

QUALITATIVE RESEARCH ON THE EDUCATIONAL OFFER AT UNIVERSITY OF CRAIOVA'S LEVEL

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Abstract: During this research, there will be build a series of instruments that assure the gathering of objective and concrete information regarding the efficiency of inclusion measures addressed to pupils. One of the instruments we propose it's the organization of an interview guide: 10 interviews with main actors from the targeted institutions which will take place on the five counties' capitals; which's purpose will be to analyze the perception regarding the "future role" in the present educational context. Participants at this study will be selected among the teachers that activates in universities and high- schools. There will be made semi structured interviews with persons that have a concrete activity in connected areas with the research's objective. So, we propose a list of interviews as various as possible. This could target representing from the entities mentioned above etc. Participants to the study are going to be adults working with youth. By working with youths we understand persons that works with young people through programs and projects or through activities of teach/learning. This study it was made during a research project by University of Craiova at the level of high school pupils and teachers form the Sud-West Oltenia region. The research methodology is a qualitative one through structured interviews with the high school teachers. The study will be focus on the needs of the teachers from the region Sud-West Oltenia in report with the educational offer of University of Craiova and the needs of the pupils related to the labor market.

Keywords: educational context, structured interviews, future career

The objectives of the interviews conducted within the study were:

- a. The assessment of the level of satisfaction towards high-school teachers in S-E Oltenia Region regarding their role and comparison of the results obtained between the 5 counties. The results can be used to increase their involvement in directing students to the university, rather to the dropout:
 - o problems leading to difficulties in passing the baccalaureate exam;
 - o positive situations and supportive measures offered in their work, by the educational institutions (ministries, county school inspectorates);
 - o the level of transparency of the institutions.
- b. Identifying ways to optimize the graduation of the students (suggestions for a new curriculum, simplifying the procedures, the monitoring procedures etc.)
- c. Impact assessment of the tools and activities conducted during a school year : teaching, assessment, practical work, final exams:
 - o level of awareness regarding the teaching methods
 - o level of satisfaction towards these activities (availability, dissemination of the acquaintances etc.)
- d. Identifying ways to increase the impact of high school and graduation
- e. Identifying preferred information channels.

f. Identifying the type of information that the direct beneficiaries- the students- want to receive within the future information and activities they will conduct.

g. Developing a set of recommendations for reviewing the present situation regarding the student' s position about the continuation of the studies and achievement of a successful career.

h. Identifying the opinion on the economic and social impact of the teachers and the added value of the community assistance in the S- E Oltenia Region, including their role in the development of the economic future of the area.

i. Identifying their role in the choice the students make for an University or another, or for working abroad and dropping studies.

The interviews were conducted with teachers, in the 5 counties of S- E Oltenia Region: Mehedinți, Dolj, Olt, Gorj and Vâlcea.

The analysis of the qualitative data (resulted from the interviews) was conducted through the classical method of comprehensive analysis, that provides a high level of validity and reliability of the final results, maintaining unaltered the specific character of "understanding and explanation" offered by the qualitative methodology.

We were conducted interviews with high school teachers, as follows:

□ 10 interviews in Romania, 2 in each of the five counties. In each county, there were organized two interviews with two beneficiaries - directors / teachers at the local high schools.

The list of beneficiaries which participated to the interviews was commonly agreed with the University of Craiova, before planning the interviews or during their performance, depending on the specifics of each situation.

For the proper conduction of the interviews, we sent invitations to all the high schools in the region from the basic list and established the date of the interviews depending on the availability of their programe, while respecting the time schedule for this activity (October- November 2016).

The list of high schools participating to the interviews is presented below:

No.	Name of the high school	County / District from the S- E Oltenia region
1	Voltaire High School	Dolj
2	Fratii Buzești National College	Dolj
3	Radu Greceanu National College	Olt
4	Mihai Viteazul High School	Olt
5	Ecaterina Teodoroiu National College	Gorj
6	Tudor Vladimirescu National College	Gorj
7	Gheorghe Țițeica National College	Mehedinți
8	Traian National College	Mehedinți
9	Henri Coandă Technological High School	Vâlcea
10	Oltchim Technological High School	Vâlcea

The interviews were conducted in the period 03.10.2016 - 30.11.2016.

In what concerns the contacting of the selected high schools for conducting the interviews, the procedural steps followed by the University of Craiova were:

- preparing formal invitations for attending the interviews and transmitting these invitations to the email addresses existing in the database with the high schools in S- E Oltenia Region;
- transmitting the invitations to interview to the selected high schools from the main list, by email or by fax, at the contact details;
- contacting the high schools by phone for confirming the receipt of the invitations to the interview and appointment of the representative teacher or director who will attend the interview, or where appropriate, providing additional contacts for further communication in planning the interview:
 - replacing, the high schools that refused the participation or have not replied to the invitation, with others from the reserve list following the same steps described above for contacting and programming the interviews.

Each interview lasted between 50 and 60 minutes, and the discussions were recorded with the consent of all the participants. The recordings were used by to elaborate the individual reports of the interviews, which contained the synthesis of discussions with the representatives of the high schools.

The main conclusions of the 10 interviews conducted with the representatives of the high schools from the S- E Oltenia Region allowed gathering information on the following aspects of assessment:

- Assessing the level of satisfaction towards the teachers and directors of the high schools;
- Identifying ways to optimize the level of graduation among students;
- Identifying ways to increase the impact of information and awareness of the importance of continuing studies;
- Identifying the preferred choices of the students;

Positive aspects mentioned by the representatives of the high schools:

- Some of the implemented educational methods were considered successful and were continued with other ideas (the power of example).
- It was performed a better coordination between the counties high schools in their effort to overcome the school dropout, in some areas (eg. in case of high schools with low graduation rate, etc.).
- Another positive aspect mentioned by the teachers, regardless of the category of students they teach to, was the constructive and effective communication relationship developed with the representatives of the ministries and county school inspectorates in the various stages of school year.

Within the positive aspects mentioned by all the categories of interviewed teachers are the gained expertise and the skills developed by the students after graduation.

Difficulties encountered by high schools during the project implementation:

- According to the information collected from the teachers, most of the difficulties encountered are related to the lack of interest in learning of the students; this phase could have been overcome with the support of the parents and school counselors, who are often unavailable.
- The difficulties encountered in their fight with the alarming percent of dropout was related to the student ' s mirage of the option to leave to work, either at home or abroad.
- Other aspects that have made more difficult the level of the exam passing reaching over 50% were the time student spent on social media and internet instead of learning or doing their homeworks.

- It is mentioned that, even if the student learns and wishes to attend a university, another difficulty mentioned by the teachers is the lack of information the student have about what he or she should choose, what applies better to his needs, desires, skills and economic environment.

Among the most relevant recommendations regarding the student's position about the continuation of the studies and achievement of a successful career are found the following:

- Intensifying the ways to promote the university and their options;
- More events and permanent written information on career counselling activities and career guidance in high schools developed by the universities;
- It would be useful to continue the organization of meetings with the ministries and county school inspectorates on topics such as exam passing and continuing the education after high school graduation.

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