**Title:** Personality Factors and Resistance to the Manipulation of Advertising

**AUTHOR(S):** SĂLCEANU CLAUDIA

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** The main purpose of advertising messages is the stimulation of the potential customers’ desires and the training of positive associations about the promoted product or company. The consumer’s behavior has become a complex variable, and it is analyzed as a factor which influences the dynamics of the market and even its fluctuations.

**Purpose of study:** The current study aims to investigate the factors of personality involved in people’s resistance or lack of resistance to the manipulation of advertising, as well as to obtain a modal profile of personality for those who can be manipulated through advertising and for those who cannot.

**Research Methods:** We designed a questionnaire to measure the resistance to the manipulation of advertising and we selected 24 personality factors that we assumed to correlate significantly with this variable. We used CPI 260, FPI-G and the Emotional Intelligence Questionaire created by Mihaela Roco on a group of 100 people, the statistical work being conducted in SPSS 15.

**Findings:** We established 9 personality factors with significant correlations with the manipulation through advertising: Dominance (p sig.=.001), Aggressiveness (p sig.=.001), Self control (p sig.=.001), Empathy (p sig.=.001), Depression (p sig.=.005), Openness (p sig.=.005), Emotional Lability (p sig.=.005), Responsibility (p sig.=.005) and Emotional Intelligence (p sig.=.005). Based on the results to the questionnaire for measuring the resistance to the manipulation of advertising, we selected 2 radicalized groups of 30 people each and we compared the values that people obtained to all four questionaires. We were able to establish 2 types of modal personality profiles.

**Conclusions:** The profile of personality for individuals that resist to the manipulation of advertising include: low values of Dominance, Aggressiveness, Depression, Openness, Emotional Lability, Empathy and Emotional Intelligence and high values of Self Control and Responsibility. The profile of personality for individuals that do not resist to the manipulation of advertising appears as a mirror image of the previous profile. This research informs the readers about those personality factors that can expose them to the manipulation of advertising and it also informs marketing employees about those personality factors that they can use when choosing the target population for the promotion of goods and services.

**Keywords:** advertising; manipulation; consumer behavior; personality factors.
Title: A Comparative Analysis of the Linguistic Dysfunctions in the Didactic Communication

AUTHOR(S): MĂLUREANU FLAVIA, ENACHI-VASLUIANU LUIZA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: According to specialized literature, the linguistic dysfunctions have a major impact on the achievement of intercommunication in the didactic activities. Our research uses as a starting point the studies on the dysfunctions in communication belonging to DeVito (1988), Haney (1992), Torrington & Hall (1991), Valenza & Hodgetts (1985), Schmuck & Schmuck (2001).

Purpose of study: a) to identify the linguistic dysfunctions in the didactic communication in primary school, gymnasium and high school; b) to realize a comparative analysis of the linguistic dysfunctions in the didactic intercommunication in order to determine their hierarchy for each of the three school levels.

Research Methods: A questionnaire-based survey was developed and the respondents were instructed to answer depending on how often they met the situations described by the indicators in the questionnaire. Each item of the questionnaire comprised a five-step scale. This allowed the collection of data revealing specific statistical results concerning the linguistic dysfunctions in the didactic communication.

Findings: We have used the SPSS analysis, the t-test for the independent samples and Levene test. The sample was made up of 150 teachers (50 for each of the three school levels). Analyzing comparatively the means of the indicators of the linguistic dysfunctions, we observed that the highest means, existing in all three levels of school, were for excessive use of figures of speech (primary (m=4,12), gymnasium (m = 4,70), high school (m= 4,62)) and language unadapted to the pupils' level of understanding (primary (m=3,86), gymnasium (m = 3,76), high school (m = 4,00)). Further analyses in our study demonstrated specific differences in hierarchy for each level of education.

Conclusions: Our research leads to an adequate diagnosis of the linguistic dysfunctions in the process of communication at three school levels, allowing the exact localization of the problematic aspects of the linguistic act in the didactic communication. The results of the study may be used to make the correct decisions to optimize the process of didactic communication. Further studies are required to verify the causal relationship of the ratio between the linguistic dysfunctions in the didactic communication and the level of institutionalized education.

Keywords: didactic communication, linguistic dysfunctions, diagnosis of the didactic communication
Title: Quality of life regarding patients with periodontal disease from Iasi, Romania

AUTHOR(S): SIMONA IONE LA GRIGORAS, SILVIA MARTU, CARINA ANA-MARIA BALCOS

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Oral diseases have an impact on daily living and quality of life with physical, social and psychological influences and contribute extensively to the global burden of oral diseases.

Purpose of study: The purpose of this study was to assess the influence of periodontal disease regarding the quality of life in the adult population from Iasi, Romania, using the Oral Health Impact Profile (OHIP) 14 Indicator, the simplified and validated version.

Research Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted on a sample of 50 subjects of both genders aged 24 to 68 years. The diagnosis of periodontal disease was determined using clinical exams according to the WHO criteria, and for evaluating the impact on quality of life, the subjects completed the OHIP-14 questionnaire as well as socio-economic and demographic data were recorded.

Findings: More than half of the patients (66%) were diagnosed with chronic periodontitis, and the remaining ones with aggressive periodontitis. In general, the most affected OHIP dimensions were "psychological discomfort" (54.6%), "functional limitation" (51.3%) and "physical pain" (47.8%). The higher OHIP scores were recorded in patients with aggressive periodontitis. The OHIP-14 scores were associated with sex, age and also with their income (p <.001).

Conclusions: Periodontal disease can be regarded as a disease with high prevalence in the adult population, which has negative effects on quality of life. Psychological discomfort and functional limitation were the most affected dimensions and the impact was significantly associated with age, income, and with the diagnosis of periodontal disease.

Keywords: OHIP-14, Periodontal disease, Quality of life
Title: PARENTS ASK: WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH PREESCHOOL CHILDREN IN THEIR SPARE TIME?

AUTHOR(S): LUPU DACIANA, NOREL MARIANA, LAURENȚIU ANDREEA RAMONA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The literature cites several ways in which spare time is defined: activity, game, recreation (Godbey, 1994), mood, quality of life (Harper, 1997; Isao-Ahola, Mannell, 2004, Roberts, 2006). Spare time spent by preschool children (after coming from kindergarten and apart from day-care activities) is essential for their development as independent and autonomous. The support of parents and providing various opportunities for the development of children is widely known and promoted (Heitzler, Martin, Duke, Huhman, 2006).

Purpose of study: For this study only we propose to: investigate and analyse of spare time of parents and preschool children; identify the level of negotiation of spare time between children and parents and analyse the types of spare time activities depending of the children’s genre.

Research Methods: The method used was questionnaire based survey applied on 162 parents of preschool children. The questionnaire was elaborated and validated especially for this purpose (Alpha Cronbach =0,893) and had the following dimensions: child life, possibilities for spare time, characteristics of spare time, social-demographic information.

Findings: The outputs of this research confirmed the results of the first hypotheses: preschool parents prefer to spend their spare time with their children in: parks (44,4%), playgrounds (42%) ignoring the artistic opportunities of spending leisure (theatres, libraries, children’s clubs) (11,7%) or sports (11,7%). Preschool parents reports reduced negotiating abilities when coming to decide how to spend time with their children, only 40% of the parents negotiate spare time summing the options always, very often and often. This result confirmed the second hypothesis. As we expected, there were some genre differences for the spare time spent doing artistically activities - 8.64% for girls and only 3.70% boys.

Conclusions: Preschool parents prefer to spend their spare time with their children more in the parks, the playgrounds by choosing less artistic activities (theatres, libraries, children’s clubs) and sporting activities of leisure (sport clubs, skating rinks, gyms and so on).

Keywords: preschool children, parents of preschool children, spare time, spare time activities.
Title: Adaptation of the PCQ for evaluating the nannies' abilities to relate with the child as predictors for professional performance

AUTHOR(S): GLĂVEANU MARIA SIMONA, GHERGHINESCU RUXANDRA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The research was developed starting from studies showing the influence of the live-in nanny on the child (LaRowe, 2006; Friedman, 2010) and from the absence in Romania of standardized tests with the necessary psychometric qualities for being scientifically valid and generally applicable to nannies.

Purpose of study: The evaluation of the live-in nannies' abilities to establish a good relation with the child, in reference to the main dimensions of parental competence and the professional efficiency criteria from the Occupational Standard.

Research Methods: Questionnaire-based investigation using: a. an adapted form of the Parental Competence Questionnaire - PCQ (Glăveanu, 2009) for evaluating the nanny's abilities to relate with the child, and b. the Parents' Questionnaire for the Evaluation of the Live-in Nanny's Conduct, which measures the parents' satisfaction about the live-in nanny's activity in relation to the general criteria/competences described in the Occupational Standard.

Findings: The statistic results proved that the dimensions of the nannies' abilities to relate with the child correspond to those of parental competence: the results of Cronbach alpha coefficients were between 0.7 and 0.79, proving the internal consistency of the items and the optimal adjustment of PCQ to the new context (by eliminating and/or slightly reformulating some items). The conceptual validity was guaranteed by 10 experts who analyzed the relevance of the items for the investigated construct. At the same time, it was proven that the nannies' abilities to relate with children (measured with the adapted PCQ) were predictors for their professional efficiency (criterion variable), as R=0.89 and R square=0.792 indicated that 79.2% of the variation of the professional efficiency were determined by the dimensions of the relationship abilities; that result was statistically significant (F=6.27, p<0.001).

Conclusions: The research responded to a practical necessity to evaluate the live-in nannies' activity by standardized and valid means (together with standardizing the nannies' professional formation and monitoring, the aforementioned necessity also was one of the main objectives of the National Program for Women’s Qualification and Accreditation as Babysitters/Nannies - co-financed from the European Social Fund through the Sectorial Operational Program Human Resources Development 2007-2013).

Keywords: Child development; nanny; relating abilities; knowing the child; affective support; disciplining; time management; crisis management.
Title: Family Adaptability and Cohesiveness Evaluation Scale III in Romania

AUTHOR(S): CORNELIA RADA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: One modality of conceptualizing the family is using the cohesion, flexibility and communication constructs, as resilience factors, proposed by Olson DH as the Family Adaptability and Cohesiveness Evaluation Scale III, (The FACES III). The author states that functional family models have moderate scores in cohesion and flexibility; very high scores, in the extremes, are indicative of dysfunctional families.

Purpose of study: 1) Diagnosing the contemporary Romanian family through FACES III and interviews. 2) The influence of demographic variables, residence environment, age and gender on these three parameters of the family. 3) Identifying the evaluating power of FACES III via correlation with interview results.

Research Methods: Methodology: FACES III was applied on a sample of 1215 subjects aged between 18 and 74, randomly constituted and homogenously stratified according to residence environment, gender and age group. 324 subjects from the urban environment participated in 36 focus group type interviews. Based on an interview guide with questions inspired by FACES III, they reported on the three parameters of the family.

Findings: Mid-range and Balanced type families are the most frequent, the Chaotically Connected model being predominant. Families in the urban environment tend to lack somewhat in cohesion, showing increased flexibility. Out of the Mid-range type families, most of them are located in the urban environment. The rigid sub-model predominates in the individuals aged 35 or less (p<0.001). About half of those interviewed described the family with very high cohesion, very low flexibility and average to high communication; these were correlated with the marital satisfaction. The interview participants, who were married with children, mostly stated that they had discussed the number of desired children and aspects of family planning with their partner, as well as selecting the preferred contraception method.

Regarding the couple and the family, women expressed more flexibility and tolerance, whereas men exhibited a more pronounced tendency towards imposed decision and authoritarianism.

Conclusions: Cohesion, flexibility and communication are present relatively good in Romanian family. The stage in the life cycle, the demographic variables influence the way a family functions. For extreme scores, FACES III should be doubled by an interview.

Keywords: Family, Adaptability, Cohesiveness, Circumplex Model
Title: Self-reported and observed peers and parents' traffic transgressions

AUTHOR(S): GHEORGHIU ALEXANDRA, CONSTANTIN TICU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: EEven if great progress has been accomplished in the area of understanding young drivers' behaviour, the number of car crashes and deaths among this population continues to be extremely elevated both in Romania and in the European Union. Young drivers represent a particular population, especially sensitive to influences from the social environment. After having their driving licence young drivers will enter a phase of construction and consolidation of their driving skill and style. As in any learning process, they will be subject to social influences, mostly exerted through vicarious learning. Until now, two main sources of social influence have been analysed: peers and parents.

Purpose of study: TThe main objective of this paper is to analyse self-reported transgressions of a sample of 147 young Romanian drivers and to compare it to peer and parent observed transgressions.

Research Methods: A questionnaire-based survey was developed based on literature analysis of the most risky driving behaviours and most common transgressions. Each participant was instructed to assess how often they have carried out those behaviours and how often they witnessed their peers and parents performing them. Participants offered also basic socio-demographic information and details about their driving history.

Findings: The first step was to analyse differences between peers, parents and self-reported behaviour on all the five selected traffic transgressions by using One Way Anova. Results indicate that there are significant differences between parents, peers and self-reported evaluations for each of the transgressions we investigated. For example, we found significant differences between peers, parents and self-reported crossing at red lights (F(437)=13.25, p<.00) more exactly between peer (M = 1.53) and parents (M = 1.13) observed crossing at red lights, p<.001, and parents (M = 1.13) and self-reported (M = 1.39) crossing at red lights, p<.003, but not between peers(M = 1.53) and self-reported (M = 1.39) crossing at red lights. Results also indicate that the number of hours spend driving with peers is correlated with contraventions and that observed peers transgressions are correlated with self-reported transgressions.

Conclusions: Social sources of influence are extremely important and should be given a more careful consideration if we desire a further understanding of young drivers' behaviour.

Keywords: young drivers, peer influence, parents, traffic transgression
**Title:** Burnout and occupational factors among Romanian healthcare professionals working in obstetrics and gynecology clinics  
**AUTHOR(S):** MARA BRIA, FLORINA SPĂNU, ADRIANA BĂBAN, CEZARIN TODEA

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** Literature has systematically linked burnout with job demands among healthcare professionals. Our study is based on the Job Demands - Resources Model (Demerouti, Nachreiner, Bakker, & Schaufeli, 2001), a comprehensive theoretical framework which highlights the role of occupational factors in shaping employees' well-being (e.g. burnout, engagement).

**Purpose of study:** The present research aims to: 1) evaluate the level of burnout among a sample of Romanian healthcare professionals working in obstetrics and gynecology clinics and 2) identify the relations between burnout and job demands (negative work - home interaction, workload, emotional and cognitive job demands).

**Research Methods:** 167 physicians, residents and nurses working in obstetrics and gynecology clinics filled out the Maslach Burnout Inventory-General Survey, the Questionnaire on the Experience and Evaluation of Work and the Survey Work-Family Interaction Nijmegen.

**Findings:** A quarter (26.9%) of respondents has high exhaustion scores and 18% report high cynicism but only 7.8% declare low professional efficacy. Results of multiple regression analysis indicate that workload, negative work - home interaction and emotional job demands predict emotional exhaustion (F=49.364, p=.000; adjusted R²=.538), while workload, negative work - home interaction and cognitive demands predict cynicism (F=9.578, p=.000; adjusted R²=.171). Professional efficacy is predicted by negative work - home interaction and cognitive demands (F=6.998, p=.001 adjusted R²=.067). Interaction effects highlight that negative work - home interaction moderates the relation between emotional demands and both exhaustion and cynicism respectively. Also, negative work - home interaction moderates the relation between cognitive demands and both cynicism and professional efficacy.

**Conclusions:** The present research highlights the specific burnout risk factors faced by a sample of Romanian healthcare professionals working in obstetrics and gynecology clinics. These results have implications for designing interventions focused on reducing burnout among healthcare professionals.

**Keywords:** burnout, job demands, obstetrics and gynecology clinics
Title: THE INFLUENCE OF THE PERSUASIVE MESSAGES IN DETERMINING THE TEACHERS' ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE CHANGE IN EDUCATION

AUTHOR(S): VALERICA ANGHELACHE

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The issue of the change in attitude has arrested the attention of many researchers who, without managing to identify a general theory of the attitudinal change, have designed various theoretical models which attempt at explaining the causes which determine the process of the change in attitude.

Purpose of study: The aim of the present research has been that of emphasising the role of the persuasive messages in influencing the teachers' attitude towards change (N=400). Focus has been laid on the determination of the teachers' degree of resistance to change, as well as on the constancy of the attitude towards change.

Research Methods: In order to measure the attitude towards change in education, we have built the scale for measuring the attitude towards change. The checking of the scale's fidelity has been made through the internal consistency method, by calculating the alpha-Cronbach fidelity coefficient, which is \( \alpha = 0.79 \). Some of the statistic operations used have been: the mean calculation for the variable attitude towards change; the factorial analysis for establishing the factorial validity of the scale; Cronbach-alpha consistency coefficient for checking the validity of the questionnaires, the combined ANOVA variance analysis for checking the influence of the variables experimental conditions and testing time over the attitude towards change variable, etc.

Findings: There is a statistically significant effect of the testing time variable over the attitude towards change variable \( [F(1.77, 702.87) = 8.332, p < 0.001] \). The Bonferroni test's results show that there are statistically significant differences between the pretest and retest (Bonferroni \( t = 3.37, p < .01 \)); also, there are statistically significant differences between the experimental stage and retest (Bonferroni \( t = 3.13, p < .01 \)); and there are no statistically significant differences between the pretest and the experimental stage (Bonferroni \( t = 1.18, p = .712 \)). Thus, on a global scale, after the experimental manipulation, a significant decrease is noted during the retest for the positive attitude towards change.

Conclusions: The persuasive counter-attitudinal message influences the teachers' attitude towards change, an influence which is not contaminated by other parasitic variables. When the subjects have an initial pro-change attitude, a persuasive counter-attitudinal message will lead immediately to a significant decrease of the pro-change attitude, this effect exacerbating in time. Also, if the subjects have an initial anti-change attitude, a persuasive counter-attitudinal message will lead immediately to a significant increase in the pro-change attitude, however, the effect is no longer accentuated with the passing of time in this case.

Keywords: persuasion; cognitive dissonance; conviction; attitudinal change; resistance
Title: Factors which determine the level of job satisfaction for kindergarten teachers.  
Preliminary study.

AUTHOR(S): VALERICA ANGHELACHE

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Job satisfaction is a key element which triggers merit recognition, supplementary income, preferment, and also a sense of fulfilment (Kaliski, 2007). The teachers’ job satisfaction influences the quality of the activity, their interaction with the children and, indirectly, the students’ performance (Maslach & Leiter, 1999).

Purpose of study: The present research aims at pointing out the level of job satisfaction for kindergarten teachers (N=124). To this effect, we have attempted at identifying the relation between the job satisfaction level and residentship, teachers’ management position, as well as the following factors: wage and preferment; management and interpersonal relationships; organisation and communication.

Research Methods: In order to measure the job satisfaction variable, we have applied the standardised questionnaire Job satisfaction. The questionnaire consists in 32 items, structured on four factors: wage and preferment, management and interpersonal relationships; organisation and communication; general satisfaction. Some of the statistical operations we have carried out: frequency analysis for determining the composition of the subjects lot; the mean calculation for the job satisfaction variable; the independent samples t test for comparing the means obtained for the job satisfaction variable in relation to the residentship variable, the independent samples t test for comparing the means obtained for the job satisfaction variable in relation to the management position variable; the Pearson correlation coefficient for checking the correlation between the job satisfaction variable and the factors wage and preferment; management and interpersonal relationships; and organisation and communication.

Findings: The results which we have obtained reveal significant differences in relation to residentship in what the kindergarten teachers’ job satisfaction is concerned [t (122) = -2.985, p < 0.05], as well as significant differences with reference to the management position [t (122) = -5.338, p < 0.05]. Also, there is statistically significant positive correlation between the job satisfaction and wage and preferment variables (r = 0.801, p < 0.01) and between the job satisfaction variable on the one hand, and the management and interpersonal relationships (r = 0.588, p < 0.01) and organisation and communication variables (r = 0.756, p < 0.01).

Conclusions: The teachers from the rural area have a higher level of job satisfaction than the teachers in the urban area, although, by reference to the intensity rate, we can only speak of medium intensity. Also, the teachers who have managerial responsibilities record a lower level of job satisfaction, although these responsibilities presuppose higher incomes. Nevertheless, the stress produced by the additional professional responsibilities seems to affect the general satisfaction level.

Keywords: professional satisfaction, remuneration, personal involvement, professional development, responsibility
Title: Educational policies to promote cultural diversity

AUTHOR(S): MARIA CLAUDIA CUC

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: In Romania there is an expansion of the concept of cultural diversity, as the benchmark value and social fact in the training process and development of human capital. The "cultural diversity" in terms of discursive, normative and as action is built as specificity, depending on the perspective chosen in the global - local continuum.

Purpose of study: Local Perspective of historical Maramures cultural area provides examples and explanations of the particular difference hypostasis mechanisms associated to the "ethnicity" dimension, giving it a certain coherence and intensity of events. Historical Sighet is the context chosen with the intention of a reality check on "cultural diversity" to identify a number of factors that determine the variation of events and the meaning of "local" influences in the affirmation of cultural diversity, in the educational area. Our speech is a plea for the need of integration of promotion of cultural diversity in contemporary educational policy space.

Research Methods: In the research were used: a written questionnaire survey method, interview-based survey method, the method of research of curriculum documents and other school documents school, aiming to measure the results from a quantitative and qualitative perspective.

