the potential of this working tool, as well as the methodology adopted by us to promote not only individual learning but also collaborative work. Based on this evidence we will adopt the same methodology in other themes and with other groups of students, in order, to strengthen or find other work tracks.

Keywords: Elearning; conceptual maps; adults learning; learning process

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An attempt to reduce learning difficulties in Linear Algebra courses

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Abstract

In engineering careers, the study of Linear Algebra begins in the first course. Some topics included in this subject are systems of linear equations and vector spaces. Linear Algebra is very useful but can be very abstract for teaching and learning.

With regard to difficulties encountered in the students, from classroom experience, first-year teachers of Facultad Regional San Nicolás (FRSN) share their diagnosis. Students have difficulties caused by ignorance of certain mathematical symbols, either because they do not know or do not remember them. Other common difficulty appears when they try to justify the value of truth of mathematical propositions; there are few students who manage to express themselves in a proper way.

In an attempt to reduce learning difficulties, different approaches of teaching activities supported by interactive tools were analyzed. This paper presents these tools, designed with GeoGebra for the Algebra and Analytic Geometry course at the FRSN, Universidad Tecnológica Nacional (UTN), Argentina.

GeoGebra is a free software that brings together geometry, algebra and calculus allowing diverse representations of mathematical objects.

The proposed tools have been well considered by students. Their use in the classroom, allowed not only to improve visualization of the theoretical explanations given on the board, but also to increase the students' motivation. The authors think that classroom activities that can be planned with these tools can reduce the difficulties identified by teachers, related to the abstraction of the contents.

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Who Can Teach Philosophy?

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Abstract

Those who dealing with teaching philosophy know that it is difficult to teach philosophy than to teach other subjects. What is the reason for the difficulty? According to generally accepted theories of the teaching-learning, the difficulties can be classified into two causes. One of them concerns with the learners (lack of motivation, interest, concentration, background knowledge, etc.) the other one concerns with the teacher (lack of the knowledge of philosophy, inadequate skill and method of teaching, etc.)

Although both handicaps are dissolved it is dubious whether teaching philosophy is succeeded. Since the answer to the question of the “How can philosophy be taught? lies in the answer to the question of the “what philosophy is”.

In this presentation it will be discussed that philosophy is as a mood of thinking which radically differs from the other forms of thinking such as physics, chemistry, history, etc. It will be point out that the difficulty in teaching philosophy mainly arises from undistinguishing this peculiarity of the philosophy. It is going to be claimed that “teaching philosophy” is, in fact, teaching “a mood of thinking” so that it can’t be succeeded by the application and the methods of generally verified theories of the teaching and the learning.

Keywords: Philosophy, teaching, learning, method.

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An Integrated Reading/Writing Instruction through Reading Response Journals for Better EFL Trainees: The Case of Third-Year Students at Teachers' Training School of Constantine, Algeria

Ahlem Labiod,

Abstract

EFL Reading and writing are no longer seen as separate domains of research. Each brings from the other creating a new shift towards an integrated study of both skills. Researchers insist on the importance of connecting reading to writing and writing to reading in one instruction if the aim is to better learners' achievements in the foreign language. However, in the case of Teachers' Training School of Constantine, Algeria, these two language skills are still till nowadays taught separately neglecting all research claims about their interwoven nature. The purpose, then through this paper, was to study the positive impact of the implementation of an integrated reading/writing instruction through an exemplary practice; reading response journals, on third year trainees' achievements in both skills. An experimental design was used where an experimental group and a control one were pretested. Then, the control group received the traditional reading/writing instruction and the experimental one received the integrated exemplary practice for a period of 12 weeks. At the end, both the control and experimental groups were post-tested. The data obtained from this study was analyzed using students' t-test. The results confirmed the fact that teaching EFL reading and writing in an integrated way helped enhance trainees' level in both skills. These results suggested a curriculum revision calling for a new program melting reading and writing in one instruction.

Keywords: integrated instruction, traditional instruction, reading response journals

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Students acting as lecturers – how student-led presentations and discussions can improve the learning experience and increase motivation

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Abstract

The educational research has demonstrated that providing students with contexts for taking the initiative, assuming responsibility and pursuing interests increases their motivation and commitment to learning. The present study investigated how co-teaching a course through the academic presentation-discussion experience helped or hindered learning EFL and content, and how it influenced motivation. Twenty-seven Finnish and international students of education participated in the study in 2012-2014. Data were collected by means of a post-course mixed questionnaire. The course on English didactics was taught entirely in English to students specialising in teaching English as class teachers. Students prepared and delivered presentations on self-selected topics and led post-presentation discussions. The aim was to practise language, content, cognitive skills and learn from their own and other students' experiences. Two thirds of students rated the overall presentation experience as excellent and very good. Ninety-six percent of students stated that by preparing and delivering presentations they learned about the topic very much and quite a lot. Fifty-six percent of students declared that if the teacher had delivered presentations on the same topics instead of students, they would have learnt the content less. The level of motivation in 85% of students was rising or remained stable during the course. Sixty-three percent of students attributed increase in motivation to either peer or their own presentations. Students considered the presentation-discussion task as fairly difficult but also rewarding. They valued the social aspect of sharing knowledge through group work. The present study can contribute to making tertiary level content and language teaching more effective.

Keywords: tertiary level; content and language teaching; engaging students in learning;

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Museums as the Visual Laboratories in the Teaching - Learning-Process

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Abstract

Both the numbers and the kinds of museums has been considerably flourished in recent years. At the same time, “traditional approach” to the museums which conceives museums as places old objects are preserved and kept, is being slightly changed. Being aware of the fact that museums have positive effects on culture, economy, tourism and promotion, it is tended to design and to plan museums in that way. But on the other hand, the relation of the museums to the education is not being noticed neither by educators nor museum managers. Both for educators and museum managers, museums are still not more than “visiting places” at same special times. In fact, the objects embodied in museums are highly proper for educational purposes. In this presentation, the importance of the using museums in the effective learning-teaching process will be discussed. It is going to be argued that as a “concrete learning places” museums are the interactive learning laboratories in the process of learning-teaching proses. It will be concluded with some remarks on how to use and manage effectively museums for educational purpose.

Keywords: museum, education, learning, teaching

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WebQuest Experience: Pre-Service Secondary Math and Chemistry Teachers

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Abstract

The aim of this study was to examine the impacts of developing WebQuests on the attention, confidence, relevance, and satisfaction, or motivation of pre-service secondary mathematics and chemistry teachers in the instructional technologies and material design course. There were a total of 67 pre-service teachers, 32 pre-service secondary mathematics teachers and 35 pre-service secondary chemistry teachers, involved in this study that took place at seven weeks. The pre-service teachers in both groups designed their WebQuests suitable for the level of high school students. The researcher used a questionnaire in the collection of the data so as to find the motivational level of the participants. It was given to the participants by the researcher before and after the instruction during a single class period. The paired-samples t-test, independent samples t-test and ANCOVA were used in the analysis of the quantitative data. The study showed that designing WebQuests had more effects on the attention, confidence, and relevance of the pre-service chemistry teachers than that of pre-service mathematics teachers. However, in general although developing WebQuests had positive effects on the motivational levels of both pre-service secondary math and chemistry teachers, there were no statistically significant differences found in related to the motivational levels of both groups.

Keywords: WebQuests; pre-service teachers; attention; confidence; relevance; satisfaction

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The principles of the development and usage of video in the teacher education process

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Abstract

Nowadays video shooting has become a very popular means of teachers training because of its capability to capture various classroom interactions between a teacher and students for further analysis. The video sequences recorded during the lesson (named «short movies» in the article) allows beginning teachers to assess the quality of their teaching practice and to discover some methodical mistakes.

The article describes the main principles of video shooting that have been developed due to the classroom experiments. An experiment has been carried out in ITMO University in order to introduce video shooting into the learning process. The experiment was performed during the teaching practice of students who were enrolled in Professional Education program.

In the early stage of the experimental number of psychological and methodical problems was discovered, i.e. teachers' and students' unnatural behaviour in front of a video camera because of the fear of making the mistake, the necessity of the choice of the appropriate equipment for video shooting, correct placement of cameras, etc. Therefore, a number of principals and the methodology of video shooting in the classroom were developed. The principals can allow solving the problems mentioned in a cost-effective way and contribute to wide distribution of video usage in teacher education.

