

DETERMINATION OF NECESSITY AND APPLICABILITY OF THE COURSES OFFERED IN ELEMENTARY SCIENCE TEACHING PROGRAM BY TEACHER CANDIDATES

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Abstract

All education systems to educate future generations give great importance to the teacher training system. For adapting to today's conditions in pre-service training of teachers, both the premises and credits of courses and the content of courses which are provided to them may be made changes from time to time. There is also seen to be parallel structure in Turkey Teacher Training System. However, courses taken in pre-service are discussed by some circles both whether in the profession is going to work and whether these courses are required or not. The purpose of this study is to determine the necessity and applicability of the courses offered in elementary science teaching program according to the opinion of teacher candidates. In this research, descriptive research method is used. Universe of research comprise of last grade students who study Science Teaching in Turkey's Faculty of Education, sample of research comprise of 240 teacher candidates selected from the five different universities across Turkey's Faculty of Education. Data for the study prepared by researchers were collected by questionnaire which was determined validity and reliability studies. The data obtained were analyzed using SPSS package program. In the light of findings, while the most required course is Special Teaching Methods, the most operational course is Teaching Practice in Elementary Science Teaching Program. In all courses, there are no courses included as unnecessary and not operational.

Key Words: Science teacher education, science education courses, applicability.