Findings: With reference to information obtained from pre-university teachers, the findings have emerged: 85% of teachers are concerned about cultural diversity assertion policy, as hypostasis of "difference" that generate capital value, requires an increase in the frequency and intensity of concerns in Romanian educational policies space aimed at genuine managing of diverse cultural potential, current concerns of redefinition of the educational mission and 70% of respondents supported the need for practicing a "cultural responsiveness" along the lines of: values awareness and openness to diversity, fair networking perspective, involvement, and affirming the need for a "intercultural culture" as an expression of relational dynamics in the space of cultural pluralism.

Conclusions: Maintain awareness of policy makers to focus on customizing educational approaches to promote cultural diversity to specific institutional context and support cultural diversity promotion both in terms of normative coordinates that regulate the organization and functioning of higher education and in terms of "accountability" of institutional structures that lead to increased institutional initiative in cultural diversity management plan.

Keywords: cultural diversity, policy, ethnicity, intercultural.
Title: PREFERENTIAL AND PERFORMANCE-RELATED LATERALIZATION IN VOLLEYBALL AS FAR AS ATTACK HIT EXECUTION IS CONCERNED

AUTHOR(S): COJOCARU ADIN-MARIAN, COJOCARU MARILENA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The main cause of lateralization in athletes is the exaggerated orientation towards the execution of the exercises with the right arm during their beginner training period, as well as the trainer chase after immediate results. Thus, due to unilateral specialization, performance-related laterality is on the same side as the preferential one. Morpho-functional laterality manifests itself many times during a game: upon service, upon attack, upon taking the fundamental positions in the field, upon execution of dives.

Purpose of study: This study tries to establish the preference of the back row players when they execute an attack hit, depending on the side they receive the ball from, i.e. from left side or from right side, and if the performance of the attack hit depends on this preference.

Research Methods: The significance of the difference between the means was calculated for the parameters recorded during the training sessions and during the game. For this purpose, the t-test was used for comparison of the arithmetical means. The Pearson’s correlation coefficient was also used to calculate the correlations between practice and game parameters. The tests for the attack hit were performed immediately after general and specific warm-up. The offensive player was placed in the middle front position, or zone 3. The ball came from the left side and it was sent to any back row area of the court, but the subject had to specify in advance where he/she wanted to send the ball; the same drill was also performed with the ball coming from right side. Ten attack hits in the requested area, zone 5, receiving a pass from right side. Ten attack hits in the requested area, zone 1, receiving a pass from right side.

Findings: Although there is a discrepancy between the preferences for attack zones in practice and official game conditions, we have found out that there is a significant positive correlation of p<0.005 between the preferences for attack zones when the ball comes from left side, in practice and official game conditions, as well as a significant positive correlation of p<0.05 between the preferences for attack zones when the ball comes from right side, in practice and official game conditions. Thus, there is a direct relationship between the preference for attack zones in practice and in official game conditions, meaning that the same evolve in the same direction.

Conclusions: The preferences for the back-row attack zones depend on the side the ball comes from in order to be hit.

Keywords: preferential lateralization, performance, attack hit, volleyball
Title: A comparativ study on the evolution of the parameters in professional soccer matches
AUTHOR(S): STĂNCULESCU GEORGE, MELENCO IONE, POPA CRISTIAN

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: We conduct this comparative study showing the evolution of the parameters of soccer matches. By presenting statistical data obtained we want to contribute and improve the modalities for technical and tactical training from professional soccer game.

Purpose of study: Purpose of study was to compare the statistically significant parameters on the evolution of professional soccer matches League I Romania and international matches (UEFA Europa League and UEFA Champions League) season 2010-2011.

Research Methods: As a research method we used analysis of simple notation. After watching broadcasts the matches we studied the following parameters: shots on goal, shots at the goal, fouls, yellow cards, red cards, corners, offside, assists, tackling the ball, aerial duels won, one to two, successful dribbles, crosses in which 16 meters, free kick, attacks.

Findings: Analyzing the parameters environments compare teams from League Championships teams in European Cups and I can make the following considerations.

The difference between averages is not significant at the parameters: Shots on goal (t=0.61); Shots at the goal (t=0.36); Fouls (t=0.51); Yellow cards (t=0.28); Red cards (t=0.72); Corners (t=0.54); Offside (t=0.01); Tackling the ball (t=0.56); Crosses in which 16 meters (t=0.40); Free kick (t=1.02).

The difference between averages is significant: Assists (t=1.88), p<0.025; Aerials duels won (t=2.99), p<0.005; One to two (t=2.87), p<0.005; Successful dribbles (t=3.09), p<0.005; Attacks (t=1.71), p<0.05, for teams in European Leagues.

Conclusions: Teams participating in international competitions results were significantly better than the teams in League 1 Romania the following parameters: assists, aerial duels won, one to two, dribbles successful, attacks. Teams from Romania vulnerabilities are found, they always tend to not having to build the game in attack by short passes, dribbles, increasing the risk of losing possession.

Keywords: analysis, matches, parameters, soccer.
Title: Socio-cognitive conflict in learning Biology-challenge, solving and roles

AUTHOR(S): IANCU MARIANA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: For learning biology is needed to similar concepts causing a conflict between the past and to be knowable pupils / students and assimilated by them respectively on cognitive conflict, more productive socio-cognitive as when pupils / students get the team / group / dual by mental contagion, the heuristic biological terms.

Purpose of study: Finding those ways to challenge the socio-cognitive conflict resolution through the use of models, strategies, methods, effective teaching techniques, in order to improve achievement pupils / students in biological disciplines, the multiple roles of teachers.

Research Methods: literature study, testing method, teaching experiment, observing teaching.

Findings: Socio-cognitive conflict can be caused by biology teacher by teaching models such as empirio-psycho-sociocentrically combined model, showing the benefits of cognitive, affective, and especially formative benefits that have resulted from the scientific research „Alternative models training used in biological education”, socio-cognitive conflict resolution based on the so-called theory of centering and decentring intellectual Piajet; also professor works through different strategies such as heuristic and interactive methods, techniques, different teaching methods, by organizing cooperation situations and sometimes the situations competition, conflicts caused such socio-cognitive conflict as directed.

Conclusions: Socio-cognitive conflict in learning biology is caused most often by the teacher, the confrontation collectively in groups, in pairs between cognitive previous purchases and to be rediscovered by pupils / students learning model recommended the cognitive advantages, formative and emotional being empirio-psycho-sociocentrically combined model, whereby pupils / students rediscover through personal effort and team / dual new scientific concepts of biology.

Socio-cognitive conflict resolution in the Biology learning shall be administered on the basis of the theory of centering and decentring intellectual Piajet, through various strategies, such as interactive and heuristic, implemented through interactive methods of cooperation, interactive game type of roles, talks, debates, resolving the problem situations and problems of biology, through different techniques and teaching methods, but also on the basis of organizing cooperation situations, sometimes, and competitive situations, in which the teacher’s roles are many.

Keywords: socio-cognitive conflict; learning; biology; empirio-psycho-sociocentrically combined model; cooperation; competition.
Title: Bioethical education in teaching Biology

AUTHOR(S): IANCU MARIANA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Bioethics addresses a wide array of issues and the controversies which may arise must be tackled in high school, but, more importantly, in academic education. Here, the age particularities, intellectual development, higher cognitive skills and mature interpersonal relations and interactions make it possible for bioethical issues to be approached.

Purpose of study: Through bioethical education, young people understand that throughout their lives they have to act responsibly towards science and humanity, regardless of their professional goals and career objectives in the future. Wherever they may live and work, they need to act in a bioethical sense without endangering creatures, nature or Terra.

Research Methods: literature study, observing teaching, discussion, debates

Findings: Bioethical education requires the use of deductive heuristic strategies, analogies, interactive methods in the teaching process. On the one hand, these methods will boost analytical thinking, analogic reasoning, synthetic and flexible approaches and, on the other hand, they will encourage personal responses, opinions backed by scientific arguments, scientific demonstrations and interactions in groups and teams. The atmosphere emerging in this teaching environment will be similar to that characteristic of scientists and decision-makers who can impact the humankind in a positive and not destructive manner. The teaching means ought to include info-biology labs, electronic platforms or special software programmes and multi-media labs for teachers and students where they can watch educational-scientific films on bioethical topics, such as biological war, in vitro fertilization, human cloning, stem cell donors, egg and sperm donors, cell banks, human trafficking and others.

Conclusions: Bioethical education lies at the heart of moral education and it is one of its basic components. It is obvious that moral laws should interwine with biological, medical, agronomical laws and this is how bioethical education contributes to educating young people. They will be enabled to apply moral laws in their mundane and professional life and adopt a responsible conduct in their research work. Given the modern context of teaching biology disciplines, the methods, techniques and means should be carefully chosen so as to harmoniously combine traditional approaches with heuristic strategies and multi-media equipment in both undergraduate and further education.

Keywords: bioethical education; bioethics; biology; curriculum; teaching.
Title: The features and dynamics of the axiological universe of the university professor at the end of the XX-th century and the beginning of the XXI-st century. Case study

AUTHOR(S): GABRIEL ALBU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The university professor is a provider of knowledge, a passionate researcher but also a holder and transmitter of values, beliefs, life principles. These influence, in a larger or smaller degree the options, preferences, motivations of students and their view of their role in society.

Purpose of study: As a third stage in a much wider project, the current study aims to reveal and compare the values of two generations of university professors (from PGU Ploiesti): one with over 2 years expertise and the other with under 15 years of expertise in higher education.

Research Methods: On a sample of 56 subjects I have applied the questionnaire based survey and the comparison method.

Findings: I have found a rich and complex axiological universe; there are both continuities and discontinuities at the level of the values of the two categories of professors.

Conclusions: It is necessary that in our researches and analyses we don’t overlook this dimension of the university professor. It is a challenge to observe the dynamics of the axiological universe from a generation to another of those teaching in higher education and the way it influences the views and options of future intellectuals.

Keywords: value, university professors, axiological universe
Title: Shame, a landmark of education or a sign of its weakness?

AUTHOR(S): GABRIEL ALBU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Any moral relationship has a moral substrate. Shame is one of those feelings that maintain and protect inter-personal relationships. If within reasonable limits (Ch. Andre, 2009), it contributes to the existence and functioning of a healthy social environment, of mutual respect and self-control.

Purpose of study: This study aims to research into the attitude of high school teachers (in Prahova County) towards the feeling of shame and its place and role in shaping the young generations, in the context of the current socio-economic and axiologic crisis.

Research Methods: I have applied the method of questionnaire based survey on a sample of 100 subjects (from three high schools)

Findings: I have noticed that, on principle, the category of teachers with under 15 years expertise is more preoccupied with the issue of shame in the education of younger generations than the senior techers.

Conclusions: Ignoring and/or elimination of the feeling of shame from personal inter-relations is ruining the health of society. In well adjusted doses it "encourages the pro-social behaviour corresponding to high social standards" (R.S. Lazarus, 2011).

Keywords: education, shame, inter-personal relations, teacher
Title: The influence of communication style on the social conversation at mental deficiencies preadolescents

AUTHOR(S): UREA IONELA ROXANA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement:
Problem Statement: One of the major goals of special education is to facilitate a proper social insertion of deficiencies, and the communication is no doubt the most suitable one.

Our abilities to communicate, in time, will be structure in an individual and specific style of communication. Communication style sustains environmental influences and is manifested as an individual pattern.

Purpose of study: Our hypothesis was that at preadolescents with mental deficiencies their communication style influenced the social conversation depending on pupils I.Q.

Research Methods: The Questionnaire SC (Analysis of Communication Style) - adapted, by R. Urea in 2009 for Romanian preadolescents with mental disability (fidelity index = 0.684), The Social Conversation Questionnaire developed in 2005 by R. Urea for Romanian preadolescents with mental disability (coefficient of fidelity were: 0.691)

Findings: Our results showed some basic features of Romanian preadolescents with mental disability social communication style and different type of social conversation at these preadolescents. The hypothesis was confirmed

Conclusions: The conclusions that came through allows us to establish a specific typology between Romanian preadolescents with mental disability communication style and type of their social conversation and important for developing proper training programs for pupils to facilitate the relationships with normal persons

Keywords: Communication style, social conversation, preadolescents, mental deficiencies,
Title: The influence of anxiety towards self-safety at Romanian preadolescent pupils

AUTHOR(S): MITRACHE PATRICIA ANDREEA, UREA IONELA ROXANA, GHEORGHE GEORGIANA MĂDĂLINA, DIMA ADRIANA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: One of the major goals of teachers is beyond the training process is to ensure the pupil's self-safety in relation with their personality development. The human personality is characterised by features, traits such as anxiety. These personality traits exercise a lot of influences, in particular over the self-safety.

Purpose of study: Our hypothesis was that the pupils reflect in the classroom management the influence of anxiety towards their self-safety

Research Methods: The Cattel Questionnaire, The self-safety Questionnaire developed in 2005 by R. Urea for Romanian preadolescents (coefficient of fidelity were: 0,802)

Findings: Our results showed some basic features of preadolescent's anxiety and different type of self-safety at these preadolescents. The hypothesis was confirmed

Conclusions: The conclusions that came through allows us to establish a specific typology between preadolescent's anxiety and self-safety and are important for developing proper strategies in the classroom management.

Keywords: Anxiety, self-safety, preadolescents, classroom management
Title: Institutional visibility - criterion of the effectiveness of educational marketing actions. Case study

AUTHOR(S): STAN CRISTIAN, MANEA ADRIANA DENISA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The specifics of contemporary society involve, at the level of educational sciences, both epistemological adjustments as well as adjustments in the relations of the school as an institution with the governing authority. Reduction of the state’s involvement in the organization and operation of the school implies, alongside decentralization and the reduction of allocated budgetary resources, both the assumption of the principle of self-financing by the various educational institutions and the concern for competitiveness as a prerequisite for survival in the conditions of a competitive type of educational reality.

Purpose of study: The hypothesis that was the basis of our research was that the practice of client-centered educational marketing, including systematic promotion of the educational offer, popularization of educational activities of good practices and mediatization of school performance and extra-curricular activities of students (shows, competitions) will result in increase institutional visibility of the School Center for Inclusive Education.

Research Methods: Our investigative approach was based on qualitative research. The main reason for this choice was that qualitative research involves obtaining responses from a small number of respondents and the results are of a qualitative style: ideas, perceptions, feelings, associated values, reasons, preferences, suggestions. The case study was doubled by a questionnaire based survey method.

Findings: The results allow us to conclude that, as indicated by the Chi-Square test results, in the case of 7 of the 9 items, statistically significant differences are recorded between the answers of the phase prior to the beginning of the marketing strategy and the ones in the phase after this approach was implemented. This means that the design and implementation of the educational marketing strategy led to substantial changes both in terms of attitude and perception of the people representing the local community concerning the School Center for Inclusive Education as well as its institutional visibility.

Conclusions: The study conducted demonstrates that the development and implementation of a logically articulated educational marketing campaign, having as starting point the needs of those who are educated as well as the analysis of features of the educational market, is likely to lead not only to increased institutional visibility but also to the improvement of the perception of community regarding the School Center for Inclusive Education,

Keywords: educational marketing, educational market, institutional visibility, partnership, community
Title: Assessment of social functioning through social fieldwork documents for persons who have been psychiatrically diagnosed

AUTHOR(S): NEDELCU MIHAIL, NEDELCU ELENA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Generally speaking, the role of any SFDs, no matter the diagnoses of the case for which it is required, is to evaluate "the disability" or social functioning that can be understood as an interaction between an individual who has health problems and the contextual factors in which he/she finds himself/herself (the concept of "disability" is not similar with the one of "disease").

Purpose of study: The present paper is theoretically and operationally conceived in accordance with ICF (International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health) and it suggests a minimal methodology for creating SFDs (Social Fieldwork Documents) for persons who have been psychiatrically diagnosed (psychiatrically assessed).

Research Methods: The paper critically and comparatively analyses two "extreme" typologies for achieving a SFDs in practice. First of all, one can identify a model which may be coined as the "permissive" one; secondly, there is a "formalized" model, which consists of a succession of assessment scales that fail to reflect the variety and complexity of real situations, a fact which makes us compare this model with "The bed of Procurstes".

Findings: Since there is no unanimously accepted methodology in the domain, the authors propose a third methodological model, which includes a cognitive matrix and a set of procedures that would identify the best approach for different cases. The cognitive matrix establishes the purpose of the fieldwork and its dimensions are crucial for defining social functioning. Within the whole set of procedures, professional ethics plays a major role.

Conclusions: SFDs required for persons who undergo a psychiatric assessment are actually pieces of evidence for the evaluation of their health state. That is why the manner in which the documents are drawn up cannot be left aside. Thus, social fieldwork documents bring information about the way the patient's real life is organized, information which cannot be disregarded or ignored. This is actually what the present paper attempts to correct. From this point of view the cognitive matrix and the set of procedures which the paper suggests in the form of a methodological guide support the relevant character of the information included in the SFDs.

Keywords: social fieldwork documents; medical-social assessment; social functioning
Title: Boosting Romanian students interest in Mathematics through the constructivist approach

AUTHOR(S): VOINEA MIHAELA, PURCARU MONICA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Our research question is: How can the constructivist approach in education contribute to keeping interest in studying Mathematics?

Reforms in education, new theories of human learning, multiple intelligences theory, pragmatism in knowledge led to changes in the approach to the process of teaching, learning and assessment in general.

The theoretical premises of this paper are included in the national study of impact "School at Crossroads. Change and continuity in curricular reform in Romania" (coordinated by L. Vlasceanu) and in the works on constructivism in education (Sibert, Joita, Noveanu)

Purpose of study: The purpose of this research was to identify the reasons for which students learn Mathematics over different cycles of education. It aimed to identify pedagogical variables involved in determining interest in studying mathematics: the type of methods used, the weight of individual training, participation in extracurricular Mathematical activities (contests, Olympiads), school results (qualifications / marks obtained by students).

The research involved a total of 800 students from grades I to XII, aged between 7 and 18. There were involved 50 teachers of Mathematics

Research Methods: To achieve the research purpose, the following methods were used: study of curricular documents (curricula and syllabi from the first to the twelfth grade), questionnaire for students from the first to the twelfth grade, interview with students and teachers.

Findings: The primary analysis of the results indicates that there is a great interest in mathematics in primary school, interest that gradually decreases towards high school. A possible explanation is that the branches of mathematics become more and more abstract.

The pedagogical variables pertaining to the constructivist approach, involved in maintaining a high interest in Mathematics are: the methods used in school (group problem solving, differentiated learning, student-centred learning), extra-curricular Mathematical activities, teacher-student relationship.

Conclusions: One of conclusions of this study is: students' interest in mathematics is determined by the way teaching, learning and assessment of mathematical knowledge is done. Constructivist approach with emphasis on the affective dimension of learning, fostering positive motivation, with an emphasis on solving concrete authentic tasks are likely to keep the students' interest in mathematics "up".

Keywords: students' interest in mathematics; Constructivist approach; affective dimension of learning.
Title: Another Perspective on Guilt’s Moral Status: The Romanian Case

AUTHOR(S): OANA REBEGA, OANA BENGA, MIRCEA MICLEA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Guilt is one of the emotions that is considered one of the perfect examples of social and moral emotions (Haidt, 2003; Tagney et al., 2007). Recently a few studies started to investigate the less positive effects it has for others than for the victim of the transgression (De Hooge, 2012; De Hooge et al., 2011).

Purpose of study: The purpose of the study is to investigate whether the results that De Hooge et al (2011) found could be replicated in the Romanian Culture

Research Methods: 134 participants were divided into three groups: a group where guilt was induced, a group where a victim of somebody else’s transgression was present and a control group.

Findings: Our results replicate previous patterns in respect to guilt participants’ monetary divisions towards the victim, but all the participants display a pattern of altruistic monetary division towards the others, which seems to indicate that guilt is a moral emotion in this case.

Conclusions: We consider this result one that clearly shows a cultural difference that should be further investigated.

Keywords: guilt; moral emotions; social emotions; regret; prosocial behaviour
Title: The Effect of Evaluation Strategy and Music Performance Presentation Format on Score Variability of Music Students’ Performance Assessment

AUTHOR(S): DORINA IUSCA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: A growing body of literature has revealed that students’ music performance assessment may depend on a series of extra-musical factors. Empirical studies have indicated mixed results regarding the score variability resulted from the use of global marks versus segmented scales. Furthermore, many studies have suggested that music performance presentation format (audio versus audiovisual) may have a significant effect on performance ratings, but the results are inconclusive.

Purpose of study: The present study aims to investigate the score variability of music performance evaluation according to two factors: music performance evaluation strategy (global versus segmented evaluation of students’ music performance) and music performance presentation format (audio versus audiovisual presentation of students’ music performance).

Research Methods: Fifty undergraduate classical music students were recorded audiovisually in standard conditions, by using the same distance from the camera, same black outfit and similar repertoire. We also obtained audio-only recordings by digitally converting the audiovisual performance recordings. Music performance level was further detailed for two dimensions (technique and expression) corresponding to two musical fragments performed by the students.

Later we asked a panel of four music experts to assess the recordings. During the first two sessions evaluators assessed the audio presentations (one through global evaluation and one using a segmented scale) and during the last two sessions they evaluated the audiovisual presentations.