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The Effects of the Children’s University Activities to Children’s Views and Attitudes towards Scientists and Science

Huseyin Eş,

Abstract

Children's universities introduce science to children at early ages, and these universities are established and spreading across the world in order to popularize science and take children into these scientific activities. In this study it was aimed to determine the effects of the children's university activities to children's views and attitudes towards scientist and science. The project lasted two weeks and included 27 activities including science, mathematics, arts, and sports. The participants were 50 students from 6th grade. The data were collected through a 21 item-scale developed by Pell and Jarvis (2001), and by "The images of the scientist" scale developed by Song and Kim (1999). The results revealed that students' attitudes to science changed statistically. Also, the images of students to scientist changed positively at the end of the activities. The findings show that the children's university activities have reached its objectives. It is believed that children's universities should be expanded and supported, which may give chance children to meet science and university at early ages.

Keywords: children’s university, science school, science education, image of scientist,

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OPEN- AIR DRAWING AND PAINTING WORKHOPS AS A FORM OF TEACHING OF FREEHAND DRAWING AT THE FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE AT THE SILESIAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, POLAND

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Kinga Palus, Department of Fine Arts and Design, Faculty of Architecture, Silesian University of Technology, Poland

Abstract

Background: For many years in the curriculum of the Faculty of Architecture in University of Technology in Gliwice very important place took open-air drawing and painting workshops which in recent years as a result of program changes were withdrawn from the learning process. Reducing the number of hours of drawing studies resulted in fallback of artistic skills and aesthetic sensitivity. Several years of experience in teaching of drawing and painting, the authors of the article confirm their belief about the importance of teaching drawing by studying the forms of nature.

Purpose: Based on participant observation and analysis of selected works authors proof that drawing from nature through the encounter with the living architecture complemented the teaching process. Future artists enriched the workshop, allowed to study drawing and enabling cognitive abilities. The observation of objects allowed for analysis and synthesis of form, sensitivity on the environment and the context of space. Conclusion: Drawing is kind of practical tool for recording thoughts and is a method of presenting architectural vision. Withdrawal of holiday practice from the curriculum for future architects is the impoverishment of their learning process.

Keywords: teaching of freehand drawing, open-air drawing-painting, perception and creation

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A Comprehensive Review to Explore the Relationship between Effective Leadership and Quality Education in Children Learning Services: A Case Study from Australia

Sene Gide,

Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to demonstrate the importance of effective leadership in terms of providing the best quality services to young children and their families while building a positive working environment for all educators in a long day care centre.

All children deserve a good start to their life. For children, an early childhood service could be the first step to a quality education in their lives. Quality service cannot be provided without qualified educators and effective leaders who can guide them through the difficulties/challenges. This study employs a qualitative research method with document and literature review as well as a case study.

Therefore this study explores in detail the types of leadership adopted to provide quality education and services. This study also involves a case study from Boundary Lane Children's Centre. Hence, the outcome of this study will help to understand the importance of various leadership styles that may better guide the new directors in early children services.

Keywords: Early childhood, Children services, Quality education, Effective leadership

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Amphitheater Stairs” in the Scope of Socializing Circulation Areas in Schools

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Abstract

In the subject of school buildings researches in theory and application area produces the importance of physical environment. Most of research work indicate require of educational environments necessary to be support to individual physical, spiritual, mental and social development. Because space and person are concepts that always in interaction with one another. The places being lived forward people diversely by being aware or unaware. Schools contain many places in interaction with one another. Each of places has duties individually and their circulation areas matter in terms of their interaction with one another. In modern school design, circulation areas are the places which can support students to become socialized, enabling flexible using besides providing spatial connection. In this places outstanding atrium stairs create the subject of research within the scope of socializing. In this regard within the scope of research, first of all theoretic information has been given about socializing the circulation areas. Following that about school design subject global prominent designers who school samples which they care user’s relation between place and one another, has been chosen. Atrium stairs in chosen schools has been scrutinized and shed light to new designs over school samples creating in accordance with this intellection.

Keywords: Amphitheatre Stairs, Circulation areas, Socializing, School buildings

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Increasing modern engineer background by Physics course of lectures

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Abstract

Physics is an important field of knowledge, necessary for the modern higher education in engineering as a background for understanding of technical disciplines. Physics course of lectures in Politehnics is taught as a continuation and extension of the similar course in the high school. In the paper, we would like to present our experience in enhancing the information on the physics offered to the students, having in view their previous knowledge.

This is mainly made by:

- enlarging the area of study
- using specific methods, like: a mathematical formalism they learn at the university level, interesting practical laboratory works
- modern applications in engineering
- help of computer programs

For example, the Newtonian mechanics is completed by the analytical mechanics, the thermodynamics by the statistical physics, the elementary electromagnetism by the Maxwell's equations etc. Quantum mechanics and applications are of maximum importance for understanding many branches in engineering, as for example the nanotechnologies and the lasers and nonlinear optics. The needed formalism comprises partial derivatives, topology, field operatorial formalism, eigen functions etc. Many exercises and experimental data from the laboratory are computer processed. Detailed information is presented in the paper, as well as some examples and obtained results. Students have a better understanding, are able to perform projects on some modern subjects, and many of them participate with good results at the Scientific Session for students, organized every academic year.

Natural phenomena, technological applications and human life are in permanent interaction and the knowledge must update continuously. In conclusion, this study is in accord with the actual requirements of quality increasing in all domains.

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Determination of The Preservice Teachers' Goal Orientations for Learning through Card Sorting Activity

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Abstract

This study aims to investigate what preservice teachers' goal orientations are in the learning environment through card-sorting activities. Moreover this study **aims to examine** preservice teachers' goal orientations in terms of certain variables. Participants consisted of preservice teachers training in different departments in University of Nevşehir in Turkey. In this research card-sorting activity and semi-structured interview form were used as data collection tools. To capture preservice teachers' goal orientations for learning as the related literature suggested (Friedrichsen and Dana, 2003; 2005) a card-sorting activity including scenarios was prepared and used by researchers. In this activity, goal orientations scenarios were formed according to Elliot and Mcgroger' (2001) 2x2 goal orientations structures. Scenarios and semi-structured interview form which were used in this research were formed by consulting specialists. This study was designed in case study model of qualitative research methods. Finally, the data collected will be analyzed with descriptive analysis. According to the results; recommendations for implementation will be offered to practitioners.

Keywords: Preservice teachers, goal orientations, card-sorting activity, semi-structured interview form.

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THE EFFECTS OF TEMPERAMENTS AND CHARACTERS ON MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCE

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Abstract

The purpose of this research was to contribute to the field of personal development and services by determining the effects of temperaments and characters on multiple intelligence. In this study, the effect of the temperament and character traits in Cloninger's (1994) Psychobiological Personality on Gardner's (2006) multiple intelligences were investigated by descriptive method. The sampling group of this research consisted of a total of 198 students, including 70 (35.4%) males and, 128 (64.6%) females, who received pedagogical training course at Ordu University, during fall semester of 2014-2015. As data collection tools in the study, Temperament and Character Inventory developed by Cloninger et al. (1994) and adapted to Turkish by Kose et al. (2004) and Multiple Intelligence Scale developed by McClellan and Conti (2008) adapt to Turkish by Babacan (2012) were used. According to the findings of the study, only Reward Dependence temperament and Cooperativeness character traits were predictive and significantly associated with multiple intelligence areas. The Cooperation character was also found to be a significant predictor of interpersonal, kinesthetic, intrapersonal, verbal, logical, and visual intelligence field. The findings obtained from this study suggest that development of Reward Dependence temperament and Cooperativeness character will contribute more to development of multiple intelligences.

Keywords: Temperament; Character; Multiple Intelligence

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Student athletes, tutorship and dual career: a pedagogical overview

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Abstract

Nowadays, the issue of the dual career of student athletes represents a very central topic for European Universities, schools, educational agencies and institutions, because it carries complex demands for quality teaching activities, social and professional placement, and teaching program development. In this study we will show, through evidences from theoretical and experimental results, how tutorship is a key factor for the success of the university courses for dual career student athletes. This study will also demonstrate how good tutorship for student athletes is always the result of a systemic interaction among different agencies oriented towards a common and shared goal: that is to empower, through specific learning and education models, and transform the athlete as a resource for the community.

