

THE EFFECT OF TEACHING PRACTICE COURSE ON ACQUIRING THE OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS OF PRE-SERVICE PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to determine the effect of teaching practice course on pre-service primary school teachers' occupational skills. "Teacher Competency Scale" was used as a data collecting tool in the study which was carried out according to pre-test and post-test without control group model. The sample of study consisted of 178 pre-service teachers, studying teaching practice course in the department of primary school teacher programme at Bülent Ecevit University, Eređli Faculty of Education during 2014- 2015 academic year.

As a result of the research, it was found that teaching practice course had a positive contribution on developing the level of occupational skills of pre-service teachers, and that there was no difference in terms of their occupational skills according to gender, and that there was a significant difference in favor of girls in terms of 'content knowledge' dimension according to dimensions of the scale. It was observed that there was no difference in terms of the competency of classroom management and student personal services besides personal and occupational characteristics. Based on the results of the study, it can be concluded that teaching practice course makes the desired contribution on developing the level of occupational competency of pre-service teachers.

Key Words: Teaching practice, occupational skills, primary school teacher.