In the case of segmented evaluation we used a rating scale reflecting the factorial model developed by Brian Russell. The Romanian version of the scale showed a reliability of 0.93.

Findings: We calculated two-way ANOVA within subjects test. Results have shown that the use of segmented scale determines lower ratings for the technical level (F=1,16, p=0.006) and higher ratings for the expression (F=1,10, p=0,004). The presentation format had no significant interaction on ratings variability.

Conclusions: Music students’ performance scores are vulnerable to evaluation strategy, but not to presentation format. Educational implications are relevant, as young music students frequently rely on expert evaluations for constructing their identity as future professional musicians.

Keywords: music performance assessment, global evaluation, segmented evaluation, music performance presentation format
Title: Social causes of Russian students' motivation to study abroad

AUTHOR(S): MARIIA BOKAREVA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: This is a search study on social causes that motivate Russian students to get education abroad. This research is based on secondary data from previous international researches on social causes of student migration and self-determination theory developed by Ryan and Deci.

Purpose of study: To examine Russian students (118) of different educational backgrounds to determine the social causes that motivate Russian students to study abroad the most.

Research Methods: As the research methods were chosen qualitative and quantitative methods.

A questionnaire-based survey was developed basing on secondary data from previous international researches on causes of student migration to construct author's method to indicate how these causes motivate students to get education abroad. Respondents were asked to mark how each oh these causes motivate them on the scale from "-2" to "2".

Ryan and Deci's method of motivation type determination on the scale of general causal attribution. There were statements on each type of motivation. Respondents were asked to answer the question: "You want to study abroad..." and mark each motivation type statement on the scale from "definitely not this reason" to "exactly this reason".

Author's open question to find more social causes. respondents were asked to write up to 5 reasons they want to study abroad.

Findings: SPSS frequency analysis of social causes has shown which reasons motivate Russian students to study abroad the most (M>3 on the scale from "1" to "5").

Through the use of content analysis were defined 5 main groups of social causes to get education abroad.

Also by using SPSS frequency analysis was indicated motivation type that predominates in the majority of students who want to study abroad.

Using SPSS ENTER method of regression were defined social causes that match a particular type of motivation of students who want to get education abroad.

Conclusions: In wish to study abroad students motivated intrinsic motivation and less - autonomous motivation. Social causes varies from type of motivation. It indicated that students make decisions by themselves on their own will or on rational basis and social causes have the correlation with their wish to study abroad.

Keywords: motivation, student migration, social causes
Title: The relation between perfectionism and impostor phenomenon

AUTHOR(S): DIANA PAULA DUDĂU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Perfectionism and impostor phenomenon are two complex traits, frequently associated with many psychological problems. Moreover, there are few studies regarding the direct relation between these two variables, despite the theoretical statements that reflect their coexistence at the individual level. A better understanding of this relation may be important in finding the best methods to prevent and cope with the difficulties that the persons with these traits have to deal with.

Purpose of study: The objectives of this study were to analyze the correlation between perfectionism described by Hill et al. (2004) and impostor phenomenon, and to identify the combination of perfectionism dimensions that may best predict the occurrence of impostor phenomenon.

Research Methods: The research group included 129 psychology students (Mage = 21.79, SD = 1.28) who completed two self-report questionnaires with answers distributed on a five-point Likert scale: Perfectionism Inventory (PI; Hill et al., 2004) and Clance Impostor Phenomenon Scale (CIPS; Clance, 1985).

Findings: The impostor phenomenon was moderately associated with the perfectionism composite score (r(127) = .48, p < .01, 95% CI [.33, .60]). More precisely, each of the four self-evaluative perfectionism dimensions correlated significantly with the impostor phenomenon. The strongest correlation was obtained for the need for approval dimension (r(127) = .73, p < .01, 95% CI [.63, .80]), while the weakest one was for parental pressure (r(127) = .25, p < .01, 95% CI [.08, .40]). At the level of conscientious perfectionism, the most surprising result was the not statistically significant correlation with striving for excellence (r(127) = .02, p > .05, 95% CI [.19, .15]). All in all, self-evaluative perfectionism was strongly associated with the impostor phenomenon (r(127) = .68, p < .01, 95% CI [.57, .76], while conscientious perfectionism wasn’t (r(127) = -.02, p > .05, 95% CI [.14, .19]). Moreover, the best prediction model of the impostor phenomenon proved to be the one comprised by the need for approval, organization and rumination dimensions (R = .77; R2 = .59; F(3, 129) = 62.57; p < .001).

Conclusions: The obtained results are consistent with the way impostor phenomenon was conceptualized in the literature and reflect the fact that the persons with frequent impostor symptoms may also tend to concern over mistakes, seek validation from others, be sensitive to criticism, ruminate about past and future errors or less than perfect performance and be less organized. The strong correlation between impostor phenomenon and self-evaluative perfectionism, compared to the not significant one with conscientious perfectionism, may offer some limited clues for the fact that the two perfectionism factors might correspond to the adaptive/functional versus maladaptive/dysfunctional perfectionism dichotomy. However, considering the weak evidence, more studies regarding this aspect are needed.

Keywords: perfectionism dimensions, conscientious perfectionism, self-evaluative perfectionism, impostor phenomenon, impostor fears, perceived fraudulence
Title: Need for cognition and approaches to learning among university students

AUTHOR(S): ANA-MARIA CAZAN, SIMONA ELENA INDREICA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Need for cognition refers to the tendency of an individual to engage in effortful cognitive activities and to enjoy thinking. The learning approach depends on perceptions of the learning task. Need for cognition and learning approaches are associated. Individuals with a high need for cognition are likely to seek, acquire and reflect on information proactively, to engage in deep learning activities. Individuals with a low need for cognition use an external regulation of learning, they are less interested in effortful cognitive activities, they usually use surface learning strategies.

Purpose of study: This study explores the relationships among need for cognition and approaches to learning, deep and surface learning strategies.

Research Methods: The following questionnaires were used: the Need for Cognition Scale (Cacioppo & Petty, 1982), the 18 items short form and the Inventory of Learning Styles (Vermunt & Vermetten, 2004). The participants were 177 first year psychology students.

Findings: The results revealed that the Need for Cognition Scale is a reliable measure, with a high Alfa Cronbach coefficient. The results also showed that students with a high need for cognition engage more frequently in deep learning activities, using strategies such as critical processing, relating and structuring and analyzing while students with a low level of the need for cognition use strategies such as memorizing and rehearsing. Although need for cognition is associated with high levels of general cognitive ability and skill acquisition, the present study did not confirm previous research, showing that the need for cognition is not a significant predictor for academic performances.

Conclusions: Considerable research has described students’ deep and surface approaches to learning. Further research must analyze variables such as intelligence, learning motivation and self-regulated learning. The results indicate the need for further exploration about the relationship between need for cognition and academic achievement in order to make clearer predictions on the benefits to academic adjustment.

Keywords: need for cognition, self regulation, learning, academic performances
Title: Adjustment to first year of college - relations among self-perception, trust, mastery and alienation

AUTHOR(S): LAURA TEODORA DAVID, GABRIELA LAVINIA NITA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The connection between psychological characteristics and adjustment to academic environment received attention in order to identify factors that predict success or failure in higher education and to test prevention methods that support accomplishments and prevent school dismissing.

Purpose of study: The present research investigates the relations among self-perception, beliefs about control over event (feeling if mastery), beliefs about human nature, trust in people and feeling of alienation. We presumed that students with a positive self-perception and a sense of control upon events will not display alienation. Also, that it will be differences between students who have a cynic's view on human nature and those who trust in people.

Research Methods: Eighty seven freshmen students (46 females, 41 males, age range between 18 and 44 years old, mean = 20.87 years old) were investigated. Students were asked to complete five questionnaires in their fourth week of school: Personal Evaluation Inventory, Mastery Scale, Alienation Scale, Revised Philosophies of Human Nature Scale, Trust in People Scale.

Findings: There is a high and negative correlation between self-perception and alienation (r = -.66, p < .000), and a moderate negative correlation between mastery and alienation (r = -.55, p <.000). There is a low but significant negative correlation between trust in people and alienation (r = -.24, p<.02). The results didn't show a significant differences between participants who hold a cynic opinion on human nature (72 persons) and those who believe that people are good, generous and altruist (t(86) = .91, p = .36). Linear regression showed significant effect on alienation scores cared by self-perception, mastery level and trust in people (F (3, 84) = 29.60, p<.000, R = .72, R squared = .52).

Conclusions: Results showed that half of the variance in alienation scores can be explained by self-perception and the feeling that one can anticipate and understand the meaning of events. Both of the above are susceptible to improvements and in this way diminish the uncertainty in day by day roles or the sense of isolation. Designing small intervention programs like socialization week or tutoring activities reduces alienation and helps freshmen continue to stay in school.

Keywords: adjustment, self-perception, mastery, alienation, college students
Title: PARTICULAR ASPECTS OF STRESS IN CHRONIC HEART DISEASE

AUTHOR(S): FARCAS ANCA-DANIELA, NASTASA LAURA-ELENA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The stress is a cognitive and behavioural effort to reduce, control or tolerate internal and external demands that exceed personal resources. According to this definition of stress, heart failure is a stress factor because of the strains placed upon a person.

Purpose of study: Our study aims to investigate the level of stress perceived by 150 patients with heart failure admitted for the worsening of the heart failure in the Cardiology Department of the Emergency County Hospital in Cluj-Napoca.

Research Methods: The level of stress assessed by using the PSQ (The Perceived Stress Questionnaire) and also evaluated the frequency of various types of stress ("worries", "tension", "demands", "joy").

Findings: Analysis of the results showed increased levels of stress in all patients and several personal (gender, age, marital status, background etc.) and clinical (NYHA class, etiology of heart failure and ejection fraction as a marker of physical status alteration) parameters that influence the perception of stress by the patients.

Conclusions: Addressing these (often neglected) aspects of care in patients with heart failure can be important to the rehabilitation process or the emotional and mental well-being of the patients and has also practical consequences in guiding the therapy.

Keywords: stress, particular aspect of stress, chronic heart disease, heart failure
Title: Personality, Gender and High School Profile Correlates of Underachievement

AUTHOR(S): CLINCIU AUREL ION

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: School underachievement means a certain ratio of human resource which is taken out of educational circuit. Literature shows a higher weight of this phenomenon for boys and the existence of some important gender correlates belonging to the area of motivation, cognitive structure, personality factors, sex-role particularities or social expectations about gender.

Purpose of study: Purpose of study is to investigate the phenomenon of school underachievement at the high school students age in order to identify personality correlates according to age, gender and type of high school they attend (sciences or humanities).

Research Methods: We tested 120 students from four classes, two of sciences and two of humanities, from two high schools in Brasov. The battery included eight tests of cognitive aptitudes and the school performances were provided by the latest semester school documents. Personality was investigated through NEO PI-R (Costa and McCrae). The t and ANOVA techniques tested the study hypotheses stipulating the existence of some differences of gender, age and type of high school.

Findings: School underachievement shows a dynamics connected to the age factor, being higher towards the end of high school. The involved personality factors are Extraversion (on the facets Gregariousness, Assertiveness, Activity and Excitement-Seeking), Impulsiveness, and openness to Actions, Modesty and Deliberation. Academic failure has obvious gender particularizations. The boys' underachievement is associated with high values of Impulsivity, Excitement-Seeking, openness to Fantasy and Values, low level of Achievement Striving and low Self-Discipline. The girls' achievement is explained mainly by Extraversion, for which five facets have significantly bigger values for underachievement. The girls with school underachievement also have big openness to Actions, low level of Modesty and weak capacity of Deliberation. At both high schools Extraversion and several facets of it are involved in underachievement. Agreeableness (its facet Modesty) and Neuroticism (its facet Impulsiveness) intervene specifically at the sciences high school. At the humanities high school the specific difference is given by the bigger openness of the underachieved students to Feelings and Actions.

Conclusions: Predominance of verbalism in education leads to an insufficient valorization of boys. Excitement-seeking, need for actions, role of peers are significantly limited by Romanian education. The progressive character of school underachievement imposes measure of structural change to increase the opportunity of students' school adjustment.

Keywords: underachievement, school adjustment, high-school profile, gender, age.
Title: Validation Study of School Inadaptability Questionnaire

AUTHOR(S): CLINCIU AUREL ION

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: School inadaptability is a phenomenon with specific features connected to age, gender and school cycle. From the shock of school beginning to the anxious-depressive connotations of lower secondary and high secondary cycles, inadaptability interferes with feelings associated to the self, involving the entire personality under various degrees. The assessment of this phenomenon rises the problem of conceiving and validating an appropriate instrument which should accurately measure the respective construct.

Purpose of study: Purpose of study is to validate the School Inadaptability Questionnaire (SIQ), which we have conceived, against an acknowledged psychometric instrument, namely NEO PI-R of Costa and McCrae. Secondly we want to point out more specifically the structure of the two factors measured through SIQ and to conceive two predictive hierarchic models which should cover the criterion variance as much as possible.

Research Methods: We tested 132 students representing a heterogeneous school population. These students come from four classes from a well-known high school, a middle reputation high school and a technical high school. The battery included SIQ (Clinciu, 2005), NEO PI-R (Costa and McCrae) and a questionnaire of factual data. Correlations, t and ANOVA techniques tested the study hypotheses, and the multiple hierarchic regression generated two predictive models for School Neuroticism and Rebelliousness.

Findings: The concept of School Neuroticism has been operationalized as an expression of Eysenck's Neuroticism in school context. That is why we expect a significant correlation between the super-factor Neuroticism from Big Five and the one from SIQ. The correlation is extremely significant (r=.54) but School Neuroticism also involves Self-Discipline, Dutifulness and Achievement Striving from Conscientiousness, Straightforwardness and Compliance from Agreeableness, openness to Values from Openness and Positive Emotions from Extraversion. Rebelliousness interferes largely with students' personality on the following dimensions: Agreeableness (all facets), Conscientiousness (Order, Dutifulness, Achievement Striving, and Self-Discipline), Neuroticism (Anxiety, Self-Consciousness), Extraversion (Assertiveness, Excitement-Seeking), Openness (Aesthetics and to Actions). Regression equations predict 55% from Rebelliousness and 45% from School Neuroticism.

Conclusions: School adjustment appears at the crossroads of two factors. One implies unloading negative school emotions towards the inner side (Neuroticism) while the other one implies unloading them towards the outer side (Rebelliousness). The latter factor is a direct result of the open conflict between school values and students' values. There are clear gender differences indicating more inadaptability for boys than for girls, especially due to Rebelliousness.

Keywords: SIQ, school inadaptability, NEO PI-R, gender, age.
Title: D'HAINAUT'S OPERATIONALIZATION MODEL IN MATHEMATICS

AUTHOR(S): LUPU COSTICĂ

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Article is specific to science education and training describes effective practices for students from the Faculty of Mathematics, University Vasile Alecsandri of Bacau. The aim was to investigate the efficiency of the model to operationalize D'Hainaut with applications in mathematics, the formation of concepts, theorem proving, problem solving.

Hypothesis can be reduced to the claim that the use of operationalization model object, product, cognitive operation in mathematics education will lead to the formation of effective skills and problem solving approach to mathematics and the development of thinking.

From this hypothesis derives research objectives: presenting mathematical problem solving examples using this model, observation and application of these approaches in solving mathematics teaching practice days, achieving a systematic research using questionnaire and method tests the effectiveness of the model operationalization.

The research was conducted in the second semester from February to May 2013, in the process of observation and evidence in support of teaching practice lessons with 36 students in the third year of the Department of Mathematics, through systematic observation on how it is assisting 46 math lessons and support of 36 lessons followed by testing a sample group of 260 middle school students and application of questionnaires to 65 teachers from different disciplines.

Purpose of study: The aim was to investigate the efficiency of the model to operationalize D'Hainaut with applications in mathematics, the formation of concepts, theorem proving, problem solving.

Research Methods: During study we used the following methods and research techniques:
- the method of analyzing scholar documents created by respecting the obtained info from the documents study;
- the comparative method is the research method classified in the category of research methods by evaluating questionnaires that use comparison in finding the adequate solutions at the investigated problems;
- the content analysis made possible the comparison of results, by recordings, drawings, etc., using quantitative techniques such as the time-table of using the info lab, the lecture handbook, the list with the AEL disciplines and classes, diagrams or qualitative techniques, semantic matrixes;
- observation in pedagogical practice was a method of research based on the direct support of lectures that use D’ Hainaut's operationalization model;
- pedagogical research has used methods of mathematical statistics, in variant stages.

Findings: The analysis of the activity of the 260 students, grades 5-8, from "Ștefan cel Mare" Pedagogic National College from Bacău, has shown the fact that the students
who had received D'Hainaut operationalization instructions for Mathematics: tend to
learn more in a shorter time; have obtained 18% higher marks in Mathematics; were
capable of using concepts and theorems efficiently in solving problems. The percentage of
the students who declared themselves as interested in the study of Mathematics following
the initiation in the specific of the mathematical activity has risen from 73,1% to 89,5%. In
middle school, 58% of the 8th graders believe that knowledge of the elements and
properties of certain fundamental notions and configurations has helped them in
achieving higher quality papers and to improve their attitude towards the school. The
students had better results in the National Evaluation exam, in mathematical tests, than
other schools in town.

Conclusions: The students from "Vasile Alecsandri" University of Bacău, the
specialization of Mathematics, have discovered, through the lessons of pedagogic training,
the fact that using D'Hainaut's operationalization model in Mathematics leads to forming
the students' thinking and developing an appropriate conduct in solving mathematical
problems may motivate apathetic students, whereas teachers have changed their view
upon the activity of designing lessons.

Keywords: object, product, cognitive operation, problem solving, problematic situation.
Title: Differences in implicit conceptualisation and attribution of the child aggressiveness among parents of the preschoolers depending on a child and parent gender, education and subjectiveness of the parent

AUTHOR(S): KRISTINA BRAJOVIĆ CAR, MARINA HADŽI PEŠIĆ, OANA PANESCU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The main problem refers to the observed inconsistency among parents of preschool children in how they define and perceive aggressive child behavior, as well as the methods they use to deal with such behavior.

Purpose of study: The aim of the study is to explore the dominant implicit concepts of child aggression among parents and their reactions to aggressive behavior in order to consider it’s possible consequences on the psychological development of the child.

Research Methods: The constructed instrument consisted of four hypothetical situations, describing four types of aggressive behavior: verbal offensive, defensive verbal, physically offensive and physically defensive aggression. One hundred examinees, parents of 4 to 7 year old children, were randomly selected through the principle of quota sampling. After the presentation of four hypothetical situations, a structured interview was conducted on the cause of the given behavior, the provoked feelings and the preferable reactions. The alternatives offered in the questionnaire were defined in advance.

Findings: The correlation between gender and education, with the distribution of the responses for each indicator of the dependent variable (parenting style, feelings and reactions to the aggressive behavior of children, desired effects and understanding of the cause), was analyzed using the χ² test. Depending on the child gender, significant deviations were detected on one of the indicators - the desired effects of parenting. χ² = 11.20, df=3, p<0.05. Also, the research results imply significant differences (χ² = 16.74, df=3, p< 0.05) in the perception and experience of aggressive behavior depending on whether the observed child is one’s own child or not, confirming the initial hypothesis.

Conclusions: Regardless of the parent education level or his gender, implicit assumptions about aggressiveness strongly affect the perception of child behavior. Parents have a significantly higher level of tolerance for the aggressiveness of their own child than for other people’s children. The results also suggest the influence that child gender has on the desired outcomes of parenting and expectations regarding gender roles.

Keywords: child aggression, parenting, implicit assumptions
Title: The Resilience of the young generation of Romanian students

AUTHOR(S): MUNTEAN ANA, UNGUREANU ROXANA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Resilience is a new topic entering in the field of interest of professionals working with human being. Short definitions of resilience stress the capacity of the resilient person to face the traumatic event and to continue a healthy development and functioning. The resilience is based on different aspects which belong to the person, to the environment or to the relationship between person and environment. The unconditional support offered by a protective person to the child will stimulate the resilience of the child. Mostly this kind of support is offered to children in their families. Usually the resilience of the child is stimulated by the resilience of his/her parents. The Romanian students, being nowadays 20-23 years old, are brought-up by their parents who were living their childhood and young adulthood during the communist time. The communism created general traumatic conditions for people. The effects of trauma are obvious within the parental behavior. Traumatized adult is less capable to assume the parental role and to take care and to protect the child.

Purpose of study: To examen the resilience of new generations of students in Romania. To compare the resilience of students in psychology and in economical sciences. To explore the protective factors comparing with risk factors and vulnerability. To evaluate the resilience.

Research Methods: Wagnild & Young Scale: 3 questionnaires: on resilience; on protective factors and on risk factors. The questionnaires were applied as self-report, in the beginning of a classes for students in psychology and in economic sciences, in the second and third year, in 2010, within West University in Timisoara. 233 students answered the questionnaires.

Findings: The students in economical sciences are more resilient comparing with students in psychology. The girls are more resilient comparing with boys.

Conclusions: Even we can assume that students in psychology are more aware about the stressful situation confronted during their childhood, their choice for studying psychology is not a guarantee for developing their resilience. The difference between students in economics and psychology as well as additional preventive measures will be discussed.