In conclusion, the study will stress the importance of studying, in the future, tutorship for the dual career of student athletes in light of a more systemic approach, taking into account all the multidimensional aspects and pedagogical challenges it embodies (social, cognitive, political, organizational, etc.), and framing it within the concept of “sport guidance”.

Keywords: dual career, sport, pedagogy, tutorship, student athlete

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In Synchronous: Benefits of Online Speaking with Peer Coaching

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Abstract

One of the main challenges for educators is getting students to improve their proficiency of language especially in conversations outside the usual class hours. This has resulted in methods like using e-learning tools to increase the opportunities for communication in the target language. Communication with peers in synchronous and asynchronous mode has become easier especially with the current developments of technology. Learners tend to have a lot of respond time if their communication is done in an asynchronous mode, however many are unequipped to handle synchronous communication. Using a setting of synchronous based online communication, this research explores the usefulness of synchronous communication among peers and also looks at the strategies utilised by learners when communicating with peers of similar and higher competency in English. This study was conducted for six weeks and the participants had to complete two thirty minute sessions twice a week with a partner. The sessions were then recorded and analysed by the researcher. Furthermore, the participants also had to write a short reflection about their completed session and also answer a questionnaire at the end of the week. The results were analysed using SPSS. The overall findings indicate that students benefit from online synchronous communication.

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INFLUENCE IN KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT COMPETENCES OF PROJECT-BASED LEARNING MODEL IN EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS

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Abstract

The Information Society in which we live, expects from college graduates not only to have technical knowledge about a field, but also to know how to apply it to solve complex problems in an effective way. On this regard, the Knowledge Management is presented as a model to achieve this goal. It is defined by three basic dimensions: structural dimension (information management), relational dimension (organizational culture of collaboration) and cognitive dimension (decision making and generation of new knowledge). The development of methodologies aimed at achieving these three dimensions and measuring their positive effects become a priority in teaching in the university. The aim of this study was to evaluate the effect of the Project-based Learning Model on the skills development for knowledge management. 215 students of Educational Psychology participated in this study. A revised version of the Evaluation of Competences to Management Knowledge questionnaire (ECMaK) was used. The EFA and CFA analyses pointed out the adequacy of a three dimensions' model: information management, networking and analysis and troubleshooting. Students filled the questionnaire before and after the intervention (pre and post-test). The effects of the program were analyzed with nonparametric Wilcoxon test, recommended for non-normal sample distribution. The results showed a significant effect of Project-based Learning Model. In all the dimensions measured, the perception of competence development for knowledge management was higher in the posttest phase. This study underscores the need to move towards methodologies which promote experiences beyond the individual information management; they should enable the students move towards higher-order psychological tasks in which shared decision-making and self-regulation are included.

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A better school organizational performance? Yes, but how?

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Abstract

This study ascertains, describes and examines the relationship between better school performance in a set of high secondary public schools in Campania (Italy) and significant variables of the school organization.

Within a systemic perspective, the study applies the analysis of principal components and the multiple regression model to first identify an objective output variable, i.e. Rate of Invalsi tests with higher marks than national average, which might measure a better school performance and then select the more significant variables which bear upon it. The findings show that these variables, when synergically working, will make the system itself function more effectively. This is, in our case, the interrelated action of stakeholders and facilities of the school system, that influences the variability of the output variable to the extent of 70%.

Knowledge and careful consideration of these factors can help increase a school's effectiveness, which allows the students to achieve better results confirmed, certified we would say, by their Invalsi tests, only if such factors are successfully managed. It is, however, necessary to more deeply study and evaluate these results to find out how and to what extent stakeholders' motivation comes into play.

Keywords: performance; public schools; resources; system

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MONEY AND MONEY-RELATED METAPHORS IN BUSINESS ENGLISH

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Abstract

Problem Statement: According to cognitive linguistic approach metaphors are clustered in different conceptual categories. The paper is structured around Conceptual Metaphor Theory and it analyses the mapping and conceptualisation of money metaphors by means of cognitive linguistic categories: *money is liquid*, *money is solid*. Out of the business metaphors we selected the money and money-related ones.

We also analyse the means by which these categories are obtained: verbs, idioms, pre- and post-modifiers, etc.

Purpose of Study: The aim of this paper is to analyse and make an inventory of money and money-related metaphors in Business English. The findings are clustered according to the categories proposed by cognitive linguistics. We also draw on the pedagogical aspect of teaching business metaphors, as a good command of business metaphors offers students a refined knowledge and an in-depth perspective on language.

Methods: Our approach relies on amassing small parallel corpora of Business English texts and headlines. The first stage relies on identifying the texts to be incorporated. The sources of the texts to be included in the corpora are represented by financial newspapers and publications, websites and online sources. The second stage refers to establishing the headwords: *money*, *cash*. The next stage is the hand-coding and automated coding of metaphors with the help of concordancers. The same conceptual categories of money and money-related metaphors will be identified both in TL and SL, however we do not attempt to translate business metaphors in TL. The final stage includes the interpretation of results as well as the contrastive analysis of the cognitive categories identified in both TL and SL. The findings are subject both to quantitative (the number of occurrences within a text) and qualitative analysis, comparisons and interpretations.

Conclusions: Our paper identifies and interprets the similarities and differences between conceptual categories of business English metaphors in English and Romanian.

Keywords: business English; metaphors; money.

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Prediction of Subsequent Academic Performance with Cognitive Admissions Test in Dental Education

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Abstract

Problem of Statement: Cognitive admission tests are found to be poor predictors of success in medical schools.

Purpose of the Study: The aim was to evaluate the correlation between the success percentile/ranking in the Student Selection and Placement test (ÖSYS) and subsequent academic performance in a dental school.

Methods: This study comprised of four consecutive batches of students who were admitted to Baskent University School of Dentistry between 2006-2009 by ÖSYS (n=100). The percent success ranking and the Grade Point Average (GPA) of each student data were retrieved from student records available in the student affairs section of the institution. The data were evaluated statistically by Pearson Correlation test.

Results: No correlation was found between the success in ÖSYS and success in subsequent academic life in dental education in the selected cohort.

Conclusions: Students who did well in the entrance tests do not necessarily succeed in the subsequent academic performance.

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Teacher Motivation - the key to implementation of new pedagogical tools

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Abstract

The academic staff is an important pillar in achieving good pedagogical results in any university in the world. The role of teachers in the process of transforming educational systems on all levels should be under lined and should be considered to be an important strength of any educational institution. On the other hand lack of motivation and commitment can have a negative impact on the students' learning effects. Teachers' contribution in development and implementation of new pedagogy greatly depends on their motivation and willingness for taking initiatives. There are many factors which affect the academician's motivation which includes rewards, incentives, reduced workload, professional career opportunities etc. The standard of educational institutions can be improved through knowledgeable, committed and motivated staff. The biggest challenge for universities is to get the teachers have the work done willingly and efficiently. The research on factors that could motivate academic teachers are discussed in the manuscript. The evaluation is made on the basis of survey carried out in several European technical universities. The results could be treated as a founding for change of policy towards teachers in order to make progress in modern pedagogical tools implementation in teaching process in different engineering courses.

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Creating a Positive Learning Environment for Adults

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Abstract

The key requirements for creating a positive learning environment do not come readily packaged. Instead they require an astute grasp of the differences between androgogy and pedagogy. Instructors can then implement the concepts to keep students motivated and engaged in the learning process. Hallmarks of a positive learning environment are trust, open communication and shared learning experiences. Instructors who maintain the positive nature of the environment make use of the existing knowledge and skill of their students. Fundamental aspects of the environment include: A deep understand of how the adult student functions in the classroom. A willingness and commitment to communicate with adult students in a way that fosters open exchanges. When instructors view common classroom events through the prism of adult learning theory they gain a different perspective on creating a positive learning environment. Instructors help adult students identify their own mistakes and facilitate improved understanding and performance. Some basic guidelines that instructors should follow to create and maintain a positive learning environment include: Treat students as adults and recognize their existing skill and experience. Set clear and meaningful expectations for adult students. Avoid creating an environment that results in hostility. Address errors privately and respectfully. One of the most important elements for instructors to remember is the need to treat adult learners as adults. Instructors should be conscious of this factor and work to avoid such circumstances by creating an environment of clear expectations, open dialogue, and professional feedback. Feedback should be clear and actionable and it must be delivered privately. Public criticism of an adult learner is viewed as disrespectful and hostile and often results in a breakdown in communication. Careful examination of the needs of an [adult learner](#) provides an important set of guidelines to all instructors. These guidelines are central to maintaining a positive learning environment and to maintaining communication.

