

INTRODUCTION TO EDUCATION RESEARCH COURSE: REFLECTIONS FROM PRE-SERVICE BIOLOGY TEACHERS

Dr. Canan Cengiz
canancengiz@ktu.edu.tr

Yrd. Doç. Dr. Faik Özgür Karataş
, Karadeniz Teknik Üniversitesi
fozgurkaratas@gmail.com

Abstract

Generating knowledge in science as well as science education is directly related to individuals' developed research skills. Content Based Research in Education Course is a compulsory course for pre-service science teachers to develop positive attitudes against educational research and to set a foundation for them to conduct research in their own classrooms. It is also believed that this is the key component of life-long learning. The aim of this study is to determine pre-service biology teachers' feelings about the course, gains from it, and the problems they encountered while conducting research. The study was conducted with 19 pre-service biology teachers in spring 2014. The study is qualitative in nature and data collected via weekly kept journals. The journals written by the participants are subjected to content analysis. The data showed that participants gained knowledge about conducting and reporting research. Although participants think that research takes a lot of time, they have positive views about conducting research. It is suggested that Content Based Research in Education Course should be inserted in early grades since senior pre-service teachers struggling both mentally and cognitively with Government Personnel Selection Exam (KPSS).

Key Words: Content Based Research in Education Course, Pre-service Biology Teachers, Learning Journals.