Keywords: resilience, student, protectiv factors, vulnerability, risk factors
**Title:** Communication Matrix - An Assessment Tool Used In A Case Of Autism Spectrum Disorders

**AUTHOR(S):** BODEA HAŢEGAN CAROLINA, TALAŞ DORINA

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** Autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) is one of the most common neurodevelopmental disorders, with an estimated prevalence of 1 in 110 children. In the proposed revisions for DSM-5 there are some changes in the criteria diagnosing children with autism spectrum disorder according to the severity of the child’s disability. Difficulty or delay in language development is a common characteristic associated with autism spectrum disorders.

**Purpose of study:** To evaluate communication skills for a for a 2 years old girl diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder using the Communication Matrix and to propose new objective for the therapy intervention program.

**Research Methods:** Case-study is the research method used an the Communication Matrix as main assessment tool. The Communication Matrix (Rowland, 2004a, 2004b, 2011; Rowland & Fried-Oken, 2010) is a communication skills assessment that was first published in 1990 and revised in 1996 and 2004. The Matrix accommodates any type of communicative behaviour, including alternative forms (such as picture systems, electronic devices, voice-output systems, Braille, sign language and 3-dimensional symbols), pre-symbolic communication (such as gestures, body movements, sounds, eye gaze and facial expressions), as well as typical forms of communication (such as speech and writing). It covers seven levels of development occurring during the earliest stages of communication in typically developing children ages 0-24 months.

**Findings:** The Communication Matrix profile has been generated and new goals are proposed for this case having into consideration the seven dimensions of communication addressed by the scale: pre-intentional behaviour; intentional behaviour; unconventional communication; conventional communication; concrete symbols; abstract symbols and language.

**Conclusions:** The present study attempts to offer a new perspective on evaluating communication skills for a child diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. Future using of Communication Matrix for the same child can be used to present the progress the child will make in the communication field in a certain period of time. The Romanian version of Communication Matrix can be used for children with autism spectrum disorders and children with severe disabilities with difficulty or delay in language development.

**Keywords:** autism spectrum disorders, language development, Communication Matrix, symbols, (un)-conventional communication, (pre)-intentional behaviours.
Title: VISUAL IMAGE IN COGNITION AND THEIR DYNAMICS IN THE
RUSSIAN EDUCATIONAL BOOK ON GEOGRAPHY (1825-2013)

AUTHOR(S): FEDOTOVA OLGA, LATUN VLADIMIR

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Increase of abstractness of theoretical thinking led to
to changes in cognition structure. The gnoseological problem of a ratio of sensual and
rational cognition is wrapped all in the new parties in the course of technological
development of the world. For research of educational content and writing of textbooks it
is important to consider features of current trends in perception of images of the social
and natural world.

Purpose of study: Research objective is identification of dynamics and a ratio
between figurative and rational way of representation of a material on the example of
didactic illustrations of the subject "the image of Australia" in the Russian textbooks on
geography.

Research Methods: The content - analysis of educational editions of the Soviet
and postSoviet period (a category of the analysis - semantic unit "image of Australia",
calculation unit is the line of the text that allows to define the area of the text reflecting
quantitative signs of descriptions and didactic illustrations). Comparison and
interpretation of kinds of the graphic presentation used in translation (mainly German)
scientific sources and Russian textbooks for an illustration anthropological, cultural,
economic and natural-science problems by the example of Australia.

Findings: It was revealed a tendency to reduction of an evident-shaped
visualization and figurative row in favor of verbal, rational representation of a training
material.

Conclusions: Russian pedagogical tradition of XIX century did not use riches of the
visual material contained in translation scientific editions of European researchers. In the
XX century in the Russian educational book is made transition from optical display to the
state and economic symbolics. Beyond the framework of interests of Russian composers
of texts of textbooks there were illustrative materials of known Russian travellers (for
example, figures and N. Mikielu-Maklay’s photos) which were actively used by German
authors in their proceedings.

Keywords: visual image, cognition, theoretical thinking, textbook, content - analysis,
optical display, economic symbolics, Russia, the image of Australia.
Title: Recovery opportunities: one step forward for employee's well-being

AUTHOR(S): VIRGA DELIA, MACSINGA IRINA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Recently, researches on stress were focus on balance between effort invest and opportunities for recovery. From recovery field, Conservation of Resources Theory offers an appropriate framework to analyze how the process of recovery works.

Purpose of study: The aim of this study was to explore incremental value added by recovery opportunities, on top of family resources and personal resources (emotional stability and conscientiousness) for employee's well-being. In this study, well-being was operationalized as work engagement and health.

Research Methods: The sample was composed of 274 employees (72% female) from a productive company in Romania. We used a cross-sectional design.

Findings: Results of hierarchical regression analyses showed the effect of family and personal resources on both parts of well-being: work engagement and health. Specifically, it was found that kin support and neuroticism were related with health. Additionally, spouse and kin support and conscientiousness were related with work engagement. For both form of well-being, recovery opportunities added an incremental value.

Conclusions: The results underline the importance of increasing both family resources and the level of personal resources in order to create a healthy and engaged workforce. Overall, the findings suggest the presence of the recovery opportunities increase employees well-being, both health and work engagement. Practical implications for the organization and suggestions for future research on recovery process are discussed.

Keywords: recovery opportunities, well-being, work engagement, family resources, personal resources
Title: Understanding Inappropriate behaviour at work (harassment, bullying andmobbing) Kuala Lumpur Hospital, Malaysia

AUTHOR(S): YUZANA MOHD YUSOP, MARTIN DEMPSTER, CLIFFORD STEVENSON

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: In Malaysia, the issue of harassment, bullying and mobbing (grouped under the term inappropriate behaviour) has not been explored as effectively as possible because it is rarely discussed openly even if it is rife. This focus has meant that the aetiology of inappropriate behaviour in Malaysia is not well understood. Besides, there is no baseline information of inappropriate behaviour in Malaysia. In many cases, the incidents are never reported. Possible factors influencing the level of inappropriate behaviour have also not been investigated. This is important as there are many differences in the working practices between Malaysia and Western countries.

Purpose of study: is to investigate the most salient form and direction of inappropriate behaviour characterised by a partisan culture that segregates rigidly by grade. Furthermore, to examine whether support systems are in place and to identify the organisational atmosphere where this phenomenon exists.

Research Methods: A questionnaire was developed and piloted in Malaysia. The questionnaire addresses: the exposure to inappropriate behaviour, the support systems available, and organisational atmosphere (using 36 questions from Spector’s Job Satisfaction Scale (JSS)). The questionnaire had been translated into the Malay language and was administered to a stratified random sample of health care employees.

Findings: Preliminary analyses showed that the presence of inappropriate behaviour (42.6%) at the workplace is considered to be high. The study shows that, within a sample of Malaysia health care employees, exposure to inappropriate behaviour at work does not differ between grades and types of employment. The research also demonstrates that the factor structure of the Job Satisfaction Scale might not be appropriate in a Malaysian sample and an alternative factor structure is proposed.

Conclusions: Using a sample of Malaysia health care employees, this study shows that exposure to inappropriate behaviour at work does not occur more frequently in particular employee grades and that there is a significant association between the experience of inappropriate behaviour and the experience of job satisfaction.

Keywords: Inappropriate behaviour, harassment, bullying, mobbing, support system, Job Satisfaction Scale (JSS)
Title: Constructivist teaching and valorization of the independent activity based on collaboration and cooperation

AUTHOR(S): MOGONEA FLORENTIN-REMUS, MOGONEA FLORENTINA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: This study demonstrates the efficiency of the socio-constructivist teaching models in academic learning, based on the intertwining of the independent, individual activity with the small-group collaborative and cooperative activity. The study is based on the theories regarding the role of the social environment with respect to learning, the first theorician being Vygotski, cited by numerous authors in the international literature. (Doolittle, 1995; Hall, 2007; Shafer, 2009; Slavin, 2011)

Purpose of study: The carried out ameliorative research was based on the participation of 403 students - future teachers - in their first year of psycho-pedagogical training, being involved in conducting formative activities based on the valorization of socio-constructivist teaching models, constructivist strategies and especially on one of the components of the strategy - the organization forms of the learning activity.

Research Methods: Within the research, we use different methods and instruments of research in order to validate the hypotheses and attain the goals of the research. We cite a few: systematical observation, pedagogical test of knowledge, mathematical-statistical interpretation methods of data. The basic method was the psycho-pedagogical experiment within which we introduced different teaching models (collaborative and cooperative learning/knowledge models; the ICON model - Interpretation Construction--; the 5 E’s model), which valorize both the independent, individual activity and the cooperative, collaborative activity, as well as different investigation and progress-tracking instruments (self-assessment questionnaires, identification grids for progress, errors, confusions, SWOT analyses).

Findings: The findings have confirmed the efficiency of formative actions. For their interpretation and processing we used mathematical-statistical methods. Thus, in order to establish the statistical relevance of the difference between the averages, we applied the Z test for larger samples. The calculated value of Z for the pre-test phase was 1.35, which in relation to the table value is not statistically significant, but this fact is a confirmation of the accuracy of the sampling, the two lots (experimental and control) being equivalent. On the other hand, for the post-test phase, the value of Z was de 3.21, and it was relevant at a significance threshold lower than< 0.01.

Conclusions: We consider that through this study and the findings following the experimental process we can accept the constructivist teaching as an alternative, especially with respect to the didactical professionalization and more precisely the training of trainers.

Keywords: independent activity, collaboration, cooperation, socioconstructivism, organizational alternatives, interaction
Title: The role of the family in building adolescents' self-esteem

AUTHOR(S): MOgonea Florentin-Remus, Mogonea Florentina

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: This study aims at underlining the family's importance in forming the children's self-esteem, its fundamentals being on one hand, the studies analyzing the typology of parental, educational styles (Martinez, Garcia, 2007; Huver, Otten, de Vries, Engels, 2009; Alsheikh, Parameswaran, Elhoweris, 2010; Nixon, Halpenny, 2010; Preethi, Rosa, 2012), and on the other hand, those regarding the formation of self-esteem and the role of the different factors, in particular, the role of the family in this process (Gottfried, Gottfried, 1995; Talib, Mohamad, Mamat, 2011).

Purpose of study: The conducted research comprised a sample of pupils and their parents, who were surveyed with respect to the level of self-esteem (pupils) and the typology of parental styles respectively (parents). The latter were involved in a training program regarding the ways for stimulating a positive self-esteem for their children.

Research Methods: The research methods used, were the questionnaire survey (we applied two questionnaires: one to identify the parental styles and the other to identify the level of self-esteem), the psycho-pedagogical experiment (which consisted of counseling activities for the pupils’ parents with respect to the formation of a positive self-esteem), the case study as well as mathematical-statistical methods for the interpretation of results.

Findings: The findings have confirmed the validity of the hypotheses. For their processing we used the Pearson correlation coefficient (to establish the connection between parental styles and the level of self-esteem) and the Z test (to establish the significance of the difference between the pupils' school results before the experiment and those at the end of the research). The results have pointed out that there is a strong correlation (significant at the 0.01 significance threshold) between the authoritative style and a high level of self-esteem \( r = .578 \), as well as between the authoritarian, permissive and neglectful styles and a low level of self-esteem \( r = .295; r = .475; r = .598 \) respectively. The values of Z in the post-test phase \( Z = 2.79 \), have confirmed also the connection between the improvement of the self-esteem and the pupils' school results.

Conclusions: We consider that ensuring a close connection with the pupils' families and their involvement in different counseling activities can be an important way in efficientizing the teaching activity and especially the training and modeling activities of children's personality.

Keywords: self-esteem, self-image, parental style, adolescence
Title: The "portrait" of values in family: A cross-age study in Sicilian context

AUTHOR(S): ELISABETTA SAGONE, MARIA ELVIRA DE CAROLI

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Educational psychology has confirmed the relevance of human values on the development of individuals and the importance of family environment as agency of transition from the past (represented by the presence of grandparents) to the present (the parents) and the future (the grandchildren), underlining the change of value priorities linked to life experiences and age.

Purpose of study: To examine the similarities and the differences in human basic values and their representation expressed by a group of 40 Sicilian families, formed by grandmothers, mothers, and their daughters, belonging to the same family.

Research Methods: a) The Portrait Values Questionnaire (Schwartz, 1992) was used to analyze the following human basic values: universalism, benevolence, tradition, conformism, security, hedonism, self-direction, stimulation, achievement, and power. Participants were asked to indicate the importance of each value on a 6-intervals Likert scale.

b) The semantic differential technique (Osgood et al., 1957) was adopted to study the representation of the following four concepts: the tradition, the change, the self-enhancement, and the caring for the others. Participants were asked to judge the psychological connotation of each concept on a 7-intervals Likert scale, using couples of opposite adjectives.

Findings: Using the SPSS 15.0 to verify the statistically significant differences among the three subgroups (grandmothers, mothers, and granddaughters), we found that: a) grandmothers considered more important the values of security (F=3,35, p=.04) and conformism (F=8,83, p<.001) than the others; mothers considered more relevant the values of universalism (F=7,98, p=.001) and tradition (F=7,21, p=.001) than the others; granddaughters judged more important the values of stimulation (F=7,10, p=.001), hedonism (F=22,52, p<.001), and achievement (F=6,26, p=.003) than the others; b) mothers considered more positively the representation of self-enhancement (F=4,66, p=.012) and caring for the others (F=3,07, p=.05) than grandmothers and daughters.

Conclusions: Findings showed significant differences among the three subgroups in relation to the values and their representation. Thus, grandmothers were oriented toward the values linked to the past, such as researching security and maintaining socially established expectations, while granddaughters were oriented toward the values connected to the future, such as the research of novelty in everyday life, pleasure and gratification for oneself, and personal success.

Future research could deepen the similarities or the differences on value orientations also in grandfathers, fathers, and grandsons.

Keywords: family, values, grandmothers, mothers, granddaughters
Title: Aging between experience and attitudes: a research with Italian and Spanish

AUTHOR(S): ORAZIO LICCIARDELLO, GRAZIELLA DI MARCO, MANUELA MAUCERI

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Nowadays, because the number of elders is increasing, reflecting on the possibility of increasing Quality of Life (QoL) among elders has become very important. QoL has been recognized as a significant issue – especially with regard to old age, but there is no agreement on what we should mean by the term. It is a multidimensional concept that is related to broad physical and psychological domains, social levels and also particular facets of QoL: positive feelings, social support and financial resources. QoL is a fairly amorphous, multi-layered, and multifaceted complex construct encompassing four main components: objective environment, behavioural competence (including health), perceived QoL, and psychological well-being.

Purpose of study: We carried out two study involving people from two similar socio-economic contexts in Italy and Spain in order to explore QoL during ageing from two different point of view: the elders and also students. We verified differences related to the national environment, and positive effect of empathy on a better attitudes towards the elder people’s QoL.

Research Methods: The former study involved 95 elders (who were attending old age centres), the latter 346 students (from Medicine and Psycho-Pedagogic Faculties). All of these filled in a structured questionnaire. Many elders weren't able to fill in the questionnaire and so the researcher read the items and wrote the answers on behalf of the elder.

Findings: Regarding to elders, results showed high scores relating to all of the considered dimensions, especially for those concerning the subjective and inter-subjective dimensions of QoL (i.g. Social relations field: Italians M=3.37 vs M=4.12, p=<.001, scale ranged 1-5). Spaniards, however, were much more satisfied with their lives than Italians. Students viewed elderly people’s QoL not more positive. However, Spaniards were more in favour towards the old people than Italians. As expected, regression analysis showed positive effect of empathy on attitudes towards the elderly (ß=.142 -.316, p≤ .009).

Conclusions: The gap between elderly people perceived QoL and student’s attitudes towards ageing suggest there are negative stereotypes on ageing. Furthermore empathy is a relevant skill that could be reinforced in order to get higher positive attitudes towards ageing.

Keywords: aging, perceived Quality of Life, attitudes, empathy.
Title: From "learning about" to "learning to be" in the National Curriculum for primary school

AUTHOR(S): IVAN (BULIE) AMELIA-ORLANDINA, MARIN ELENA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: In Romania and not only, a knowledge-laden education system has dominated for years. However, today's schools need to educate for the future more than ever before, as the world's challenges and opportunities become more compelling. With this regard, students should be provided with opportunities for learning about who they are and about issues that have local, national and global significance which will finally lead to an understanding of human commonalities and a sense of appreciation of the diversity of humankind.

Purpose of study: The aim of this paper is to show the importance of the development of attitudes and values in our students as well as ways in which the newly-developed curriculum for Personal Development can be implemented throughout the elementary school in order to serve the student well throughout life.

Research Methods: The research methods we have used are the study of the official curriculum documents related to Personal Development as well as a case study conducted in a school where a similar curriculum has been implemented for 9 years. The case study is focused on possible teaching and learning strategies and learning engagements that are used in this school.

Findings: The present case study has revealed practical strategies and tools that can be used successfully in order to implement the newly developed syllabus for Personal Development. Moreover, based on the findings of this research we can conclude that, if teachers approach the syllabus content from an integrated perspective, students are given the opportunity to gain knowledge that is relevant, to develop an understanding of concepts which allows them to make connections throughout their learning, to acquire transdisciplinary and disciplinary skills and also to take action as a result of their learning.

Conclusions: As showed in the case study, students that benefit from education that promotes the development of attitudes and values develop critical, creative and metacognitive thinking and have the opportunity to extend education beyond the intellectual to include socially responsible attitudes as well as thoughtful action. As stipulated in the new Romanian syllabus, the integration of this subject area within the curriculum will promote an educational system in which knowledge is not an end in and by itself, but rather a tool that leads to the development humanitarian values and socially responsible citizens.

Keywords: Personal development; values; attitudes; school syllabus; primary school
Title: STEREOTYPES AND PREJUDICES AT SCHOOL: A STUDY ON PRIMARY SCHOOL READING BOOKS

AUTHOR(S): DANIELA DAMIGELLA, ORAZIO LICCIARDELLO

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: stereotypes and prejudices are based on social categorization process (Tajfel, 1981), therefore their formation and development are strictly related to personal experience and to social learning dynamics that took place in different contexts (eg. family, school, peer group) and that make use of several tools (stories, books, advertisement etc.).

Purpose of study: because of primary school books could be a vehicle of gender stereotypes and prejudices, the aim of our study was to examine N=174 pieces of 5 different primary school readings books. Moreover, our hypothesis is that there is a difference between a publishing house that joined with Equal Opportunities and Readings Books project and another one that not joined with this or similar project.

Research Methods: for each pieces we have conducted a content analysis in a small group setting in order to reduce the risk to assign a subjective meaning to the part that is analysed. In this way we have found different categories (eg. professions, toys, sport activities etc.) for which we have calculated the frequency related to male, female, mixed or neutral gender.

Findings: using SPSS 20 for Windows (Statistical Package for Social Science) frequency analysis, we have found a general tendency to vehicle gender stereotypes and prejudices. In particular, in relation to professions male subjects are more frequent than female ones in quantitative and qualitative terms: they had more satisfactory and social recognized jobs, instead female characters are painted as wives, mothers or at the most teachers. According to these data are those related to toys, plays and to personality traits. Moreover, the comparison between the two publishing houses revealed some positive aspects regarding those who joined with Equal Opportunities and Readings Books.

Conclusions: in general, our results go in the direction of gender stereotypes reproduction process. According to the fact that school is a natural laboratory of possible positive changes, these findings could represent the basis to became aware of risks implied in all dynamics related to stereotype formation and development and to create the condition for real equal gender opportunities.

Keywords: Social categorization, Stereotypes, Prejudices, School, Social learning dynamics.
Title: Humor styles, self-efficacy and prosocial tendencies in middle adolescents

AUTHOR(S): ROSSELLA FALANGA, MARIA ELVIRA DE CAROLI, ELISABETTA SAGONE

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Humor is a phenomenon referred to situations perceived as funny and generating laugh or smiles. Martin et al. (2003) distinguished four styles of humor: affiliative (tendency to amuse the others and favour interpersonal relationships); self-enhancing (using humor as a coping strategy); aggressive (improving personal image damaging the others through sarcasm and teasing); self-defeating (amusing the others showing one’s ridiculous behaviours or telling funny stories about oneself). Scholars found positive relationships between affiliative and self-enhancing styles and self-esteem, optimism, and wellbeing. Little evidences were found about the relationships among humor styles, self-efficacy, and prosocial tendencies.

Purpose of study: - to explore the inclination to use humor styles and prosocial tendencies in relation to empathic and social self-efficacy in 302 Italian middle adolescents

Research Methods: Italian version of Humor Styles Questionnaire (Penzo et al., 2011); Empathic and Social Self-efficacy Scales (Caprara et al., 2001); Prosocial Tendencies Measure composed by three factors (anonymous, public, and helping behavior in emotionally critical and dire situations)(De Caroli & Sagone, in press).

Findings: Boys expressed higher levels than girls in aggressive (t(300)=4,298, p<.001) and younger adolescents scored less than older ones in self-defeating humor style (F(2,299)=3,390, p=.03). About prosocial tendencies, boys displayed lower levels than girls in helping behavior in emotionally critical and dire situations (t(300)=2,140, p=.03) and higher levels than girls in public behavior (t(300)=4,337, p<.001). Older students scored higher than younger ones in helping behavior (F(2,299)=7,624, p=.001) and lower than younger students in public (F(2,299)=3,193, p=.04). Affiliative humor style was related positively with helping behavior in emotionally critical and dire situations (r=.25, p<.001), empathic self-efficacy (r=.30, p<.001) and social self-efficacy (r=.41, p<.001) while negatively with public (r=-.23, p<.001) and anonymous (r=-.20, p=.001) prosocial behaviors.