Keywords: learning environment, adult learner, positive learning environment, Willingness, Feedback, criticism.

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Personality traits Profile of sport recreation Specialist and its relationship to communication skills for sectors beneficiaries

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Abstract

The aim of the study was to identify the relationship between personality traits of sports recreation Specialist and communication skills using the descriptive study design. The Sample: 243 sport recreation Specialist from Cairo and Giza , 50 of them were a pilot study sample and 193 core sample .The researchers were used the list of personal characteristics of the profile Sports Recreation Specialist (preparation of researchers) , and test communication skills prepared by Mohammad Hassan Allawi , and the most important results showed the presence of a positive significant relationship between personality traits for a sports recreation specialist and communication skills. And that the most important personality traits for a sports recreation specialist emotional stability, harmony, emotional, decision-making, self-confidence, take responsibility, creativity, flexibility, ambition, and leadership. The researchers recommended the selection of recreation Sports Specialist in accordance with the personal attributes and the need to develop the personality traits that affect effective communication skills Specialist and interested in developing communication skills with the beneficiaries sectors.

Keywords: Personality traits Profile, sport recreation Specialist, communication skills.

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University Students' Reasons of Seeking Psychological Help: Turkish Sample

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Abstract

University students are trying to cope with some problems such as the adaption of the university life while they are fulfilling their developmental tasks. It is possible to deal with the problems, which the university students experience, as identity seek, the developmental problems such as academic, cultural, domestic and experiencing economic problems and sexual abuse, and psychological problems such as identity problems, use of drugs, suicidal ideas/suicide attempts. It can be said that the fact that the problems the university students experience in the fields of education, profession and personality which can be characterized as developmental, and particularly the increase in their psychological problems have further featured the significance of student psychological counseling and guidance centers (Erkan, Cihangir Çankaya, Terzi, Özbay, 2011). As Bishop (2006) indicated 'the existence of a college counseling center, armed with resources that are adequate for the population of the campus, can be a key factor in managing crises, assisting in recruitment and retention efforts, and reducing liability risks.

In a study which was conducted at Center for Psychological Counseling and Experimental Psychology in Istanbul University, it was found that adults apply to counseling for their communication problems and depressive symptoms (Toğrol, Şendil, Önk, & Girgin, 1995). However, in another study, results indicated that university student' hesitate to seek help when it comes to their sexual lives and problems with opposite-sex (Kızıldağ, Demirtaş-Zorbaz, Gençtanırım, Arıcı, 2012).

Purpose of Study: The aim of the study is to determine university student' reasons of the seeking psychological help from Psychological Counseling Center in Hacettepe University.

Methods: In this research, preliminary interview forms of university students who applied to Hacettepe University Psychological Counseling Unit during the 2014 – 2015 academic years were examined. The participants of this study were consisted 20 male and 57 female who apply for psychological help to Hacettepe University Counseling Center during 2014 – 2015 academic year. Datas were collected from preliminary interview forms. In this study frequencies and percentages was calculated to determine which problem field university student's have.

Findings: Reasons of the seeking psychological help from Psychological Counseling Center in Hacettepe University are, Anxiety/Fear %11.2, Confision%11.2, Anger %9.5, Unhappiness %8.3, Stress %7.9, Depression %7.9, Sleep Disorder %6.2, Romantic Relationship %5.8, Sexual Problems%1.2, Eating Deserdar %1.2, Economic Problems %0.8, Religion Problems %0.8.

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Opinions of primary school teachers about teaching human rights, citizenship and democracy in primary schools in Turkey

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Abstract

Primary school teachers in Turkey has started to teach a completely new lesson, Democracy, Citizenship and Human Rights to year 4 students in 2015/2016 educational year. Because it is a new lesson and primary school teachers will be teaching it for the first time, it is important to see what they really think about the lesson and its teaching. This study attempts to find out what primary school teachers' think about Democracy Citizenship and Human rights lesson. The study was carried out with 263 primary school teachers that overwhelming majority of them were working in state primary schools in Kayseri and Trabzon in 2013-1014 academic year. A questionnaire was developed and used for data collection. The data was analysed through descriptive analysis by using SPSS 17.0 statistical package program. The results of the study showed that majority of teachers have a positive attitude about teaching Human Rights. Those who are in favour believe that with the right pedagogy, the students of 4th grade could be taught about democracy, citizenship and human rights. They also think that such lesson is important for self-development of pupils and raising their awarnesses of being an individual and a member of the society.

Keywords: Human Rights, Democracy and Citizenship Education, Primary school Teachers and students, Turkey

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The views of university students regarding entrepreneurship

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Abstract

In this study, it is aimed to determine the views of university students regarding entrepreneurship. The study group consisted of 101 4th year students studying at Kırıkkale University Faculty of Arts and Sciences' department of biology, mathematics and literature in Spring 2014-2015 academic year. In this study, University Students' Views Regarding Entrepreneurship Form were developed by the researcher in order to determine the views of university students. The study is a descriptive type of study. These forms consisted of five open ended questions related to the students' views about entrepreneurship. The answers given to the five open ended questions in the form were combined and gathered under common headers. The frequencies and percentages will be calculated later on.

Keywords: University students; entrepreneurship; students views;

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Social participation levels of undergraduate students

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Abstract

Today one of the main tasks of education is that it is to educate individuals with effective communication skills. The development of communication skills of the students can be provided with social participation. Social participation which one of the basic skills in social studies is an important element that contributes to people's socialization. But what is the level of social participation level of students? It is not known exactly. The aim of this study is to determine the level of social participation of university students. The study group consists of 698 undergraduate students. Measuring tool used in the study was developed by the researcher. There are 24 items on the measuring tool. The scale used in the study is to design according to a Likert-type scale models (five options). The study is based on quantitative research methods. According to the analysis results it is seen which social participation skills of 4th undergraduate students is higher than other participation. In terms of departments it is determined that there was no significant difference between students who participated in the study. it is understood that the majority of participants is evaluated by themselves as have a social participation level 6 points out of 10. Another finding is that reached in the study social participation skills of girl students is higher than boys. More detailed findings will be given in full text.

Keyword: Social participation, undergraduate students, quantitative research

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Developing and Teaching Educational Leadership Skills Through Theatre Techniques

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Abstract

Problem: How to Learn and Teach Educational Leadership Skills

Purpose of Study: To discover strategies for successfully leading a teaching and learning unit in a large university

Method: Implementation of theatre dramaturgy: given circumstances, objective, motivation, and obstacle

Findings: Using such techniques enables the administrator to approach a situation or person honestly, without pre-conceived notions of an unsuccessful or troublesome outcome. This also applies to interactions with those we work for as well as those who work with and for us.

Too often, leadership in United States universities emerges from within departments and such persons have little or no training in successful leadership skills. Throughout over 20 years as a leader in a busy and complex department, and as a twice elected president for an international research organization I have developed a technique for teaching leadership skills that is based in theatre pedagogy. This technique enables the administrator to approach a situation or person honestly, without pre-conceived notions of an unsuccessful or troublesome outcome. Further, it gives the administrator the ability to explore a situation as a text rather than as personal attack or experiencing the problem with a sense of inadequacy. While I propose strategies for successfully leading a teaching and learning unit in a large university, these skills are applicable as well to all leadership positions and serve not only to facilitate work as a leader but also as a liaison with higher administrative offices.

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An evaluation for using electronic response system in learning environments

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Abstract

In this study, the suggestions related to the definition of Electronic Response System (ERS), its technical characteristics, areas of usage, utilization in teaching environments were evaluated. In addition, students' perspectives about the use of (ERS), the types of questions to be used with ERS, effective question writing techniques, and effective use of ERS in the learning environments were discussed. According to the related literature, the revealed researches were analyzed and various suggestions related to effective use of this ERS were provided.

The results emerging within the framework of literature indicate that the use of ERS in the classroom may establish positive results on cognitive and affective fields. In the cognitive field, it shows that the ERS technology had positive effects on students' outcomes and academic performance in the examinations depending on the method of using it. In the affective field, evidences were observed proving that ERS can increase the interest of the students, enhance the learning process of the students through increasing the feedbacks from both students and the teachers, make students actively participated to the lesson, encourage engagement via enhancing participation to the lesson, motivate the students at the point of making preparations prior to the lesson through contributing to the notes which students take during the lesson. It is also thought that ERS may contribute to the processes of instructional process through differentiating the evaluation activities for teachers and enrich the evaluation and measurement activities when especially convenient settings are established.

Keywords: electronic response system (ERS); learning environment; technology

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Gamification for Providing Students' Participation in Online Synchronous Learning Settings: An Example Scenario

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Abstract

Learning in online environments requires interacting with information and communication tools, independent from time and location. Learners can use various sources (web pages, books, magazines, articles...) and in order to accomplish learning objectives. They can follow the courses individually or cooperatively. In recent years, researchers are tended to provide new ways for many elements that occurred in face-to-face learning environments (interaction, socialization, motivation, feedback, cognitive development, achievements...) to be used effectively in using synchronous learning settings. Some of the researches addressed some deficiencies in synchronous lessons such as keeping students' motivation alive during the lesson periods, being active during the lessons and participating in the lessons. Though some efforts were provided in this issue, there is still no absolute suggestion for synchronous settings about the question: 'Is the learner actually active in the environment that seems to be in the environment?' or 'How to provide perception for the way of being in the environment?'. The technological affordances of settings and selecting appropriate strategies of using these affordances may support providing answers for these questions.

In this context, this study focus on designing sample scenarios in line with using basic gamification elements for increasing the students' participation in synchronous learning settings. The research includes two basic design scenarios. First scenario is puzzle activity which gives learning responsibilities to the learners. Learners are not responsible just for their learning progress but they are responsible also for their friends' progress as well. The tasks in the lessons are separated in to pieces of a puzzle related to the sub-units of the topics. In this activity, teacher acts in the role of directing students to fulfill their dedicated part on the board. The puzzle piece is given to the student time to time by teacher during the entire lesson. Second scenarios is the activity named as "creating blocks" that is thought to help teacher's activity which will provide an interesting and attractive learning environment for students. This kind of activity is hoped to motivate learners to continue on completing the tasks. In addition using this scenario will provide learners feel in the competition and enhance external motivation to students during the semester. Learners will gain points from mini tests done at the end of the lessons, from the communication with the teacher, from the answers of the questions that are asked, from the homework, and from the attendance at classes during the semester. While the students build their own blocks like a contractor with the points they earned, in addition of aimed learning outcomes they will also achieve the pleasure of succession by improving their imagination.

Considering the ways of designing both of the activities, it is suggested for using a way with the basic elements that includes awards and reputation such as participation points of gamification, rosettes, levels and leader boards. It is hoped that the suggested way can be an example for works in increasing the participation in synchronous learning settings.

Keywords: Synchronous Online Learning, Gamification, Participation

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The Relationship between Cyber-Loafing and Internet Addiction

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Abstract

The goal of this study was to investigate the relationship between preservice teachers' internet addiction level and cyber-loafing activities. This study was conducted as a survey study. Participants of the study was Computer Education and Instructional Technology department students (n=139) at Ankara University. "Cyber loafing activity Scale" originally developed by Blanchard and Henle (2008), adopted to Turkish by Kalayci (2010) and updated by Yasar (2013) and "Internet Addiction Scale" developed by Sahin and Korkmaz (2011) was used as data collection instruments. To analyze the data descriptive statistics, Mann Whitney U, Kruskal Wallis H, and Spearman Rho Correlation coefficients was used. There were significant differences between the gender groups both in cyber-loafing activities and internet addiction levels. Male preservice teacher had higher internet addiction levels and cyber-loafing activity scores in average. However there were not significant differences between different groups based on grade level, period of internet usage, perceived internet ability, both for cyber-loafing activities and internet addiction levels. There were a moderate positive relationships between internet addiction and individual cyber-loafing, and search cyber-loafing. There were also a small positive relationships between internet addiction and social cyber-loafing. There was not a significant relationship between internet addiction and news cyber-loafing.

Keywords: cyber-loafing, internet addiction, preservice teachers

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Using Interactive direct teaching based on constructivist learning (IDTBCL) for understanding of Condensation and Exothermicity

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Abstract

In this study, we examined to usage of Interactive Direct Teaching Based on Constructivist Learning (IDTBCL) learning approach. The approach is carried out for apprehensive of condensation and exothermicity is evaluated as an oriented change or a mental passing from comprehending to understanding. The mental transition which will be actualized through the teaching activities in lesson practice of this approach includes creating the awareness of students related to the current concepts, creating a broad mental space including multiple conceptual parts, providing the adaptation of the new information to the previous knowledge through constant contextual communication, and harmonization. Here one can frequently encounter with common misconceptions about Condensation and exothermicity. Therefore, these mentioned concepts are chosen as a reference point for creative application. In this study, 24 grade 10-students from a vocational high school, located in Istanbul, were selected as participants. The treatment was carried out in an action research design practical. The participants answered a conceptual test, its Cronbach alpha coefficient was determined as .67, both a pretest and posttest. The participants were instructed by teacher using the interactive- direct teaching based on constructivist learning approach. The results show that there was a significant difference in accordance with the success of the application between the pre-test and post-test. Moreover, the IDTBCL approach, a level of two-dimensional mental process skill in the students enabling access to the comprehension level has developed to level of a three-dimensional mental process skill enabling the conceptualization. Also, it has been observed that students developed positive attitudes toward the interactive direct teaching based on constructivist learning approach after the application.

Keywords: Constructivism, Learning theories, Physical properties, Professional development, Student-centered learning

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Portuguese educational resources planning over the past 80 years

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Abstract

In the last 80 years Portugal has suffered profound political, demographic, social and economic changes, from a dictatorial regime to a democratic system, from a young population to an ageing population and from a rural economy to a service economy. In terms of education, it has progressed from an education for the elites, with a compulsory education period of about three years, to an education for everyone and for a longer period, in which the compulsory education extended to 12 years. The educational resources planning has not always been well adjusted to the conceptual and legislative framework and to the demographic and socioeconomic needs, but the recent community funding (2007-2013) has created the conditions to give a fresh impetus to the planning of infrastructures and to rethink their assumptions and Portugal now has schools which are more well adapted to the characteristics of modern portuguese society.

This research project sought to understand the current state of education in Portugal through the analysis of its main tendencies in recent decades, illustrating the relation between the purpose of education, political decisions and social dynamics and the educational resources planning through the evolution of the school network over this period.

This research paper is based upon a thorough diachronic documentary research, focusing on case studies of high and low density territories in central Portugal, which led to the gathering of evidence that, despite the national guidelines, the country has not progressed at an uniform rate and there is a strong interference of the different territorial dynamics in the choices made and in the results achieved.

Keywords: Educational resources; planning; school results

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A Comparative Evaluation on the Spontaneity at the Ambient Conditions of the Evaporation and Condensation in the Context of Temperature and Entropy Change of the Surroundings

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Abstract

Evaporation is an endothermic process taking place by heat transfer from the environment into any liquid system. Spontaneity of evaporation in the liquid systems at all temperatures and atmospheric pressure is due to a huge increase emerging in the entropy of system during the phase change. A very higher translational freedom degree of the particles in the gas phase in the entropy context means that a much larger disorderliness could be created or a much more micro-states could be generated. Moreover the reduction of entropy in the surroundings is also decreased with increasing of the phase transition temperature. Therefore, by increasing of temperature at atmospheric pressure an increased evaporating tendency and hence a higher vapor pressure of liquid can be expected. The objective of this study is to compare the levels of spontaneity at atmospheric pressure of the evaporation and condensation in the context of temperature and entropy change of the surroundings and also correct common misconceptions about these two processes.