Conclusions: Results showed that the more the adolescents were prone to amuse the others and favour interpersonal relationships the more they tended to use helping behavior toward the others and the more they perceived themselves efficient in understanding feelings and needs of the others and in social relationships; additionally, the more the adolescents used affiliative style the less they were inclined to adopt public and anonymous prosocial behaviors. Future research focused on these dimensions could be carried out on childhood.

Keywords: Humor styles, self-efficacy, prosocial tendencies, adolescents.
Title: Investigating the views of civil society on early pregnancy through the focus group method

AUTHOR(S): SIMIGIU AURORA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: This paper is the synthesis of a qualitative study regarding the factors generating a sad fact of Romanian life, namely Romania is one of the leaders in EU as concerning the teenage pregnancy indicator. This study also aims to investigate individual and social consequences of juvenile pregnancy, especially how solutions to this problem are seen.

Purpose of study: The following study questions are raised: Why do teenagers become pregnant? Why do they choose to give birth? How do pregnant teenage schoolgirls feel in the role of a pupil? Is there a psychosocial context that favours the appearance of teenage pregnancy in Romania?

Research Methods: We organized five focus groups, three with teenagers and two with adults. The adolescents were divided into three categories: a mixed group, one of girls and one of boys, and the adults were grouped according to their professional experience as social workers and psychologists / teachers.

Findings: Adolescent girls think about abortion mostly as a way out of a difficult situation. They say that nowadays sexual life starts at 12-14 years old. Teenage girls participating in the focus group gave the impression of immaturity. Adolescent boys focused on prevention. They seemed realistic, grounded in reality. The mixed group was totally out of touch, overly idealistic. They gave desirable answers to the opposite sex peers and had very little knowledge about the subject discussed.

Social workers - They emphasized the fact that teenagers confused sex with love. They referred to law and its limitations, this being their big setback. This group was the closest to the reality, they being the ones facing the harsh reality.

Psychologists concluded that simple information is not enough for adolescents. If more money was invested in prevention, teen pregnancy issues would be much different. This group was less realistic than the group of social workers.

Conclusions: Paradoxically, there were no significant differences on juvenile pregnancy perception between adults and adolescents participating in focus groups in both the determinants and consequences of this reality and the vision of prevention. They referred equally to communication problems between generations, poverty, and lack of education and unanimously concluded that education is the solution for prevention.

Keywords: adolescence; pregnancy; focus group
Title: PERCEPTIONS OF SOCIAL DISCRIMINATION AND RESIDENTIAL SEGREGATION BETWEEN NORTH AFRICAN IMMIGRANTS IN SICILY AND BLACK CITIZENS IN MISSISSIPPI.

AUTHOR(S): LORETTA ETERNO, ORAZIO LICCIARDELLO, ARTHUR G. COSBY, MONICA A. ROSAS GUTIERREZ

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Sicily and the State of Mississippi have similarities and differences; both have white and black people, but the latter are immigrants in Sicily and citizens in Mississippi. The North African immigration phenomenon in Sicily is marked by both its number and the geographic proximity with the countries of origin. African American history in Mississippi has been marked by many transitions, from slavery to state sanctioned segregation, from segregation to equality under the law. In both realities, the possible phenomenon of social discrimination may be related to both specific socio-cultural context and ethnic residential segregation.

Purpose of study: This paper aims to determine whether the perception of social and residential discrimination on the part of North-African immigrants living in Sicily and African Americans citizens of Mississippi (USA) is affected by: a) the specific contexts differently characterized in historical and socio-cultural terms, b) Self and Ingroup/Outgroup representations.

Research Methods: The research was carried out in 2010 with a group of African American students at a university in Mississippi and in 2011 with a group of North African immigrants in Sicily. The North African immigrant group was considered to have a medium to high level of education generally comparable to that of the American students.

Findings: This research provides insights into the social psychological perceptions of two sub-groups who are experiencing ethnic and racial discrimination in two widely different cultural and historical settings.

Conclusions: The socio-cultural context in Sicily seems to be more functional to support social representation less characterized by social and residential discrimination.

Keywords: black people, social discrimination, segregation
Title: Personality of Alcohol Addict according to the Theory of Transactional Analysys

AUTHOR(S): MARINA HADZI-PESIC, MILICA MITROVIC, KRISTINA BRAJOVIC-CAR, DUNJA STOJANOVIC

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The problem of research could be expressed by the question "Are there differences between alcohol addict and nonclinical population regarding ego states, life positions and counterinjunctions?". Based on the examination of TA literature which deals with the problems of alcoholism, as well as some research, we have postulated the basic hypothesis that the personality of alcohol addict differs from nonclinical population in relation to ego states, life positions and counterinjunctions.

Purpose of study: Objectives of research is examining the existence of differences in ego states, life positions and counterinjunction between alcohol addict and nonclinical population.

Research Methods: 72 respondents took part in research, 36 of whom were alcohol addict and 36 of whom were the people who do not consume alcohol, do not suffer from serious somatic or psychiatric disease. The groups of respondents were made equal regarding the sex, age and education. The questionnaires used are: DCL (Drivers Checklist, Hazell, 1989), ESQ (Ego state questionnaire, Loffredo, Harrington, & Okech, 2002), and LPS (A life position scale, Boholst, 2002).

Statistical analysis of the obtained data was carried out using statistical program SPSS 17.0 for Windows. To establish level of the variables we used means and standard deviation. Statistics significance of differences was calculated by Student t-test.

Findings: The obtained results point to the existence of statistically significant differences between the alcohol addict group and control group in counterinjunction Please (t=4.157, df=70, Sig<0.01), Be perfect (t=2.519, df=70, Sig<0.01), Try hard (t=3.299, df=70, Sig<0.01). The differences between groups in life positions and functional ego states are not statistically significant.

Conclusions: Based on obtained results, alcohol addicts can be put in following three personal adaptation: Enthusiastic-Overreactor (Please), Responsible-Workaholic (Be perfect) and Playful-Resister (Try Hard), that is in their combinations. All three adaptations belong to the performing adaptation which develops between 18 months and three years of life as the response to a style of perenting in family.

Keywords: Key words: alcohol adict, ego states, life positions, counterinjunctions, personal adaptation
Title: SEXUAL PREJUDICE AND HEGEMONIC BELIEFS IN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.

AUTHOR(S): CLAUDIA CASTIGLIONE, ORAZIO LICCIARDELLO, ALBERTO RAMPULLO

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Sexual prejudice (Herek, 2000) refers to all biased attitude related to sexual orientation. It is typically direct toward homosexual and bisexual people (Lehmiller, Law, & Tormala, 2010). Sexual prejudice toward homosexual people are affected by gender (Barron, Struckman-Johnson, Quevillon, & Banka, 2008), by quantity and quality of contact experienced with outgroup members (Vonofakou, Hewstone, & Voci, 2007), and by adherence to hegemonic beliefs (Goodman, & Moradi, 2008).

Purpose of study: We hypothesised that: 1) students with low adherence to hegemonic beliefs display lower prejudice levels towards homosexuals; 2) contact with homosexuals negatively affect adherence to hegemonic beliefs and prejudice towards homosexuals.

Research Methods: A questionnaire-based survey was developed to measure attitude toward lesbians and gay men. The sample consisted of 106 female university students, with an average age of 23.13 years (SD 3.78) Measures used were: Attitude Toward Lesbian and Gay men Revised (Herek, 1998); Right-Wing Authoritarianism scale (Altemeyer, 1998); The Measurement of Self-reported Sexual Orientation (Kinsey, Pomeroy, and Martin, 1949); questions on degree of contact with out-group members; background questions.

Findings: Our hypothesis were both confirmed. Adherence to hegemonic beliefs were positively related with sexual prejudice toward both lesbians and gay men. Contact have a negative effect on sexual prejudice levels toward homosexuals and on adherence to hegemonic beliefs.

Conclusions: In conclusion, it emerged that there is a need to deepen our understanding, in future research, of the impact of hegemonic beliefs, peer relations and groups of belonging, to attitudes toward homosexuals.

Keywords: Authoritarism, Homosexuality, cross-group friendship, heterosexuality
Title: The role of gender in the formation of vocational interests and career orientation in adolescence

AUTHOR(S): MUSTATA ANDREEA-ELENA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: This paper aims at studying the role of gender in the formation of vocational interests and career orientation during adolescence; the study is based on John L. Holland's theory regarding vocational interests and E. Schein's theory of career anchors.

Purpose of study: Thus, our aim is to establish whether there are gender differences regarding vocational interests or career orientation during adolescence. Hypotheses of the study: I1) Suppose there are gender differences regarding vocational interests; I2) Suppose there are gender differences regarding career orientation.

Research Methods: Instruments used: Career orientation inventory, developed by Edgar Schein, is based on Edgar Schein's behaviour anchor theory and includes 40 items, the value of Cronbach-Alpha is 0.93, which supports the use of this test in the study, and Holland type Interest Questionnaire, which is based on Holland's theory regarding occupational choices, the value of Cronbach-Alpha for this test is 0.96 and supports its use in the research. The sample was composed of 84 pupils in the 12th grade, 40 boys and 44 girls. The study also assumed a pilot study, with 20 subjects - pupils of the same high school, 12 female subjects and 8 male subjects, in order to find Cronbach-Alpha index for the instruments used.

Findings: The results shows that there are no gender differences regarding vocational interests (chi-square = 5.06, df= 7, p=0.65) or career orientation (chi-square = 10.66, df=5, p=0.06), neither at global level nor on either of the dimensions described by the authors of the theories which form the base of the study.

Conclusions: Thus, we can conclude that there are no gender differences regarding vocational interests or career orientation during adolescence, which can be explained by the fact that the adolescents involved in the study at 12th graders, have the same specialisation (mathematics-informatics), and are subjects to the same influences (similar teachers, similar subjects etc.), irrespective of their gender, but also through the tendency that modern society should reduce discrepancies between women and men in terms of career.

Keywords: vocational interests, career orientation, adolescence, gender differences
Title: HOW CHILDREN SEE THEIR PARENTS - A SHORT INTERGENERATION COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

AUTHOR(S): LEPADATU IOANA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Relational and emotional needs, children's acute need for open and ongoing relationships within the family are as important nowadays as they were 50 years ago. The research is based on Rose Vincent's 50-year-old project, which highlights the effects of parental behaviour on children's personality.

Purpose of study: to make a comparative analysis between the ideal parental behaviour chosen by today's Romanian children (N = 101) and the one chosen by the French children 50 years ago to illustrate the way in which children live their relationships with their parents.

Research Methods: Our test is based on Vincent's test, which had photos of mothers and fathers in a very specific situation, involving their children, the characters' appearance being according to their role. To eliminate our own judgement, we balanced an attractive detail with a nasty one, so that the children could freely interpret the role (character) of the parents from the photos. The photos were updated carefully, but the rules and the questions were the original ones. The respondents were pupils in the third, fourth and fifth forms, 47 boys and 54 girls from School no. 2 and Unirea National College, Brasov.

Findings: In general, the friend - mother is the ideal one for the respondents and the mother resembling mostly the real one is the busy mother. For boys, the ideal father coincides with the real father, the sports one in 8 instances and the handy one in 9 instances, the real mother being the one who spoils her children. The candy mother, found very often among the choices of Vincent's respondents, is rejected by our respondents showing thus this new generation's need of independence and of responsible involvement in their own lives.

Conclusions: The ideal of the friend - mother can also be found at Vincent, a proof that, after half a century, the relational and affective needs are relatively identical; but the busy mother, specific to our contemporary society, requires a 'school for parents' having as its main objective more active time spend with the family.

Keywords: relational needs, emotional needs, affective needs, family
Title: METHODS FOR DIAGNOSING DYSPHONIC CHILDREN

AUTHOR(S): RUCSANDA MĂDĂLINA DANA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: In every community there are children who have obvious musical skills and less gifted children who should not be considered tone deaf, but dysphonic, as they may emit different sounds but do not sing them correctly. Most of these children were categorized as being dysphonic by their parents, teachers or people close to them and this causes a worsening in their situation by straining, isolation or inhibition. Starting from the idea that musical skills are formed in a process of enculturation during the first years of life, I wanted to know which is the percentage of children with musical skills and that of dysphonic children. The research was done on a sample group made up of 90 second grade children from Primary School, by means of a questionnaire and an experimental research which included tests for melodic hearing, sense of rhythm and musical memory.

Purpose of study: The aim of the research was to identify dysphonic children or those who in some unfortunate circumstances were inhibited or self-conscious and thus emotionally distanced from music. This was achieved through the application of specific tests for the assessment of musical qualities. It is true that it is more difficult to correct than to prevent dysphonia, but it is not impossible.

Research Methods: Observation, experiment, questionnaire, sampling, melodic and, rhythmical tests.

Findings: - 15.55% do not wish to sing because they think they don't have a singing voice or that they don't know how to sing:
- a certain skill is necessary for the perception of the melody, rhythm and harmony. There are people who have a sense of rhythm, but not of the melody, or they have harmonic sense but poor sense of rhythm.
- the musical memory is not a fundamental quality for musicality, because children who have done poorly in the previous activities have answered correctly to this one.

Conclusions: The school teachers have to know each child's level of music development by giving these tests and, in the case of dysphonic children, to work in a different manner, in order to allow each child's integration according to his or her possibilities.

Keywords: music education, talent, dysphonic, melodic tests
Title: Personality traits and global self-esteem of alcohol addicts

AUTHOR(S): MILICA MITROVIC, MARINA HADZI-PESIC, DUNJA STOJANOVIC, NEBOJSA MILICEVIC

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Recognizing alcoholism as a serious disease has prompted numerous studies which have sought to uncover those aspects of personality that differentiate people who become addicts from those ones who do not develop addiction. The main research problem is reduced to the question "Are there the differences in terms of personality traits according to the alternative five-factor model and global self-esteem among alcohol addicts and non-clinical population?"

Purpose of study: The purpose of this study is to examine the existence of differences in personality traits and global self-esteem between alcohol addicts and non-clinical population.

Research Methods: The research was conducted on the sample of 72 respondents. The group of alcohol addicts consisted of 36 respondents in hospital treatment, who were compared to the group of 36 healthy individuals, with no mental and somatic disorders. Studied groups consisted of the respondents of the same age, gender and education level. The questionnaires used are: Zuckerman-Kuhlman Personality Questionnaire-50-CC (ZKPQ-50-CC; Aluja et al., 2006) and the Rosenberg global self-esteem scale (Rosenberg, 1965).

Findings: The obtained results point to the existence of statistically significant differences between the group of alcohol addicts and control group in personality trait Neuroticism - Anxiety (N-Anx) (t = 2.35, df = 70, Sig <0.05). The differences between groups in other personality traits are not statistically significant. Comparing the groups in the level of global self-esteem we obtained statistically significant difference (t = -3.44, df = 70, Sig <0.01).

Conclusions: Based on the obtained results, it can be said that the group of alcohol addicts is characterized by low self-esteem, higher level of tension, anxiety, sensitivity to criticism, insecurity and indecisiveness compared to the non-clinical population. The obtained results are not surprising, especially if anxiolytic effects of alcohol are taken into account. However, one should not disregard the fact that the examined alcohol addicts are currently in hospital treatment and that such findings may be the result of perceiving the current position in life. Based on the obtained results, it can be said that working on increasing self-esteem and teaching the techniques of tension reduction would be good to implement within the psychological treatment of alcohol addiction.

Keywords: alcohol addict, character traits, global self-esteem
Title: Identification of the balance capability
- a perceptual-motor component - in teenagers

AUTHOR(S): ELENA SABÂU, GEORGETA NICULESCU, CECILIA GEVAT, ELENA LUPU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The human body is a complex unit where the somatic and psychological components are interrelated. The relationship between the movement ability, the intellect and the affectivity are studied under the perceptual-motor component. The study of specific perceptual-motor behaviors includes balance. The maintenance of balance is achieved by adjustments performed by the central nervous system.

Purpose of study: To investigate the level of development of equilibrium in adolescents. We started with two premises. (1) Balance is provided by the harmony of biological functions (vestibular ability, kinesthetic ability, central nervous system) and external factors, namely the motor experience. (2) Physical activity is a means for developing the sense of balance. The hypothesis checks for obvious differences between the balance possibilities of active subjects conforming to the physical school demands and those who practice additional sports during their leisure time.

Research Methods: Case control study, Start Excursion Balance Test - a series of 3 lower extremity reaching tasks recommended to be useful in identifying the level of balance and stability, one-Way ANOVA for independent samples and post ANOVA Critical TUKEY HSD. Results from the two groups were compared two groups: adolescents 17-19 years old (50 subjects) with their only physical activity being what is stipulated in the school curricula and adolescents (50 subjects) involved in extracurricular sports activities. The data analysis covered the following categories: males (25 athletes versus 25 non-athletes) and females (25 athletes versus 25 non-athletes), for each of the three specific directions of SEBT.

Findings: There were significant differences between the two groups, as follows: males: for standing on the right leg, reaching with the left leg in the posteromedial (PM) and postero-lateral (PL) plans, for standing on the left leg, reaching with the right leg only in the anterior plan (A). Females: for standing on the right leg reaching with the left leg in anterior (A) and posteromedial (PM) plans, for standing on the left leg, reaching with the right leg in all three directions.

Conclusions: Physical activity can induce improvements of balance, more evident in females and more precisely towards the opposite side of the support leg. It seems that it is a little bit harder for males to improve balance.

Keywords: perceptual-motor; dynamic postural control; teenagers; balance; Start Excursion Balance Test
Title: Psychological profile of the Romanian pathological gambler

AUTHOR(S): STELIANA RIZEANU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The concept of addiction has been broadened in recent years to include appetitive behaviors judged to be excessive in some sense: excessive drinking, drug-taking, gambling, eating and sexuality (Raviv, 1993).

Pathological gambling has been defined as a progressive and chronic collapse in the ability to resist the urge to gamble. It is a kind of behaviour that damages and harms personal, family and career-related goals (APA, 2000). This disorder is often accompanied by depression, anxiety, substance use disorders or personality disorders (Rizeanu, 2012). Pathological gambling affects the gambler, their family, their employer, and the community.

Purpose of study: The main purpose of this study is to examine the psychological profile of the Romanian pathological gambler.

Research Methods: This article presents data of a sample of 119 pathological gamblers (94.1% males and 5.9% females) who joined Responsible Gambling Project in Romania. The psychological characteristics of this sample were tested with the Beck Depression Inventory (BDI), Hamilton Anxiety Rating Scale (HAM-A), Gambling Related Cognitions Scale (Raylu & Oei, 2004), Inventory of Gambling Situations (Littman-Sharp, Turner & Toneatto, 2009) and the Structured Clinical Interview for DSM Disorders (SCID II).

Findings: The results show that 76.4% of pathological gamblers present depressive disorders, 64.7% present anxiety disorders, 86.6% have a high level of irrational gambling related cognitions and 94.12% find themselves very often in gambling situations. Also 44.5% of the gamblers present at least one personality disorder.

Conclusions: We designed a psychological profile of the Romanian pathological gamblers, concluding that most of them are married, with a mean age of 29.8 years, 68.9% of them has a permanent job and 62.1% of them have graduated an university. Around half of them are heavy drinkers and 41.2% are smoking excessively.

They are depressive, anxious and present some personality disorders, mainly narcissistic, obsessive-compulsive or borderline disorders. They also have a high level of irrational thoughts, such as: believing that they can correctly predict the outcomes, believing that they can influence the gambling outcomes and making false interpretations about gambling outcomes.

Keywords: pathological gambler, profile, addiction, personality disorders
Title: Mild Head Injury - comparative study between children and adults

AUTHOR(S): TASCU ALEXANDRU, ROTARESCU VIRGINIA, GORGAN MIRcea RADU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Assessment of the effects of Mild Head Injury (MHI), not only in terms of dysfunction but also of disability and quality of life.

Purpose of study: The ultimate goal is to capture comparative these changes, of the evolution and consequences of MHI to children and adults.

Research Methods: We followed patients with mild head injury, with a score on Glasgow scale (GCS) of 14 and 15 associated with amnesia, over a period of 9 years (2000-2009), who were hospitalized due to the presence of risk factors. All inpatients were investigated based on a neurosurgery evaluation protocol and were followed for a period of 12 months. Psychological Investigation (Galveston Orientation and Amnesia Test "GOAT" ; "WISC" / "WAIS"; "Wechsler Memory Scale"; Auditory memory test "Rey 15 words"); "Prague" Distributive attention test; "Bender-Santucci" perceptual-motor test; "Children's Depression Inventory" Kovacs; "Cattell Anxiety ", Schmieschieck and Woodoorth-Mathews Questionnaire; "Socio-emotional scale" for children, completed by parents) was made on 96 children and 84 adults, to capture neuropsychological, emotional, behavioral and psychosocial aspects.

Findings: Traffic accidents were the frequent cause of mild head injuries to adults and falls to children. Behavioral disorders were found mostly in adults and cognitive dysfunctions in children (especially deficits in speed of information processing, attention and memory). Disabilities were less severe and a better recovery of adults.

Conclusions: Neurosurgeon should make a full assessment of the patient with mild head injury including current physical investigation, Neuroradiology and neuropsychological evaluation to detect and treat abnormalities. Psychotherapy can intervene in the benefit of mild head injury cases. Any common case of mild head injury may hide a possible lesion with future consequences.

Keywords: mild head injury, neurosurgery, neuropsychological dysfunctions, psychotherapy, quality of life.
Title: Individual differences in shame-proneness and trait rumination as predictors of depressive symptoms

AUTHOR(S): DIANA-MIRELA CÂNDEA, SILVIU-ANDREI MATU, AURORA SZENTAGOTAI

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Several empirical and meta-analytical studies showed that shame has a unique contribution (different from that of guilt) to depressive symptoms. However, little is known about the mechanisms of this association. There are few studies which suggest that emotional regulation strategies may play an important role in this relationship.

Purpose of study: Our aim was to investigate the mechanisms by which proneness to shame is associated with depressive symptoms. We wanted to examine if trait rumination moderates the relationship between proneness to shame and depressive symptoms.

Research Methods: In this correlational study participants (N=82) completed three questionnaires which evaluate shame-proneness (The Test of Self-Conscious Affect-3; TOSCA-3), trait rumination (Rumination Response Scale; RRS), and depressive symptomatology (Beck Depression Inventory-II; BDI-II). These scales are widely used measures proving adequate psychometric proprieties. We tested a moderation model in which the predictor was shame-proneness, the criterion was depressive symptoms and the moderator was trait rumination. The moderation effect was tested as an interaction between shame-proneness and rumination in predicting depressive symptoms.

Findings: Results indicate that the relationship between shame-proneness and depressive symptoms is moderated by trait rumination, F (1, 75) = 6.39, p<0.05, R² increase due to interaction is 0.06. Moderation effects were probed at moderator mean and ± one standard deviation. The results showed that the conditional effect is significant at the moderator mean and one standard deviation above the mean.

Conclusions: This study showed that the relationship between shame-proneness and depressive symptoms is moderated by trait rumination meaning that shame-prone individuals who ruminate more frequently express more severe depressive symptoms. However, the explained variance in depressive symptoms increased only from 21% to 27% after taking into account the interaction effect, thus suggesting that there may be other relevant factors. Future studies should investigate the effect of other emotion regulation strategies like avoidance and suppression on the relationship between these two constructs.

Keywords: shame-proneness, emotion regulation, rumination, depressive symptoms, moderation analysis
Title: Adolescents' patterns of depressive symptoms, proactive coping and self-perceived success in academic domain

AUTHOR(S): ELPIDA BAGANA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement:

Literature state that although adolescence is a period with a real risk of developing depressive symptoms, at the same time, the teenagers can activate a series of intrapersonal variables such as coping skills and self-perceptions when confronting with their life tasks. The research is based on cognitive theories of depressive disorder (Beck, 1967, 1979), on Bronfenbrenner's (1979) social-ecological perspective on human development, and on Harter (1999)'s phenomenological assumption about adolescents' self-perceptions.

Purpose of study: was to investigate the adolescents' patterns of the depressive symptoms in association with their gender, age, level of proactive coping and self-perceived success in academic domain.

Research Methods: 100 adolescents, aged 17 - 19 years (M = 17.97, SD = .43), 41 male and 59 female, students in the final high school year participated in the study. Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-13) (Beck et al., 1988, 1996), the Proactive Coping Scale (Greenglass, Schwarzer, & Taubert 1999), a scale measuring students' self-perceived success in academic domain and a socio demographic questionnaire were used in order to collect the research data.

Findings: The results showed an average score of adolescents' depressive symptoms relatively low (M = 4.23, SD = 4.48) out of maximum 20 obtained in this sample (normal for a non-clinical sample). The mean scores of the personal resources' indicators are below the value 4 which means a good adaptation. The results from multivariate analysis of variances (MANOVA) show that gender, age, level of proactive coping and level of self-perceived success in academic domain differentiate simultaneously, as patterns of depressive symptoms: pessimism, loss of energy, concerns about physical aspect and suicidal thoughts or wishes (higher amongst girls) and past failure, loss of pleasure, self-dislike and indecisiveness (higher amongst boys) (F coefficients: from 24.72, to85,07, df.13,2; p = from .002 to < 001, Partial Eta Squared= from.260).

Conclusions: Based on the findings of the present study, a profile of the adolescents at risk for high levels of depressive symptoms and the profile of the best protected toward depression adolescents too, can be created. The results of the study can be included in adolescents' trainings, in activities that prevent the teenagers' depression and problems associated with depressive symptoms.

Keywords: adolescence, depressive symptoms, proactive coping, self-perceived success in academic domain
**Title:** Adolescents' depression, self-perceived success in academic domain, vulnerability to depression and anxiety  
**AUTHOR(S):** ELPIDA BAGANA

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** Researches on vulnerability to depression and anxiety pointed out that they are variables predisposing to the development of depression's symptoms. Self-perceived success was considered as a protective factor against individuals' depression. This research is based on cognitive theories of depressive disorder (Beck, 1967, 1979), on Bronfenbrenner's (1979) social-ecological perspective on human development, and on Harter (1999)'s phenomenological assumption about adolescents' self-perceptions.

**Purpose of study:** was to investigate the relationships between level of adolescents' depression, vulnerability to depression, anxiety and self-perceived success in academic domain.

**Research Methods:** 100 adolescents, aged 17 - 19 years (M = 17.97, SD = .43), 41 male and 59 female, students in the final high school year participated in the study. Data were collected with the Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-13) (Beck et al., 1988, 1996), the Attitudes toward Self Scale (Carver & Ganellen, 1983), two scales measuring students' anxiety and their self-perceived success in academic domain and with a socio demographic questionnaire.

**Findings:** The results showed an average score of adolescents' depressive symptoms relatively low (M = 4.23, SD = 4.48), a medium score of vulnerability to depression (M = 3.34, SD = .62) and a low score of anxiety (M = 2.39, SD = .69). The results from multivariate analysis of variances (MANOVA) show that gender, age, level of self-perceived success in academic domain, level of vulnerability to depression, and level of anxiety differentiate simultaneously, more patterns of depressive symptoms and general level of adolescents' depression (F coefficients: from 10.23 to 80.28, df.13, 1, p = from .002 to < .001, Partial Eta Squared from .10 to .49). Regression analyses revealed that students' gender, level of self-perceived success in academic domain and level anxiety explained 59.3 % of the variance of their depressive symptoms. The age and the vulnerability to depression were not found to be predictors of adolescents' score of their depressive symptoms.

**Conclusions:** The research's results confirmed the study presuppositions added new information about approached relationship and can contribute to the development of a counseling programs aiming to help students' to increase their well being in academic environment.

**Keywords:** adolescence, depression, vulnerability to depression, anxiety, self-perceived success in academic domain.
Title: The Knowledge Test - Effective method for assessing student performance

AUTHOR(S): MORARU MONICA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Knowledge test is an effective tool in measuring and objective assessment of student skills. The test results show progress / regress of students over a period of time, being an indicator of the efficiency of the work of the teacher. The advantages of the knowledge test are: saving time, evaluation of a large number of students in a relatively short time, evaluation of all students on the same sequences curricular, objectivity of assessment etc.

Purpose of study: In this study, we intend to check the efficiency of knowledge test in assessing students performance in the discipline of Psychology. We start from the premise that the use of knowledge test leads to provide more accurate informations on how to achieve the objectives of teaching.

Research Methods: pedagogical experiment

Findings: By using the knowledge test, the students become aware of their level of training and could intervene in time to fill gaps in learning, and mobilizing all available resources. These summative tests, each student had the opportunity to know clearly what the performance achieved at each stage and decide what to do next.

Conclusions: Knowledge test is a useful tool for objective assessment of student performance, but requires a sustained effort to improve its quality. We recommend: correlate items with competencies; the requirements to be formulated as clearly; to allow sufficient time for completion of the work.

Keywords: knowledge test, assessment
Title: The Explanatory Gap: 30 years after

AUTHOR(S): STANCIU MARIUS

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The explanatory gap (Levine, 1983) represents probably the most intriguing problem of our age. At its core it is a problem of identifying an empirically adequate meeting point between the physical extensions or our brains and the apparently non-physical mind and providing an answer to the question of why phenomenal experiences appear in a purely physical world.

Purpose of study: The purpose of this study is to examine how materialists have responded in the last three decades to the problem of phenomenal consciousness, why there is still optimism regarding a possible solution and if this optimism is entitled or not within the current neo-Darwinian naturalist framework of inquiry.

Research Methods: The most popular theories of consciousness advanced by philosophers and cognitive scientists in the past 30 years have been analysed by how they manage and confront the epistemic gap problem. The attitude toward qualia (i.e. phenomenal character of experiences) has been taken as a crucial criterion in this analysis.

Findings: Most materialist philosophers have either tried to eliminate qualia altogether, emphasizing the vagueness of the term, or took the route of trying to explain less puzzling aspects of consciousness, such as integration of information, awareness or intentionality. Another class of thinkers chose only to show why there’s an explanatory gap in the first place, without attempting to close it. As such, only the biological approach to consciousness admits the existence of a real epistemic gap in our knowledge of phenomenal consciousness that needs to be addressed in an empirical manner.

Conclusions: The explanatory gap between our phenomenal experiences and concepts and the image painted by modern physics is a real problem with no known solution at the present time. Because our minds seem to be implanted in the causal network of the universe, there is still optimism regarding closing the gap in the future. Such optimism, however, rests on the idea that there are still undiscovered metaphysically necessary relations between physical-functional material states and mental states. How primitive these relations are and how far down the phylogenetic tree we could find them, however, is a problem at least as inextricable as the first one.

Keywords: Explanatory gap; Physicalism; Consciousness; Qualia; Naturalism
Title: Personal identity, functionalism and the extended mind

AUTHOR(S): STANCIU MARIUS

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: In the last thirty years, advancements made in neurobiology and computer science have profoundly changed the ways in which we conceive and regard ourselves. Within this context, metaphysical questions about personal identity become intertwined with real, practical concerns and ethical considerations. As we become more and more integrated with technological artifacts, it is important to know where to draw the limits of the ”self” and what are the conditions of persistence for us as persons.

Purpose of study: Recent developments in philosophy such as the extended mind thesis (Clark & Chalmers, 1998) impinge interesting consequences for personal identity. Adopting a functionalist understanding of the psychological continuity theory, the purpose of this paper is to examine if cognitive coupling with artificial systems do extend the mind or the self outside the boundaries of our crania or not.

Research Methods: Arguments for and against the extended mind thesis are analysed within a functionalist framework and are assessed according to current empirical findings from neuropsychology.

Findings: While contingent transcranialism is nomologically possible, no current case exists in our present day. For man and machine to constitute a real unitary cognitive system, artificial artefacts would have to operate in the same ”language of thought” as humans or at least be able to translate such a system of representations in machine code directly. Also, external memory seems entirely different in structure and functioning from biological memory, making it an unlikely substitute of our natural faculty. Even if we leave aside issues such as these, a person’s identity would still be preserved as long as its mental states are causally connected to previous mental states in an appropriate fashion. Adopting a functionalist perspective, translation between instantiation systems, however, would not preserve identity as the mechanism of translation is not itself a mental state.

Conclusions: In our present day, cognitive interactions between humans and artifacts do not threaten the boundaries of the self. While such boundaries can be broken in principle, this would require understanding the intricacies of the human internal representational system. New technology such as neuroprosthetics would influence only the subpersonal level, leaving psychological continuity largely unaffected.

Keywords: Identity; extended mind; psychological continuity; functionalism; consciousness
Title: Contributions to the identification of personality traits in athletes

AUTHOR(S): MIHĂILESCU LILIANA, CUCUI IONELA ALINA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Mental preparation is one of the factors in sports training which can enhance or diminish performance. Identifying the personality traits of athletes and corroborating these with the level of individual motivation could be a solid premise in the development of a strategy aimed at optimizing mental preparation, its content, objectives, instruments and evaluation techniques being individualised according to the particularities of the athlete.

Purpose of study: The study was initiated with the purpose of identifying the personality traits in members of the national athletics team, in order to corroborate these traits with the level of motivation, as a basis to develop a strategy of optimizing mental training, which can be applied individually.

Research Methods: The principle research instrument used was the Five-Factor Personality Inventory (FFPI), which I combined with statistical and mathematical methods in order to determine the scaled scores, using average values and standard deviations for every scale (superfactor).

Findings: The research reveals the fact that the large majority of the subjects (83.33%) exhibit intrinsic tendencies and emotional stability, traits specific of a phlegmatic temperament, characterised by an increased effort capacity, tenacity, robustness and emotional balance, the type of temperament which is compatible with the specific effort in athletics events.

Conclusions: o The FFPI test can be used to determine the personality training of performance athletes and the scaled scores of the five factors can offer objective arguments in the creation of their psychological profiles.

Keywords: athletics, personality, performance
Title: The Five Factor Model of Personality and Stuttering

AUTHOR(S): REYHANEH JAFARI, RAHIM SHAHBODAGHI, HASAN ASHAYERI, MOHAMMADREZA KEYHANI, MAHDI BAZIYAR

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Besides classic speech therapy procedures, persons who stutter could benefit from additional counseling. Here, the therapist could examine enduring emotional, experimental, attitudinal and motivational styles of client by the self-report questionnaire called NEO-Five-Factor-Inventory (NEO-FFI; Costa & McCrae, 1992). Two recent study examined the Five Factor Model of Personality using NEO-FFI (Iverach et al., 2010; Bleek et al., 2011). Although heterogeneous results were observed, in particular Neuroticism was elevated in persons who stutter compared to control persons in these studies.

Purpose of study: The present study aims to compare Five Factor Model of Personality in adults who stutter with a control group on the five personality dimensions of Neuroticism, Extraversion, Openness, Agreeableness and Conscientiousness.

Research Methods: Twenty adults who stutter (mean age: 25.00; SD = 4.18) and twenty control group (mean age: 24.75, SD = 4.05) matched to age and gender, filled in the NEO-FFI. Comparisons based on two-sample t-tests were used to compare the NEO-FFI domain scores. The study was approved by the Ethical Committee of Tehran University of Medical Sciences.

Findings: Mean scores of the personality dimensions of Agreeableness and Conscientiousness were significantly higher (p=0.05 and p=0.02 respectively) in adults who stutter compared to the control group. In terms of the remaining personality dimensions, means Neuroticism, Extraversion and Openness scores for the stuttering group were not significantly different from mean scores for control group (with p=0.08 for Neuroticism).

Conclusions: In line with Bleek et al. (2011), we found higher Agreeableness and Conscientiousness in adults who stutter. But result for Neuroticism is a bit surprising as higher Neuroticism scores have been robustly linked to persons who stutter before. This might be due to the small sample size though. Following the present results, clinicians might include data on Agreeableness and Conscientiousness to follow an individualized counseling procedure. High Conscientiousness associated with determination, reliability and an ability to resist temptation. And also people with high score in agreeableness are more reliable and better follow therapist but this person may excessively rely upon therapist. In fact therapist can plan to prevent this kind of problems.

Keywords: Stuttering, personality, NEO-FFI
Title: A meta-analysis on the antecedents and consequences of computer anxiety

AUTHOR(S): LAURENTIU MARICUTOIU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Computer anxiety is a negative emotional state experienced by individuals when working with computers. Although the first studies on computer anxiety are more than 30 years old, there is not systematic review of their findings.

Purpose of study: The purpose of the study is to summarize the correlates of computer anxiety, using statistical methods specific to quantitative reviews (or meta-analysis).

Research Methods: We conducted a literature search using the following keywords: "computer anxiety" and "technophobia", and we obtained approximately 400 abstracts. In order to be included in the review, a study had to: 1) use questionnaires developed for assessment of computer anxiety; and to 2) report at least the correlation coefficient and the sample size. Thirty-eight studies containing 79 correlation coefficients were included in the final analyses.

Findings: The significant antecedents of computer anxiety are trait anxiety (average Z=.25), neuroticism (Z=.24) and openness to experience (average Z=.25). The significant consequences of computer anxiety are perceived ease of using computers (average Z=.39), intention of using the computer (average Z=.26). Computer anxiety was not correlated with intention of using the computer, perception of computer utility or user performance in using the computer.

Conclusions: Computer anxiety is an emotional reaction that is associated with stable personal characteristics. These relationships are moderate in terms of effect size, suggesting that computer anxiety can be modelled through training. Regarding its consequences, computer anxiety has an important role in acceptance of new technology.

Keywords: computer anxiety, antecedents, consequences, meta-analysis
Title: STUDY ON THE FUNCTION AND DYSFUNCTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN COACHES AND ATHLETES PSYCHIC SPORT HIGH PERFORMANCE

AUTHOR(S): RATA BOGDAN CONSTANTIN, RATA GLORIA, DOBRESCU TATIANA, RATA MARINELA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: THE FUNCTION AND DYSFUNCTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN COACHES AND ATHLETES PSYCHIC SPORT HIGH PERFORMANCE

Purpose of study: The research purpose is to highlight the consistency perception of mental functions and dysfunctions of the coaches and athletes in high performance sport.

Research Methods: This paper is a study conducted on 40 subjects ascertaining, of which 20 coaches and 20 athletes. This study was organized and held in January-February 2013. For consistency we use knowledge as a tool for assessing a questionnaire and the research methods I used: bibliographic study, survey, statistical and mathematical and graphical.

Findings: The results revealed the difference in the perception of four mental functions and dysfunctions of four coaches and athletes. In the mental functions have included cognitive function, psychological, educational and socio-emotional, and I included the stress disorders, anxiety, fatigue, lack of self confidence.

Conclusions: Conclusions emphasizes differences between coaches and athletes views on mental functions and dysfunctions in high performance sport. Since the questionnaire was revealed that coaches consider psychological function and the socio-emotional sport as the most important in high performance sport. In terms of perception dysfunctions, coaches consider the lack of self confidence and anxiety as unfavorable or dangerous sports in high performance sport.

Keywords: functions, mental dysfunction, performance sport.
Title: A-state, A-trait and the performance of 14-15 years old football players

AUTHOR(S): MITRACHE GEORGETA, PREDOIU RADU, COLIȚĂ EUGEN, COLIȚĂ DANIELA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Athletic performance represents the physical performance achieved in an institutionalized social comparison context, involving inequality in the distribution of rewards. Anxiety is a disorder of the affectivity, expressed by fear, unrest sensations, felt in absence of true causes able to cause them. It globally affects the human body, expressing at somatic, psychic and behavioral levels.

Purpose of study: This study wants to identify the existing correlation between the state anxiety (A-state), trait anxiety (A-trait) and sports performance in the field of junior men's football players.

Research Methods: To solve the research issues, we used observation, conversation, the Endler Multidimensional Anxiety Scales (EMAS) belonging to the computerized platform Cognitrom Assessment System, statistical processing methods - SPSS and data interpreting.

Findings: - There is a negatively significant correlation between the physiological responses and the marks obtained by the football players, offered by the coach depending on their evolution on the field.
- There is a positively significant correlation between the results for anxiety in physically dangerous situations and the marks obtained by the athletes, given by the coach.

Conclusions: This study demonstrates the existence of several significant statistic correlations between state anxiety, trait anxiety and the football players performance. If, in a testing situation at some point in time, the athletes will be able to feel on a level below the average a racing heart sensation, perspiration or flushing, this may positively influence their evolution on the field. Also the results underline that maintaining the anxiety in potentially harmful situations (situations with low competency, situations with high importance and situations with loss of control) at a medium level or slightly below the average level, by performing an adequate mental training in which the athletes are aware of the significance of this aspect combined with modeling the competition in training, is associated with a better evolution of the football players on the field. The EMAS may be used as a complementary means of psychological preparation, may offer data with respect to the state and trait anxiety which may become objective points in specific training and may also represent an element of selection of the football players for the representative team.

Keywords: state anxiety, trait anxiety, sport performance, football
**Title:** The Involvement of Cognitive Schemas in the Manifestation of Anxiety According to Sex

**AUTHOR(S):** DINDELEGAN CAMELIA

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** Anxiety is an acute problem of the times we live in and has an important influence on mental health. Our research is based on the cognitive schemas theory developed by J. Young. More precisely, we shall depict the manner in which maladaptive cognitive schemas correlate strongly and positively with state anxiety and trait anxiety.

**Purpose of study:** This study aims to: (1) discover gender differences in the case of cognitive schemas detailed on the five domains detailed by J. Young in his cognitive schema theory and (2) to identify differences between men and women in terms of anxiety - both as a state and as a feature.

**Research Methods:** In order to perform this research we used two inventories: State - Trait Anxiety Inventory - S.T.A.I. and Young Schema Questionnaire - S4, YSQ-S4 (short form 4), which were given to every subject individually. Thus, for reaching the objectives of our study, we used a sample of 95 subjects of whom 46 were men and 49 women.

**Findings:** There are differences between women and men in terms of cognitive schemas only on Domain no. 4: Other directedness schemas. Only on this field we obtained a significance threshold of $p = 0.031$, which is lower than the critical threshold $p = 0.05$ so we can say that women are more dependent, showing a higher concentration on the feelings and needs of others in order to gain appreciation and avoid rejection. We can say that women are more anxious than men, but as it appears from the results, these differences are not significant in terms of state anxiety. An emotional state is present at a point in time and at a certain intensity.

**Conclusions:** Our hypothesis regarding gender differences in the manifestation of state anxiety and trait anxiety was only partially proved. Our study shows no gender differentiation in terms of state anxiety manifestation. Women and men are equally prone to anxious situations. Regarding trait anxiety our results confirm the previous studies which state that anxiety disorders are more common in women, 55-60% of those suffering from this disorder.