Keywords: Thermodynamics, Physical properties, professional development

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A functional Analogy on Thermodynamic Basis onto Instructor and Learner Interaction, and Learning: Reversible Work and Meaningful Learning

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Abstract

Learning is the change that could be achieved by the learners themselves, as depending to the interaction qualifications of teaching medium in terms of the quality of outcomes. All activities formatted by the instructor organized in class for the realization of learning may be defined as a process of teaching, or a course. Firstly we'll consider on the validity of the statement which "The learning only depends to changes in the cognitive levels of learners before and after the teaching" from the point of view of thermodynamics. For this purpose, we have developed a functional analogy based on thermodynamic basis. By a functional analogical approach constructed onto the two fundamental concepts (learning and the work in thermodynamics) in this study, the presentation of the similarities between the interactive nature of learning and the requirements enabling a mechanical change such as the reversible expansion are aimed. With this analogical approach, the exciting similarities between the couples including the ideal gas and instructor/teacher, reversible or irreversible expansion caused by the pressure change with learner/student, and the obtained work and the concept of learning are established.

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Eco territory: an educational strategy of transformation and (re)affirmation of low density territories

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Abstract

Analyzing the endogenous resources and understanding the synergies between the communities and their territory is indispensable for a sustainable development plan. Dependent upon a profound change of mentalities in the face of new development challenges, education is a fundamental pillar in this process.

Born of the need to promote a strategy for the balanced development of the territory, the philosophy associated with ecoterritories results in an organizational model based on their endogenous potential. Grounded on pedagogical, research, and territorial development components, it combines policies, actions, programs and infrastructures that create the context for the territory to be seen, in environmental terms, as a true education agent, providing learning opportunities for its inhabitants and challenging them to contribute to its transformative process.

Developed in collaboration with local actors by a research group from the University of Coimbra, this project is part of a wider plan of knowledge consolidation and support for the development of an ecoterritory model applied to low-density areas of the Central Region of Portugal.

This paper presents the result of a research/action process which started with documentary analyzes, acknowledgment of the territory and close connections to the schools' educational projects. The goal was to contribute to the consolidation of territorial communities more skilled and prepared to take on renewed forms of integrated and sustained development.

Keywords: territory; sustainable development; ecoterritory

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Investigation of the Anxiety Level of the Secondary School Students for Different Variables

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Abstract

Test anxiety affects the majority of our society (students, parents and peer group) negatively. The reason of the anxiety is the thought of being unsuccessful and the fear of this failure making the life harder. Evaluating the students' test anxiety is important for the education activities. In this study, the level of the anxiety which affects the secondary school students both physically and mentally was investigated in terms of how they see themselves, general test anxiety, social anxiety and the anxiety towards others attitude with respect to different variables. For this, a revised test anxiety survey was applied to 111 students of which 53 are females and 58 are males studying in Erzurum Nevzat Karabağ Anatolian Teacher Training High School. The data of the survey were analyzed with SPSS 20.0. The results show that the gender, one of the independent variables, affects the level of test anxiety whereas the grade and the education level of the father affect the anxiety of "what others think of me". However, it was concluded from the results that the education level of the mother, the income of the family or the number of siblings have no effect on the level of anxiety.

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Territories and educational (un)success. A case study in a Portuguese supra-municipal community

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Abstract

This paper is based upon a study requested by a supra-municipal project to prevent dropout and combat educational failure in Portugal (19 municipalities distributed between the coast and the mountain areas). This project serves as a support for the submission of applications for community funds under the European Strategy 2020, by schools and by the different educational actors in the territories.

The diversity of conclusions reached led to the desire to understand the connections between the territories and some educational success and unsucess indicators. The goal was the analysis of school grades (grades in tests and in national level examinations, and retention and dropout rates) in their relation with the several physical and socioeconomic characteristics of the territories involved. For this purpose, a statistical methodology of multivariate analysis (Principal Component Analysis) was used, in an effort to identify territorial uniformity patterns. At the same time, a composite indicator based on the results of the 4th grade (Portuguese Education System) was created. The coupling of these two dimensions led to a reflection on the absence of relations between the socioeconomic profile of the territories and the educational achievement of students, being these relations reflected cartographically through an Inverse Distance Weighting (IDW) interpolation methodology. Considering the multiplicity of factors that can affect educational success, the results presented here constitute a solid starting point for future research, as for the monitoring required in the implementation of a contingency plan.

Keywords: educational success; school dropout; socioeconomic contexts; Principal Component Analysis (PCA).

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Developing a Social Media Scale as a Learning Environment

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Abstract

Given the name of social media as a communication environment has begun to appear in recent years. Most students have spent a large portion of their time in social media. The use of social media for learning brings a new dimension to education. In this study, it is aimed to measure the teacher candidates' attitudes toward to usage of social media as a learning environment. In this regard, the literature surveying and taking account to the expert ideas were prepared a five-point Likert scale of thirty items. The scale of 18 items with a high validity has been administrated. Eighty participants attending in Department of Science education at a university in the Eastern Anatolia were chosen as sampling. The results of principal components analysis of items in the scale were examined and determined the correlation coefficient above 0.471. The Cronbach alpha reliability coefficient was found to be 0.871.

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Who are the real immigrants?

Technology utilization habits of the members of digital era

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Abstract

As time passes, technology becomes more advanced and accessible to a broader audience. Contemporary mobile devices carry more processing power than the computers of previous generations. Furthermore, advances on broadband internet connectivity make it possible for users to work in any place at any time that is convenient to them. Considering all the developments, one would expect to see an increase in the productivity. However, many studies have indicated that so-called digital natives are not as competent in technology utilization as predicted by the researchers. Today, people have access to a least a mobile device and internet more than ever before yet their use patterns are mostly limited to social media sites and instant messaging applications, which is not surprising considering the emphasis put on consumption in the design of such devices. This situation holds true especially for the developing Middle Eastern countries. Understanding what factors drive user behavior is of importance to improve current and upcoming generations' meaningful technology use. Hence, the purpose of this study was to investigate technology using habits of teacher candidates at a state university in northeast Turkey and examine antecedents of their habits. Data collected from 95 participants through a technology utilization survey. Focus group interviews were also conducted with select participants. The results indicated that, regardless of age, technology using habits stem from three main sources: personal interest, willingness to learn and demands that the environment put on individuals.

Keywords: technology utilization, digital natives, meaningful technology use

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Teaching Preservice Mathematics Teachers about Climate Change through Mathematics-Rich Inquiry Activities

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Abstract

Climate change is one of the most important global environmental issues today. Educating citizens of all ages have become an emerging teaching agenda so that the citizens can make well informed decisions about this issue. However, many studies in the field indicated that teachers hold many misconceptions concerning this issue. Therefore, it becomes vital to teach and foster preservice teachers' understanding about the issue, who are the effective mediums of future change, during their college education. Therefore, a nine week (90 minutes each) unit was designed. Activities each week included explicit mathematics and science connections and were inquiry based. Participants were 43 preservice mathematics teachers who were enrolled in an environmental education course at a college in the northeast Turkey. Data sources included pre and posttests with 8 open-ended questions about global climate change. At the end of the intervention a semi-structured interview, that was aimed to understand preservice teachers' understanding and beliefs about their future teaching about the issue, was conducted with 8 preservice teachers. Result indicated that preservice teachers improved their understanding of the issue, deemed important the place of mathematics in teaching about climate change, indicated that the mathematics concepts can be taught through such activities but mentioned about the time constraints for the implementation. By taking into account these findings, possible implications for teaching climate change in college environmental courses is discussed.

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Psychomotor qualities education in physical education lesson from primary school to students from rural areas

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Abstract

Introduction and aim. The purpose of this work is the design and implementation of a education program for psychomotor components selected by us (the orientation in space, laterality and the body scheme recognition), of the little student in the lection of physical education focused on using the game methods (games of movement). Considering the young age of the students, this will be a advance factor in achieving the target that we propose in to educate the components psychomotric. We started from the idea that this will be a great advantage to the aspects involved, motricity related to the primary cycle. Psychomotricity education in primary school represents a particular importance due to age of the students. It is the best period for individual life, the optimal stage at which the issue of educating psihomotric at maximum parameters.