**Keywords:** gender differences; maladaptive cognitive schemas; anxiety
Title: Conflictual states within the school organization - a study regarding the perception of the teaching staff and school managers

AUTHOR(S): POPESCU ALEXANDRINA MIHAELA, BUNAIASU CLAUDIU MARIAN

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: For the practice within the Romanian school organization, the field of conflict resolution is a field undergoing a process of crystallization, in which there is still room for learning and improvement.

Purpose of study: Through this theoretical and methodological research, our purpose was to identify, synthesize, complete and explain the concept of conflict management within the school organization, hoping to bring a useful and relevant contribution to the current educational practice, by marking the beginning of a process.

Research Methods: The carried out research is a descriptive research, while the sample must allow the extension of results for the whole collectivity. To accomplish such a thing, we used a random sampling method which involves knowing with anticipation the probability of including each individual in the sample. Unfortunately, the research on the aspects regarding the conflict as well as those regarding the organizational culture and climate is very difficult, especially the idealized research that most of the researchers want to achieve.

Findings: The conflict within the school organization must be tackled by taking into account the particular nature of the activities carried out in school, activities which are distinct and interdependent at the same time: one of these activities is the managerial-administrative activity, regulated by the organizational logic while the other is the pedagogical-educational activity, structured according to the pedagogical logic. On the organizational level, on which our study is also centered, we distinguish between the members of the managerial staff - headmasters, deputy directors, head of chairs, members of the school board, all of them playing a double role - the role of teacher as well as manager. The managerial staff is completed by the administrative staff.

Conclusions: For the organizational practice of schools in Romania, the field of conflict resolution is an emerging field and as a result, it is characterized by an extremely high dynamic. We must admit that the conflictual states are a reality within the school organizations and if we continue to ignore them they will not vanish, at most they will perpetuate in time. In trying to improve the organizational context of the school, it is necessary to develop an interdisciplinary approach for the resolution of conflicts. The school must enter into an organizational self-learning process to eliminate the tendencies of derailing from reforms.

Keywords: conflictual states, conflict management, conflict’s managerial culture
**Title:** Curriculum for children with disabilities in inclusive education.
**A literature review**

**AUTHOR(S):** VRASMAS TRAIAN

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** Studies and educational experiences focusing on inclusive education, from Europe, USA and Romania have shown the importance of school curriculum in promoting and implementing inclusive education for children with disabilities.

**Purpose of study:** To identify, as main findings, emerging themes and research topics from the literature review on the curriculum for children with disabilities in inclusive contexts, both internationally and in Romania.

**Research Methods:** Using narrative literature review as a main method, several criteria for including various pieces of literature in the research area were identified, on two domains of the educational sciences (pedagogy and special education). The data collection for this investigation was made both in English and in the Romanian language.

**Findings:** The focus on the curriculum for children with disabilities in inclusive education is developing in the English written educational texts from abroad, also in the Romanian ones, in the last 10 years. Some of the emerging themes are: the importance of a relevant and quality curriculum for all children and universal curriculum design; the curriculum for children with disabilities in inclusive contexts should ensure both equal rights and equal opportunities; individualized (personalized) educational planning for these children is very widespread. The teachers and parents' opinions are very important in designing a differentiated and relevant curriculum, but less reflected by different studies.

**Conclusions:** Educational and special education literature in Romania are generally in line with the international and European trends in the area of study. We need more research in connection with the emerging themes for understanding the complexities of inclusion and diversity, in delivering the classroom curriculum in ordinary schools.

**Keywords:** curriculum, children with disabilities, inclusive education
Title: Implications of Teaching Styles on Learning Efficiency

AUTHOR(S): VIRGIL FRUNZĂ

Extended Abstract

**Problem statement:** Teaching styles represent a constant concern in the area of education and communication and through teaching behaviours they encompass are designed to create an atmosphere of emulation, reliable and productive cooperation within the teaching staff.

Starting from this statement it is interesting to see how possible teacher behaviours potentially emerge and structure and what relevant features with a greater impact on teaching communication process may have.

**Purpose of study:** This paper identifies possible teaching behaviours which are given by a number of studies on larger or less samples of teachers, such as the effective and ineffective behaviour, each of them having a specific number of features.

**Research Methods:** Research method used was a Questionnaire focused on identifying different types of teaching styles (personal tool). We have investigated 60 teachers from primary school and from colleges.

**Findings:** What is important, during this research were found three leadership styles namely authoritarian style, democratic style and laissez-faire style, each one distinguished by a number of relevant characteristics. There is a proved superiority of the democratic style, but this is relative and contextual. In certain specific situations, authoritarian style may be higher (as organization, high and fast performance etc.). However, the democratic style has its positive effects in terms of employability, motivation, participation and assumption.

**Conclusions:** In our opinion, the characteristics of the democratic style support communication to a greater extent compared to the authoritarian style. Consequently, learning styles could be classified into three categories namely: personal style, relational and teaching style. Their specifics and characteristics point out a certain communicative potential that the teacher must be aware of and which can be efficiently capitalized.

**Keywords:** teaching styles, the democratic style, the authoritarian style
Title: The Listening Behavior in the Didactic Activity

AUTHOR(S): VIRGIL FRUNZĂ

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Listening is one of the foundations of communication. Any improvement is the listening behavior of individuals brought about by the teaching of listening skills would indeed be of great value. Therefore it is good to see that people engaged in the teaching of communication skills are turning their attention to the problem of teaching listening skills. The teaching of listening skills, however, may not be effective because we do not know enough about the listening process to be able to specify which aspects of it are teachable and what are the most effective methods of improving it.

Purpose of study: In this paper, we have tried to underline the importance of communication in our society either individual or inside a group, while stressing out the listening component, and the possible means of improving its efficiency and productivity. The first part of the paper covers a theoretical presentation of communication in general, and the role played by listening in the communication process. The second part covers the research we have conducted and the results consequently attained.

Research Methods: The research method applied was the questionnaire based inquiry, from which should emerge the efficiency of the different types of listening used by the teachers in the teaching-learning activities. We have investigated 60 teachers from 3 colleges, from Constanta and Tulcea, Romania.

Findings: The results of the research have underlined the following types of listening of the teachers: listening in view of getting informed, critical listening emphatic or profound listening.

Conclusions: Although the common denominator of the techniques is represented by the high activism degree induced to the listener, there are differences among them, first of all from the perspective of the targeted objectives, and than from the perspective of the means and levers used to be achieved.

Keywords: communication process, listening in view of getting informed, critical listening emphatic or profound listening
Title: GENDER VARIATIONS IN THE PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS AS DEFINED BY THE THEORY OF PLANNED OF ORAL HYGIENE BEHAVIORS  
AUTHOR(S): IRINA ZETU, CARMEN BEATRICE DOGARU, CARMEN DUȚĂ, CARMEN TOMA, ALEXANDRINA L. DUMITRESCU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Oral self-care practice is an effective preventive measure for maintaining good individual oral health which is an integral part of one’s general health. Many previous studies showed clear gender differences in the percentages of adults reporting oral health practices.

Purpose of study: The aim of this analysis was to investigate gender differences in the psychological factors as defined by the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) applied to oral hygiene behavior (OHB).

Research Methods: Using an paper-and-pencil questionnaires, a undergraduate student sample of 324 first year medical students from University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Carol Davila", Bucharest were asked about their OHB, and the potential determinants of OHB, psychological constructs from the theory of planned behaviour, including attitudes (ATT), social norms (SN), perceived behavioral control and intention to improve behavior.

Findings: Significant differences between gender and the potential determinants on OHB were found. Females reported a more positive attitude than males (4.79 ± 1.05 vs. 4.19 ±0.12, P<0.0001) and also scored higher than males on perceived behavioural control (5.03 ± 0.77 vs. 4.65 ± 0.81, P<0.0001), its subscales (confidence: 5.63 ± 1.49 vs. 5.10 ± 1.43, P = 0.008; perceived control: 5.32 ± 1.33 vs. 4.70 ± 1.24, P<0.0001; locus of control 6.12 ± 1.16 vs. 5.44 ± 1.51, P<0.0001) and on intention to improve OHB (4.89 ± 1.39 vs. 4.03 ± 1.27, P<0.0001). Exploratory regression analyses revealed also a few variations in predictors of OHB between males and females, in that for males only attitudes (beta = 0.590, P<0.0001) are important determinants of intention to improve OHB (r² = 0.498, F = 10.56, P<0.0001), whereas among females not only attitudes (beta = 0.466, P<0.0001) but also social related aspects as social norms (beta = 0.109, P<0.05), perceived difficulty (beta = -0.221, P<0.0001) and perceived control (beta = 0.181, P = 0.006) are relatively important determinants of intention to improve OHB (r² = 0.549, F = 50.00, P<0.0001).

Conclusions: Insight in gender variations in the psychological determinants of OHB is relevant to refine preventive approaches to modify OHB for male and women in the desired direction.

Keywords: theory of planned behavior; attitudes; social norms; oral health behaviors
Title: GENDER VARIATIONS IN THE PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS AS DEFINED BY THE EXTENDED HEALTH BELIEF MODEL (HBM) OF ORAL HYGIENE BEHAVIORS

AUTHOR(S): LIVIU ZETU, CARMEN BEATRICE DOGARU, CARMEN DUȚĂ, CARMEN TOMA, ALEXANDRINA L. DUMITRESCU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Oral self-care practice is an effective preventive measure for maintaining good individual oral health which is an integral part of one’s general health. The place and importance of background factors that may inform socialization processes cannot be overlooked. For example, gender differences in tooth brushing practices as well in the caries and periodontal disease prevalence were observed in the community.

Purpose of study: The aim of this analysis was to investigate gender variations in the psychological factors as defined by the extended health belief model (HBM) and oral hygiene behaviours (OHB).

Research Methods: Constructs from the health belief model (HBM) and self-efficacy were measured simultaneously in an undergraduate student sample of 288 first year medical students from University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Carol Davila", Bucharest.

Findings: Significant interaction effects between gender and the potential determinants on OHB were found. Females reported higher values on perceived severity (3.34 ± 1.04 vs. 2.89 ± 1.01; P<0.05), and self-efficacy (3.58 ± 0.88 vs. 3.26 ± 0.98; P<0.005) and lower values on perceived barriers (1.83 ± 0.63 vs. 2.14 ± 0.78; P = 0.001). No significant differences were observed related to perceived susceptibility (3.08 ± 1.14 vs. 3.36 ± 1.01) and perceived benefits constructs among males and females (3.69 ± 0.90 vs. 3.90 ± 0.87) (P>0.05). Exploratory regression analyses revealed only a few variations in predictors of OHB between males and females, in that for males perceived barriers (beta = -0.311, P = 0.05) and self-efficacy (beta = 0.392, P<0.05) were relatively important determinant of OHB (r2 = 0.292, F = 2.97, P<0.05), whereas among females only self-efficacy (beta = 0.215, P<0.05) was relevant (r2 = 0.170, F = 5.68, P<0.0001).

Conclusions: Gender variations in OHB and in the psychological determinants should be considered when designing practical recommendations for improving OHB. There is a need of further experimental research in this area for the development of tailored oral hygiene interventions.

Keywords: oral health behavior; severity; susceptibility; benefits; barriers; oral health behaviors
Title: IMPACT OF EMOTIONAL NEGLECT AND SELF-SILENCING ON BODY MASS INDEX AND ORAL HEALTH BEHAVIOURS: A STRUCTURAL EQUATION MODEL ANALYSIS IN UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

AUTHOR(S): ALEXANDRINA L. DUMITRESCU, CARMEN BEATRICE DOGARU, CARMEN DUȚĂ, MANOLE COJOCARU, LIVIU ZETU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Current available data indicate that parent-child relationships may prevent or promote the development of psychiatric symptoms, mainly anxiety and depressive symptoms. Child abuse has been associated with poorer physical health in adulthood, with ischemic heart disease, obesity, diabetes, liver disease, migraine, increased prevalence of lifetime mood, anxiety, as well as risks of associated health behaviors: binge eating disorder and night eating syndrome, alcohol consumption, smoking, risky sexual behaviors, including externalizing and internalizing problems.

Purpose of study: The aim of our study was to explore the effect of emotional neglect and self-silencing on body mass index and on oral health behaviors.

Research Methods: The present study sample consisted of 155 first year medical students with an average age of 19.62 (SD = 2.62) years. The questionnaire included information about socio-demographic factors, oral health, smoking behavior, body mass index, emotional neglect and self-silencing. Confirmatory structural equation modelling was used to test the validity of the model in the whole sample and among two sexes separately.

Findings: Smoking behavior was correlated with self-silencing among males (r = -0.29, P<0.05), but not among females (r = -0.11, P>0.05). Individual Emotional neglect questions were correlated with body investment scales and oral health behaviors. Items with the strongest relationship to body investment were: (1) There was someone in my family who helped me feel important or special (r = 0.18, P<0.05) and (2) I felt loved (r = 0.34, P<0.0001). Individuals with high neglect level (cut off 11) reveled lower toothbrushing and dental visits frequency (P<0.05) and lower levels of Body investment scales (P=0.0006) compared with the rest of the study group. We used structural equation modelling with AMOS 7.0 (SPSS, Inc., Chicago, USA) to examine the inter-relationships amongst these factors based on the hypothesis. The structural equation model demonstrated a good fit among female students but not among males.

Conclusions: The proposed theoretical model of the inter-relationships between oral health related behaviors, emotional neglect, self-silencing, smoking and body investment was valid. Further studies should further investigate the properties of this model in different populations.

Keywords: emotional neglect; self-silencing; body mass index; oral health behaviors.
Title: THE INTER-RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN BODY DISSATISFACTION, BODY IMAGE DISTURBANCE AND ORAL HEALTH

AUTHOR(S): ALEXANDRINA L. DUMITRESCU, CARMEN TOMA, CARMEN DUȚĂ, MANOLE COJOCARU, IRINA ZETU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Body image concerns include overvaluation of appearance, body dissatisfaction, and/or a distorted view of our body and have long been associated with weight and eating related problems. A negative body image is also associated with low self-esteem, depression, anxiety, obesity, and obsessive-compulsive tendencies.

Purpose of study: The relevance of body image disturbance in the context of mental health has been well-established, but less is known about factors that contribute to the development of body image. The aim of our study was to explore the effect of oral health on body-image of adolescents, on their overall level of body dissatisfaction and body disturbance.

Research Methods: The present study sample consisted of 155 first year dental students (Mean age of 19.62, SD = 2.62 years) who completed a questionnaire assessing self-reported oral health status, their body (dis)satisfaction rating and the Body Image Disturbance Questionnaire (BIDQ).

Findings: Significant differences were found between on body dissatisfaction and body image disturbance, related to presence of current extracted teeth, dissatisfaction by appearance of own teeth (P<0.05) and gingival status (P<0.01). When oral health behaviors were evaluated, it was revealed that participants who scored higher on body dissatisfaction and body image disturbance scale never used dental floss (P<0.05), never used mouthwashes (P = 0.014) and visited their dentist mainly when treatment is needed or when pain (P = 0.005). We used structural equation modeling with AMOS 7.0 (SPSS, Inc., Chicago, USA) to examine the inter-relationships amongst these factors based on the hypothesis. Fit indices indicated good representation of the data in the whole sample. Goodness-of-fit statistics were significant mainly among the girls.

Conclusions: The proposed theoretical model of the inter-relationships between oral health status, oral health related behaviors and body dissatisfaction was valid. Further studies should further investigate the properties of this model in different populations.

Keywords: body-image; body dissatisfaction; body disturbance; oral health.
Title: Affective factors involved in learning a foreign language

AUTHOR(S): RAMONA HENTER, IANCU JIANU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Acquisition of a foreign language represents an intensively studied issue, its psychological foundation being based on the individual differences of various learners. The learning process depends on a series of factors: cognitive factors (language aptitude, learning strategies), affective factors (attitudes, motivation, anxiety), metacognitive factors, and demographic factors.

Purpose of study: We have chosen to analyze how affective and metacognitive factors contribute to first year Psychology students’ English proficiency, as compared to students that learn English for professional purposes.

Research Methods: They were tested with AMTB and an English language test.

Findings: The results for students of psychology - pedagogy revealed that there were identified significant correlations between the performance in English and students’ motivation and anxiety, but not with their attitude towards learning English. On one hand, the students in question may be very familiar with tests, and on the other hand they may be hard working students so the attitude may not influence learning English in particular. These results are consistent with research mentioned above as concerning motivation and anxiety.

Conclusions: The correlations show that out of the affective factors, motivation and anxiety are strongly linked to English performance in the sample in question, thus reiterating the results of previous research. Our results are partly consistent with those in Robinson’s research (2005), which showed that motivation and aptitude are the best predictors for successful outcomes in learning a foreign language after training. However, in our study, attitude does not have a significant influence on performance in English so further studies should be accomplished in order to find out whether their attitude is related to learning in general or to learning a foreign language or to learning English. The means show that students majoring in English are more motivated and have a more favourable attitude towards learning English than students from the faculty of psychology and educational sciences, probably because the formers learn English with the specific purpose of using it at a professional level so they must have been strongly motivated to choose it for their university studies and they probably also have a positive attitude towards this language and everything regarding it, as it is their major. Whereas, students majoring in psychology or pedagogy learn English as part of their compulsory curriculum and only need English for collateral professional purpose (such as reading scientific papers) so their motivation and their attitude towards learning English are significantly lower. As concerning the anxiety level, psychology - pedagogy students are more anxious than their colleagues majoring in English, which can be explained by the fact that they do not feel as secure as the latters when using a foreign language. Anxious students (Horwitz, 2001, MacIntyre & Gardner, 1989) feel unable to meet the demands of learning a foreign language, feel less competent than their peers, are afraid of being negatively evaluated by them, are afraid of making mistakes. As overcoming these comes with experience, we may assume that students from the faculty of letters, who have been learning languages for a
longer time and more diligently, feel less anxious when using a foreign language, which for some is already as a familiar as their mother tongue.

As Dörnyei highlighted, Gardner's socio-educational model of language learning does not account for the pedagogical issues that may affect learning in the classroom, or for the cognitive aspects of motivation (Dörnyei, 1994b). Hence, some pedagogical recommendations for teachers of English could be derived: students' motivation for learning a foreign language must be raised in order to obtain good results in English; changing attitude is a difficult and time-consuming process, so it is better to form a positive attitude towards foreign languages as early in life as possible; situational factors, that is the school environment and contextual items, may affect students' anxiety level so teachers should provide a secure and engaging environment. Putting pressure on students can only discourage them, especially when a teacher must develop students' speaking abilities.

Keywords: affective factors, learning English, AMTB
Title: Psycho-Social Assessment of Patients with Chronic Renal Diseases Undergoing Hemodialysis

AUTHOR(S): RUXANDRA RASCANU, SIMONA MAGDALENA RADU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Nowadays, patients with chronic renal diseases have hemodialysis - a procedure that brings some improvements on the medical and psychological levels and opens the door, at the same time, to new, rich experience, to plans for future, mostly forgotten altogether before starting hemodialysis. Our group of study consisted of 72 patients, both sexes, aged between 45 and 70, all from Gral Hemodialysis Center in Bucharest. Some of the patients followed this procedure for almost 2 years, others for more than 7 years.

Purpose of study: The main objective of our study is to offer a set of rules of conduct to all those involved in the process of helping patients suffering from chronic renal diseases - medical staff, psychologists, family members.

Research Methods: We used established tests, like the Self-Efficiency Scale (SES), HADS, SF-36. The results of these tests were interpreted psycho-clinically and statistically-mathematically. We proposed an experimental design, as we intended to analyze that part of the personality structure on which psycho-clinical and social interventions might work.

Findings: We tried and succeeded in identifying the differences between the two sexes and the groups of age we studied, according to the length of time our patients were treated with hemodialysis.

Conclusions: As our hypotheses were confirmed, we were able to sum up a set of information that became a set of rules of conduct for the patients with renal chronic diseases, where the role of the family proved extremely important in order to reach a certain bio-psycho-social balance in the life of the sick.

Keywords: hemodialysis, assessment, family support, health and social improvements
Title: STUDY ON THE MOTIVATION COMPONENTS AEROBICS TEAM
FROM "VASILE ALECSANDRI" UNIVERSITY OF BACAU

AUTHOR(S): DOBRESCU TATIANA, DOBRECI LUCIAN, RATA GLORIA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The motivation components aerobics of the "V. Alecsandri" University team of Bacau,

Purpose of study: The purpose of research is to determine the motivation components aerobics of the "V. Alecsandri" University team of Bacau, which in 2013 won third place at the National University Championships in the idea selection process orientation elements talented with a basic training in the gym.

Research Methods: The research hypothesis and believe that we can work orientation selection aerobics gymnasts for the university team motivation by identifying the components of a university team.

Research methods used were: method documentation, observation, investigation, mathematical and statistical graphics.

The scientific approach consisted of conducting an investigation at the component level aerobics team that will represent our institution in the national championship university.

The research subjects were selected from gymnasts aged 21 to 23 years, the enlarged group nominated representative team.

Research was conducted in 2012 in which psychological tests were performed.

Guest acts that led to the making of value judgments and the assessment of psychological availability of the subjects investigated consisted in applying the test of professional motivation, adapted R.Bazin (2001, pp. 214-215).

Findings: At the end the research conclude that normative evaluations identify the essential elements of the psychological model, representing the important indicators in selecting components representative team.