Materials and methods. Ascertaining research was conducted in the school year 2014-2015, on a sample of 96 subjects, of which 33 boys and 63 girls from Galati city. The average age of the students is 10-11 years. In research conducted we used the following assessment tools for testing the selected psychomotricity education components: test Ozeretski - Guillmain, spatial orientation test - Head and sample Piaget laterality – Harris.

Results and discussion. In the test Ozeretski - Guillmainn coefficient of achieving the final testing samples compared with initial testing increased by 39% in the static coordinate with 20% for dynamic coordination of hands, 38% for general dynamic coordination, 4% movement speed, 38% and 7% in the simultaneous movements in sincinezii.

In the test of Head Piaget, 10 years old children have had an improvement in solving the tasks by 22.7%, increasing from 70.8% in initial testing to 93.5% final testing.

With increasing age (11 years), due to greater capacity for understanding, the difference percentage between the two tests, initial and final, is also the larger at around 30%, in the first part students progress being 63.2% in the second part it increase to 93%.

In the first phase of laterality sample Harris (initial testing), students 10 years and those with right-handed cross laterality, presenting numerical values equal approximately 46% and 47%. After final testing support at this age group tend to notice foster a deft part (right-handed), this change highlighting the cross laterality students, the percentage reaching 14% migration.

At age 11 highlighted finalizing their initial testing laterality 12% of students being ambidextrous reaching 41% final testing. As all samples are statistically significant $p < .05$

Conclusions. By analyzing the first results (initial testing) we found a negative influence of the modern civilization (standard of living, technology, automation, physical inactivity, and replacing outdoor games with video games) on the driving age to preschoolers.

We therefore recommend a strategy of intervention in the educational process using motion gaming based on programs in order to balance the scales in favour of development of psychomotor qualities of primary school students.

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Learning from the past. The amazing case of Ezequiel Santana (1874-1938), a role model in innovative teaching strategies through photography

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Abstract

At the present, we can find some published research about Father Manjón and Ave María Schools and a wide acknowledgement of their innovative didactics. But very little is known of Ezequiel Santana (1874-1938), an extraordinary educational leader, a role model for social innovation and entrepreneurship who founded an adult school, an agricultural labor union, wrote theater pieces, tales, novels and assumed the systematic use of photography as a mean of observation and knowledge transfer in and out of school. The original glass plates of Ezequiel Fernández Santana photographs, taken between 1915 and 1938 were found in a dump. Our Research Group has later restored and digitized according to the contemporary criteria for documentary collections, as well as catalogued for their correct identification and classification. artistic and propaganda purposes to be studied, since these materials are a unique example in this regard. The corpus represents an unpublished and unique material, not only for coming from the same photographer, but also for the amount of photographs (220 images), its thematic consistency and its pedagogical perspective.

This study aims to highlight and bring to academic discussion at the international frontline the important role of Ezequiel Santana, an educational leader and innovative teacher almost unknown and underestimated in the History of Education. Our research explores to what extent his pedagogical principles and teaching strategies – sharing those of Ave Maria Schools- were innovative for Spain, Europe and the world, one hundred years ago.

Santana's pictures constitute a milestone in the history of school photography. From an interdisciplinary approach, this paper describes and analyzes some of these valuable photographic material from the point of view of content, narrative discourse and educational vision, reflecting the use of photography to transmit a series of educational content through innovative teaching techniques.

Keywords: Educational Leadership, Humanistic Learning, Innovative Teaching Strategies, Education and Culture, Educational Technology, Adult Education, Innovation and Changing in Education, Educational history, Art, Teaching and Training, Photography

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Teaching Experience of Mathematics Using MOODLE

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Abstract

Nowadays open source e-learning system MOODLE is widely used in the study processes in universities. MOODLE is well adjusted for the majority of subjects with regard to both – teaching and assessment of knowledge. The teaching/learning of Mathematics has certain peculiarities within this context. It has been noticed that the students learn faster and more effectively when Mathematics are taught by teaching orally and using blackboard than when the students are studying from the textbooks individually. Besides, the entire course of solution, understanding and application of the learnt methodology, and not only the selection of correct answers or statements, which is characteristic to the test system in using MOODLE, are assessed in Mathematics. Moreover, the writing of mathematical operations by mathematical symbols and drawing graphs while the students work with MOODLE is complex. The purpose of the study is adjustment of MOODLE for teaching Mathematics to part-time students at University. The article presents the experience of preparation of material, video explanations, individual tasks and organization of students' self-assessment in application of MOODLE. The students, who had passed the Mathematics exam, were questioned about the course of learning with MOODLE and they were asked to name the advantages and disadvantages of learning with MOODLE. The article presents the descriptive analysis of time and quality of the students' work in the MOODLE system, and influence of work with MOODLE on final evaluation of the Mathematics exam. The students expressed positive opinion about usage of MOODLE as additional tool for individual learning. They stressed the importance of introductory lectures and the necessity of the teacher's role for teaching process.

Keywords: Mathematics; MOODLE; E-learning; Self-assessment; Teaching

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Psychomotor Development on Preschool Child through Movement Games

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Abstract

Problem statement: the game, considered as a form of general and motor activity, is the main instrument in the formation and development of human personality. Purpose of study: the research aims to see the degree by which movement games teaching, applied within the Romanian educational program raises the psychomotor skills of preschool children: coordination, balance, rhythm, precision of movement, laterality. Methods: in conducting this research were used the survey method, the direct and indirect observation method, the measurement and evaluation method and the statistical and mathematical method. Data was collected during 18 months from 136 children, aged from 3 to 5 years (± 3 months) and enrolled in 3 kindergartens. A custom developed Protocol was applied to the experimental group, while the control group received the classical educational program.

Findings and Results: Descriptive statistics for the collected data indicate a statistically significant effect for the following variables: vertical jump $F(1,133)=1.563$, $p=.213$, $MSE=15.824$, $\eta^2=.012$; speed running $F(1,134)=7.206$, $p=.008$, $MSE=8.320$, $\eta^2=.051$. Independent t test results showed significantly higher average values for the experimental group versus the control group, for the variables: vertical jump t tests in the intermediate stage ($t=2.668$, $p=.009$); speed running t tests in the intermediate stage ($t=2.261$, $p=.025$) and final stage, ($t=3.906$, $p=.001$). The obtained results show a positive effect due to the Evaluation – Intervention interaction, significantly higher for the variables: vertical jump $\eta^2=.11$, running speed $\eta^2=.11$, trunk bending $\eta^2=.16$, trunk extension $\eta^2=.23$.

Conclusions and Recommendations: educational sport activities and movement games raise the level of driving skill development and psychomotor qualities, based on the biological factors - motor education interaction and a greater involvement in the correct performance of sport activities.

Keywords: Type your keywords here, separated by semicolons ;

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The Impact of Peer Instruction on the Level of the Continuous Physics Achievement of Grade 9 Students

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to examine the impact of peer instruction (PI) courses on the level of the continuous physics achievement of grade 9 students. The study group consisted of 46 students who received the examination of a vocational high school in Ankara. In this particular study, achievement tests have been applied at the end of each unit during a school year. During the spring term of the 2012-2013 academic years, units of 'energy' and 'force and motion' have been implemented for the PI and other units have been processed according to their current own curricula. In the implementation of the PI courses, it was determined that there is an improvement for the success in the unit of energy; nevertheless, there is no significant impact on the level of the continuous physics achievement. Furthermore, it is found that the PI has no impact on the permanent learning. The reason of improving student achievements in the implementation of the PI courses may be explained with their increased social interactions in the courses and assistance in the problem-solving process. Thus, this study suggests that the PI process can be useful to improve physics understanding of the students who, in particular, are shy, have a low self-esteem and a low level of achievement.

Keywords: Physics achievement, Peer instruction, Physics education

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The relationship between personality traits and academic achievement among pre-service EFL teachers

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Abstract

Recent research has shown the importance of individual difference (ID) variables in academic achievement. Thus, this study sought to investigate the relationship between global five personality traits and academic achievement among university students majoring in English as a foreign language (EFL). A total of 92 university students from a major state university in Ankara, Turkey were randomly selected for the study. Data were collected using the International Personality Item Pool (IPIP) and a self-reported measure of the participants' grade point average (GPA) scores. Findings revealed statistically significant relationship between extraversion, agreeableness, neuroticism, and openness and the participants overall academic achievement. Furthermore, openness and agreeableness traits were the strongest predictors of the participants' overall academic achievement, explaining 27% of the variance in their academic achievement. There were also significant differences between male and female groups in extraversion and openness, with males having higher mean scores than females. Findings underscore the great role the interaction of the Big Five personality traits may have in academic achievement among prospective teachers of English.

Keywords: Personality traits; extraversion; academic achievement; pre-service English teachers; agreeableness;

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A better school organizational performance? Yes, but how

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Abstract

This study ascertains, describes and examines the relationship between better school performance in a set of high secondary public schools in Campania (Italy) and significant variables of the school organization.

Within a systemic perspective, the study applies the analysis of principal components and the multiple regression model to first identify an objective output variable, i.e. Rate of Invalsi tests with higher marks than national average, which might measure a better school performance and then select the more significant variables which bear upon it. The findings show that these variables, when synergically working, will make the system itself function more effectively. This is, in our case, the interrelated action of stakeholders and facilities of the school system, that influences the variability of the output variable to the extent of 70%.

Knowledge and careful consideration of these factors can help increase a school's effectiveness, which allows the students to achieve better results confirmed, certified we would say, by their Invalsi tests, only if such factors are successfully managed. It is, however, necessary to more deeply study and evaluate these results to find out how and to what extent stakeholders' motivation comes into play.

Keywords: performance; public schools; resources; system

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Developing Spatial and Body Schema Orientation in Preschoolers and Primary School through Physical Activities

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Abstract

The specialised literature studied refers more to the psychomotricity of special needs children and less to normal children's psychomotor inability.

Our present research aims at studying, out of the content of psychomotricity, spatial orientation and the recognition of the body schema, which is basic in the curricular and extracurricular physical activity of normal children. So, inspired by ludotherapy, which is implemented into practice by the practitioners in the psychological field, we aim at improving the psychomotor components selected by movement games (dynamic games) whose objectives are spatial orientation and the recognition of the body schema within the framework of a physical activity.

The subjects were pupils aged 4, 5 and 6 (girls and boys) participating in a program of physical activity twice a week.

Their testing was achieved by adapting the test evincing the capacity of spatial orientation and body schema published by Comşa&Mihai, 2006, which is grounded on evincing the capacity of spatial orientation and the knowledge degree of the child's own body, by acknowledging the spatial rapports and operating with specific language (close-far, up-down, front-back, outside-inside, above-below, right, left, hand, foot, on, under).

As a result of comparing the (initial and final) tests, it was possible to observe that after covering the physical activities with psychomotor-specific objectives, spatial orientation and body schema improved considerably, especially in the subjects aged 4 and 6. The 5-year-old subjects did not show a statistical improvement, which proves that this age group in the research did not have any psychomotor inability, all children getting very good assessments in the initial and the final tests. Following the results obtained, we could draw the conclusion that through physical activity (dynamic movement games) the development level of the psychomotor components may be improved in normal children exhibiting psychomotor inability, especially between 4 and 6 years of age.

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Opinions of Primary School Teachers about Teaching Human Rights, Citizenship and Democracy in Primary Schools in Turkey

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Abstract

The lesson of Human Rights, Citizenship and Democracy, which is to be taught in 4th grade, is introduced to primary school curriculum in 2012. It will be started to be taught from 2015/2016 educational year. Because it is a new lesson and primary school teachers will be teaching it for the first time, it is important to see what they really think about the lesson and its teaching. This study is then attempts to elicit primary school teachers' opinions about Human Rights, Citizenship and Democracy course and its teaching. This study was designed with quantitative methodology. The study was carried out with 263 primary school teachers, who were working for state and private primary schools in Kayseri and Trabzon in 2013-1014 academic years. A scale was developed and used for data collection. The data was analyzed through descriptive analysis by using SPSS 17.0 statistical package program. The results of the study showed that majority of teachers have a positive attitude about teaching Human Rights, Citizenship and Democracy course to 4th graders. Besides, the majority of them believe that this course will help training active and democratic citizens to the community. Also the majority of teachers believe that the following topics such as fundamental rights and freedoms, civic responsibilities, children's rights, global and local human rights abuses and global peace should be covered in the course's curriculum.

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Effectiveness of education program in nutrition learning among pregnant women: Comparison of two methods, multimedia and discussion group

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Abstract

Background: Pregnancy is a high-risk period in a woman's life. Pregnancy nutrition affects maternal and fetal health. This study was conducted with the aim to compare the effectiveness of nutrition education through group discussions and multimedia methods on learning of pregnant women.

Materials and methods: This quasi-experimental study, with a control group, was conducted on 174 women in their 6 to 10 weeks of gestation, selected according to random quota sampling from urban health centers in Khorasan-Razavi province in 2014. Before educational intervention, a pre-test was performed using a researcher-designed reliable and valid questionnaire. A posttest was carried out a month after group discussion and multimedia education. Data were analyzed in SPSS-20 software at significant level $P < 0.05$.

Results: There were significant differences in cognitive domain scores before and after educational intervention using multimedia method ($P=0.000$) and group discussion ($P=0.01$).

Conclusion: In cognitive domain, higher mean score in multimedia method compared to group discussion illustrates multimedia is more effective in this domain, and higher mean score in group discussion method compared to multimedia shows group discussion is more effective in affective domain .

Keywords: Learning domains, effectiveness, multimedia packages, group discussion

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Educational tools for involving higher degree students within the Project Creative Conservation

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Abstract

Background: The Project Creative conservation was developed at the Conservation and Restoration Laboratory / Polytechnic Institute of Tomar (IPT) as a form to recover, preserve and show in a new way industrial remnants and derelicts, complying with well-defined criteria for collection and selection of those rfragments. As a new concept, it needed to be experimented, so students were involved in its practice, which enabled theory demonstrations and maintained a dynamic university learning atmosphere.

Purpose: This paper presents the challenges posed to three Conservation and Restoration teachers: different ways to explain new and controversial information, engaging students for the Creative Conservation concep, developing practical extra work, learning and improving hands-on skills, and to practice team-work within a Conservation Laboratory and a Museum environment.

Methods: A series of three different workshops were designed as learning tools to allow students to develop conservation skills, discuss problem solving and practice "out of the box" thinking, under the Project Creative Conservation, within the specialties of ceramics, tiles, metal, plastics and paper remnants preservation. It was also provided the chance to create different exhibition methods, installation and exhibition display.

Results: A good percentage of students were enthusiastic and complied with the conservation challenges posed by teachers and by remnants themselves. The fragments were properly preserved and differently displayed in exhibitions.

Conclusions: The IPT conservation teacher's competencies and enthusiasm towards teaching a different concept within a practical frame enabled students to broad their view in the conservation field and widen the classical approach to conservation and restoration.

Key words: Learning tools, Education, Workshop, Project, Practical hands-on work.

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The level of inclusion of physical education for students with visual impairment in the Czech Republic school system

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is focused on charting of actual level of inclusion in students with visual impairment ages 7 to 18 years in physical education.

Purpose of study: Over the last twenty years the inclusion of students with visual impairment has been possible in the Czech Republic. There was a fundamental change in educational approaches; we have acquired data about the quality of education and use of supportive strategies. It is necessary to find actual situation in practice to evaluate the benefits and risks of current methods and supportive strategies. This data is important to innovate the quality of inclusion in Czech schools.

Research Methods: In Research surveys it's used a quan/gual. Research design. The methods: evaluation of development results, questionnaires and observation. The research group consists of experts - special education teachers and advisers, physical education teachers at primary and secondary schools in the Czech Republic, who teach children and youth with visual impairment. We concentrate in the evaluation of teacher's competition in supportive strategies and in the level of environmental conditions. Results of operations are based on the mapping through scale responses and open questions.

Findings and Results: Assessing the level of the use of supportive aids and strategies for the education of students with visual impairment addiction on the level of experience for teachers, level of student motivation on the subject and level of support from specialized teachers / experts from regional Special education centres in the Czech Republic.

Conclusions: The results of research used by innovative support strategies and an increase of quality of inclusion in the Czech Republic. More that the results will help to concreate special means of support to physical education teachers at schools to educate students with visual impairment.

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