Conclusions: The research has helped identify subjects with higher values of useful features this sport and their selection of university aerobics team.

Keywords: motivation, aerobic gymnastics, selection, representative team
**Title:** Symbolic capital and cultural dimensions in Romanian educational organizations

**AUTHOR(S):** DANA GAVRELIUC, ALIN GAVRELIUC

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** Symbolic capital could be presumed as an important resource in generating openness and involvement in social environments. Following Bourdieu conceptualisation and relating it with the theories of cultural dimensions (Hofstede, Leung & Bond), we are investigating the relationship between symbolic hierarchy and relational patterns in a specific cultural environment.

**Purpose of study:** Our research question is articulated around the dilemma of cultural specificity (as called the hypothesis of relational modernization evoked by Bourdieu): is the prestige and educational capital a predictor of more democratic relationship in Romanian educational organizations?

**Research Methods:** The survey organized in Timisoara has selected two global samples (N=522), formed by teacher from secondary schools (n=253) and from universities (n=269). We have applied the following instruments: Values Survey Module 94 - Hofstede, Social Axioms Survey - Leung & Bond, Locus of Control Scale - Rotter, Self-Determination Scale - Sheldon, Ryan & H. Rice and Self-Esteem Scale - Rosenberg.

**Findings:** We have evidenced that the profile of teacher from universities comparative with the teacher from secondary schools are more problematic. Thus, the subjects from academic area have the higher scores in power distance (t (520) = - 4.583, p <0.001) and social cynicism (t (520) = - 2.213, p = 0.027) than the subjects from secondary schools, expressing a controversial social portrait.

**Conclusions:** These outcomes indicate an inertial process of contamination at the level of social cognition for the Romanian social strata with high symbolic capital. Thus, the axiomatic definition of social dynamic and social involvement is more fatalistic and duplicitous, even if the stratum with high symbolic capital is expected to be more self-determined and opened. This observation is more alarming, because the tendency is proved to be active in a social environment (represented by education) that is traditionally associated with promoting social responsibility and communitarian involvement. For that reason, beyond of appearances (institutional acquisition and behavioral changes), the societal change in Romania realized through a democratic pattern become a problematic one as well, and the thesis of relational modernization in Romanian educational organizations is refuted. These outcomes underline the role of social attitudes and values rotted in cultural history centered on dependency, assistentialism and precarious self-determination.

**Keywords:** symbolic capital, Hofstede's cultural dimensions, social axioms, education
Title: Communitarian resilience confronting with personal and social historical ruptures

AUTHOR(S): ALIN GAVRELIUC, DANA GAVRELIUC

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Our research is focused on the topic of traumatic identity in confrontation with personal and social historical ruptures, imposed by deportation in the communist period.

Purpose of study: The study has intended to examine the way of articulating self-narrative (Gergen, 2009) in traumatic historical context, attempting to enlarge the horizon of the identitary knowledge toward the realm of the silent world, toward the second-plan actors of history, so often ignored when self-reflexive surveys have been carried out and only the pursuit of the forefront actors has been preferred.

Research Methods: We have realised and analysed 28 oral history interviews (1590 pages of transcript manuscripts) of ordinary peoples, involved in post-war period in a deportation process. We have used a content analysis combined with values scale realized by M. Rokeach, that groupes the values on three progressive level of generality, ending with the confrontantion between finality values and instrumental values.

Findings: In a primary interpretation of data, our attention is drawn by the predominant positive tonality of the retrospective excursus (513 mentions for the positive values and only 374 for the negative values), despite the traumatic character of the destinies evoked in most narratives. Another discovery at this level is that the identifications in terms of ethnicity are more generous than those in terms of region, offering more positive valuations of the authors of the discourse. For example, "to be German" or "Hungarian" is seen through a more positive image by the inhabitants of Banat than "to be Moldavian" or "Oltenian". Thus, the border of differentiation is not constructed by the ethnicity criterion (with which the inhabitant of Banat has a common unmediated history) therefore contradicting the ethnocentric approach. At the level of social representation of the memorial identity, the "family" references are imposed in a symbolic confrontation with categories associated with "trauma". In the same time, the narrative anchors related to "family" become the most influent categories of memorial discourses, representing the core of self-identification in biographical overview.

Conclusions: Despite of confrontation with traumatic events of individuals, the outcomes suggests the strength for reconfiguring in a positive way their own identities, activating communitarian resilience (Werner, 1995). The mechanism of reconstruction self-identity expresses the predominance of the values which would integrate in the register of "to be", to the detriment of the "to have" values. Although the discourses reveal a world gravely and sometimes irremediably broken up, the authors of the discourses construct a discourse which read through the axiological register is predominantly serene just because these value categories of "to be" are predominantly invoked.

Keywords: resilience, trauma, oral history, narrative identity
Title: The importance of developing a sense of self as a TEACHER during the training programme

AUTHOR(S): CAMELIA RADULESCU, ROMITA IUCU

Extended Abstract

**Problem statement:** Continuous professional development is closely related to individual beliefs and attitudes. Beliefs are involved in helping individuals make sense of the world, influencing how new information is perceived and whether it is accepted or rejected. Moreover, they serve as a guide to thought and behavior. Teachers hold beliefs about themselves as individuals and professionals. Professional development for teachers starts with ITE. What teacher trainees learn and how it is learned during their education is situated within contexts in which that knowledge is used and it resembles the knowledge that is held by those who already participate in those contexts. Teaching beliefs and attitudes are also considered central to effective teaching and learning behaviour, as teacher trainees are influenced by their beliefs which are closely linked to their values, their views of the world and to their conceptions of their place within it.

**Purpose of study:** This paper discusses the role of the training in shaping teaching philosophies and practices in Romania. It introduces the case study of 14 teacher trainees who reveal their understanding of 'teaching' and 'being a teacher' throughout the programme and their plans for further professional development.

**Research Methods:** This study is based on an extensive literature review and interviews with teacher trainees and their mentors, in order to support the hypothesis that during ITE teachers are influenced by their beliefs which are closely linked to their values, their views of the world and to their conceptions of their place within it.

**Findings:** The success and the efficiency of teacher education depend on the readiness and the ability of individuals to identify themselves with the values and norms proposed in the education documents and policies. This study emphasizes the necessity of a curriculum for teacher education that uses reflective methods in the context of competitive learning teaching environments for teacher trainees who have a diverse background of abilities, experiences and expectations.

**Conclusions:** Educationalists modeling an identity discourse and community of practice for teacher trainees during TE programmes should be aware of the way proposed ideational structures such as ideas, values, symbols or norms resound at personal levels.

**Keywords:** initial teacher training, reflective processes, professional identity
Title: A new beginning: ways of improving the school start for preparatory class children

AUTHOR(S): LAURA CIOLAN, CRISTIAN BUCUR, CAMELIA RADULESCU, ANCA PETRESCU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: School start is an extremely important moment, both for teachers and for children and their parents. The quality of this moment has the potential to significantly influence the children performance throughout their education. The amendments to the National Education Law No. 1/2011, which introduced the preparatory class to primary school education, brought numerous managerial, psychological and pedagogical challenges to all parties involved.

Purpose of study: This study investigates the extent to which the school organization and the parties involved are or were prepared for this dramatic structural change. The purpose of the investigation is that of identifying ways of improving the capacity of the educational institutions and of the people directly involved (teachers, pupils, parents) to create the conditions for a quality school start for preparatory class children.

Research Methods: For this purpose data from primary and secondary sources will be employed. A survey was applied to 310 teachers for primary and preschool education and school counselors, who were solicited structured feedback by means of questionnaires regarding the organization and the functionality of the new school start format. This data is complimented by an evaluation of the organizational and individual readiness for preparatory class implementation.

Findings: The analyzed data show that changing the school start format, despite insufficient and proper preparation, did not produce dramatic sideslips, as the teachers involved showed the flexibility and the capacity of adapting to the new requirements within a reasonable time limit. The teachers answering the questionnaire identified three categories of necessary actions related to: family and child, school organization and policies influencing primary school education.

Conclusions: The results help the identification of clear ways of psychological and pedagogical intervention for a good quality school start related to the three categories mentioned above.

Keywords: primary school education, preparatory class, teacher training, quality in education
Title: Mental and Physical Health Comparison Among Psychologically Distressed Heart Failure Patients in Malaysia

AUTHOR(S): NOR FIRDOUS MOHAMED, AIZAI AZAN, MOHD NAJIB MOHAMAD ALWI, MOHAMED HATTA SHAHAROM

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Psychological disorders such as anxiety and depression are prevalent disorders among heart failure patients. These disorders may reduce these patient's quality of life and they may slip into a downward psychological spiral, therefore early recognition and psychological interventions for anxiety and depression amongst them is crucial.

Purpose of study: Psychological impairment such as anxiety and depression are common disorders among heart failure patients. These disorders may reduce these patients' quality of life and they may slip downward into psychological conflicts. Therefore early recognition and psychological interventions for them are crucial. This study aimed to compare the Health-Related Quality of Life (HR-QoL) scores between Heart Failure (HF) patients with anxiety and depression, and non-case.

Research Methods: Patients were 211 HF out-patients and in-patients attending the National Heart Institute, Malaysia. They were recruited over 6 months’ duration. Participants completed a demographic questionnaire, the 36-item short-form health survey (SF-36) of the Medical Outcome Study (MOS) for the assessment of HR-QOL, and the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Stress Scale (HADS) to identify patients struggling from anxiety and/or depression.

Findings: A total of 6% of the HF patients scored as depressed and about 9% scored as anxiety. Both anxious and depressed HF patient’s shows significant poor QoL scores in all SF-36 subscales compared to normal HF patients except in physical and emotional role subscales.

Conclusions: Prevalence of anxiety and depression among Malaysian HF patients is lower compared to the western population. Overall mental and physical health of the HF patients with anxiety and depression were associated with poor QoL. The results also suggest that physical functioning and bodily pain perception which are both under the physical health dimension of QoL were the lowest scores among the anxious and depressed HF patients. Hence, these two domains need to be incorporated as important elements to be focused upon for intervention programs designed for QoL improvement among the HF patients. Future studies are warranted to investigate qualitatively the physical and mental health perception and their relationship with QoL among the HF patients.

Keywords: Anxiety; Depression; Health Related-Quality of Life; Multi-ethnic
Title: EPISTEMOLOGICAL LIMITATIONS OF STUDY CASE. AN EMPIRICAL INVESTIGATION

AUTHOR(S): TRIF VICTORIȚA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: This paper related to epistemological limitations of study case develops an empirical investigation concerning the contrasting points of view between teacher and students in the Romanian classroom.

Purpose of study: The purpose is to establish the case identity, to delineate a resolutive model or a strategy, and to identify preconceptions about the student from the vantage point of the teacher.

Research Methods: Because our research is empirical and qualitative, we intend to highlight the methodological deficiencies of multiliteracy results. The research design used for the investigation consisted in a case study selected from Romanian prose: a fragment in which Gala Galaction describes authentic dimensions classroom in which he took part. This qualitative study inferred about the collection of written answers according

Findings: Beyond the controversy fueled by high-profile investigations in this area we delineated an inventory of the main types of prejudice (Trif, 2011a): consistency bias (all students are treated equally regardless of your interest in relation to the objects of education); its portrayal of normalized bias of the pupil (the teachers operates with a profile or standardized student portrait); school's own bias itself (any student is only so because his roles are restricted to the walls of the school) and so on.

Conclusions: The data collected demonstrate that the case is a classic and contemporary at the same time life situation of school; the identity of the teacher and the identity of the student are antagonistic; who can be treated according to multiple strategies and outlining the lack of cultural synchronization of educational process players. The implications of this approach aims, on the one hand, sensitise teachers and managers of educational policies in Romania in connection with genuine issues of class and students, on the other hand, suggest reconsidering the trainers training programmes within the meaning of the best practices.

Keywords: educational psychology, qualitative analysis, classroom management, pedagogical practice, communication, wording.
Title: Trends in the academic profession as result of "supercomplexity"

AUTHOR(S): TRIF VICTORIA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: This article delineate the trends in academic profession as a reflective approach in order to discuss the specific problems. A survey of the literature in the field reveal that the specific topic is as follows: contemporary trends in academic profession, the professionalism of academic profession, standards and criteria for the assessment of the candidates’ academic profession, tools and methods for diagnose performance academics, and so on.

Purpose of study: The purpose is to identify the contemporary problems of the academic profession, to underline the present practices and to present the theoretical disputes concerning the academic identity.

Research Methods: This paper is a qualitative approach using meta-analysis. Despite the large number of publications over the last ten years dealing with the academic profession, we suggest that, in fact, the roles and functions of the academic profession have not changed very much. According to these theoretical and practical underpinnings this meta-analysis provide a new feature - the academic profession between prototyping and ambiguity.

Findings: As a subject full of controversy along passing the time the excellence of the academic profession is a subject that raises great debates. In Romania, the rhetoric regarding academic identity promotes semiotics insufficiently delineated: not specified major changes facing higher education institutions in the United Kingdom (groups of librarians, technology education specialists, administrators, etc. that affect Higher Education policy) as there are no identified French characteristics of academic identity according to the sociological exercise offered by P. Bourdieu (the identity of the university community is assured of the solidarity members who hold the same status).

Conclusions: The qualitative analysis reveal that are contradictory researches highlight staff teaching in higher education In conclusion, the qualitative perspective, the quantitative and empirical statistics on Romanian academic context require a model resolution realistic trading, in which industry professionals and politicians should take into account global economic crisis, limited possibilities of University budgets to support high-performance, unpredictable situations, international mobility and promotion of authentic values

Keywords: academic profession, higher education, qualitative analysis
**Title:** Appropriate Personality of Teaching Profession among Industrial Education Students of King Mongkut’s Institute of Technology Ladkrabang

**AUTHOR(S):** RATCHADAKORN PHONPAKDEE

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** 1. What is Appropriate Personality of Teaching Profession (APTP) among Industrial Education (IdEd) students of King Mongkut’s Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL)? 2. What are ways in developing APTP among IdEd students of KMITL?

**Purpose of study:** 1. to study APTP among IdEd students of King Mongkut’s Institute of Technology Ladkrabang. 2. to study ways in developing APTP among IdEd students of KMITL.

**Research Methods:** Samples were 354 students and 24 lecturers of the IdEd faculty. Tools were interviews, test, and questionnaires. Frequency, percentage, average, standard deviation were employed in statistical analysis.

**Findings:** Most of students were more APTP in dimension of mind (88.70%), body (78.50%), emotion (75.70%), speech (66.90%), and intelligence (45.50%). Lecturers and students mostly agreed that students should have APTP in every dimension. They agreed 8 ways to develop APTP: teacher should be an idol of students, supported students to service society, always trained student to have APTP such as classroom presentation, presented and exampled a good practice to students, developed and integrated APTP curriculum with subjects, warned students to foster APTP, always suggested and exampled about good personality, and trained or seminar or workshop APTP.

**Conclusions:** From the findings, lecturers have roles in developing APTP directly. However administrators of the IdEd faculty should support on creation of a policy for program collaboration for the development of a well-rounded students at KMITL. Besides students should introspect and open to accept comments and suggestions to improve their personality, and encourage their friends practice APTP.

**Keywords:** Appropriate Personality, Teaching Profession.
Title: The severe lack of information and the modification of the control perception regarding Sexually Transmitted Disease

AUTHOR(S): SCARNECIU IOAN, LUPU SORIN, SCARNECIU CAMELIA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are a public health problem worldwide. The frequency of the disease is increasing alarmingly, long-term implications are important, individually and socio-economically, and also the strictly medical approach is insufficient.

Purpose of study: changing the perception of control of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) in a sample of 100 students by providing specialized information and calling negative emotions and thus demonstrating the necessity of introducing Sexology courses in educational institutions and universities; evaluating the efficiency of a strong, negatively charged, message to a sample of young subjects.

Research Methods: we used a basic experimental plan: pretest-intervention-posttest. In the pretest phase, the Multidimensional Health Locus of Control Scale (MHLC) questionnaire was applied and also another Knowledge and Attitudes Questionnaire (KAQ) was also applied. After a period of two weeks the intervention phase followed (before the actual implementation of the intervention, subjects were divided randomly into experimental group and control group). The intervention consisted of the presentation of an informative lecture structured in two separate modules. In the posttest phase, a MHLC, a KAQ and State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI) were applied to each subject. Also, the subjects in the experimental group were divided into extreme groups: the low anxiety and high anxiety.

Findings: using the t test for paired samples as a statistical procedure, calculating the average and standard deviation and comparing averages, significant results were obtained. For CCA $p = 0.02$, demonstrating that the intervention was statistically significant on the knowledge acquired by the subjects. Also, the perception of control assessed by MHLC changed significantly ($p = 0.05$ internality, externality caused by influential persons $p = 0.01$), subjects who were initially doing external attributions became internal. The externality determined by chance was statistically insignificantly amended. Also, the intervention was more effective for the nonanxious sub-group and ineffective for the anxious subgroup, but not statistically significant.

Conclusions: The study confirms a severe lack of information about STDs and personal risk of infection, and also the fact that the perception of control of STDs can be modified by providing informational material that appeals to negative emotions. Also, the level of knowledge can be significantly increased by providing well structured informative material. High and low anxiety subjects, did not hinder nor facilitated change in control or the knowledge level, probably due to the age group studied.

Keywords: Sexually, Transmitted, Disease, perception
**Title:** Smoking as a risk factor for the development of Sexual Dysfunction and Infertility in Men; evaluation depending on the anxiety levels of these patients

**AUTHOR(S):** SCARNECIU IOAN, LUPU SORIN, SCARNECIU CAMELIA

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** Sexual Dysfunction (SD) and couple infertility have serious repercussions on all aspects of life of individuals, and the couple in general. The incidence of SD and male infertility are in great increase. Smoking is a major contributing factor for the development of such disorders. Although the harmful effects of smoking are well known, many people do not quit smoking.

**Purpose of study:** verifying the hypothesis that smoking favors the emergence of sexual dysfunction and altered sperm parameters in young men. We tried to see if a strong emotionally charged message efficiency is lower for anxious subjects compared to less anxious ones, knowing that anxiety is an additional risk factor for the occurrence of SDs.

**Research Methods:** The sample included 250 patients, aged between 18 and 65 years (2007-2012). For evaluating patients with SDs we used the International Index of Erectile Function (IIEF) and an anonymous questionnaire. Spermogram analysis was made according to European guidelines (2 spermiograms series at 1 month). To assess anxiety, a well structured and informative material was used and a State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI) was applied; patients were divided into two extreme groups: a group with a low anxiety and high anxiety group.

**Findings:** The sample included 250 patients, aged between 18 and 65 years (2007-2012). For evaluating patients with SDs we used the International Index of Erectile Function (IIEF) and an anonymous questionnaire. Spermogram analysis was made according to European guidelines (2 spermiograms series at 1 month). To assess anxiety, a well structured and informative material was used and a State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI) was applied; patients were divided into two extreme groups: a group with a low anxiety and high anxiety group.

**Conclusions:** The study clearly demonstrates the involvement of smoking in causing SDs (5 times higher risk) and altered sperm parameters (especially in combination with other risk factors). However, a large number of patients will not quit smoking, confirming physical and psychological dependence. The patients anxiety type in this group did not influence the effectiveness of the strongly charged emotional message.

**Keywords:** Sexual, Dysfunction, Infertility in Men, Anxiety
Title: Leadership, personality, job satisfaction and job performance

AUTHOR(S): MIHALCEA ALEXANDRU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The personality of leaders, the degree of satisfaction of the employees, the type of adopted leadership, the professional performance of the employees are concepts we frequently meet among the newest papers of the organizational psychology domain. In the present paper we unitary approach the relation between the four mentioned concepts on a single sample of subjects (managers and employees in retail business).

Purpose of study: The present study was guided by the following objectives: 1. Identifying the type of leader who generates the job satisfaction among his employees; 2. Identifying the relation between facets of leadership and personality features of the leader; 3. Correlating the leadership styles with the degree of professional performance.

Research Methods: The research sample consisted of 1272 employees of retail companies in Bucharest, 41% of them being male and 59%, female. Out of these, a number of 144 participants (50% male and 50% female) occupy leading positions of middle and high levels.

Social, demographic data and job satisfaction level (in the case of all employees) where collected, followed by evaluation of the personality traits and the type of leadership adopted by the participants with leadership functions. Also, data was collected regarding the performance of the executive teams.

We used ones of the most well-known instruments of scientific literature: CPI 260, Multifactor Leadership Questionnaire (MLQ).

Findings: At the level of personality profile, the leaders who show task orientation, dominance, ambition, independence, self-trust (CPI-260 scales) generate a low level of satisfaction among their employees.

As for the leadership style, data confirms significant differences only for part of the MLQ scales, respectively on one of the transactional leadership components (Contingent reward) and the ones related to passive avoidant behaviour.

Contrary to our expectations, not all transformational or transactional leadership components are associated to the collected performance indicators.

Conclusions: The presence of transformational and transactional leadership is associated to higher profitability of the department and lower number of errors made by the subordinates personnel.

The present study confirms and completes a series of conclusions of previous studies and also the association between leadership and other personality treats or between leadership and a series of performance indicators.

Keywords: job satisfaction; leadership; job performance; leader's personality, retail company, transformational leadership
Title: Organizational culture versus work motivation for the academic staff in a public university

AUTHOR(S): CUCU-CIUHAN GEANINA, IULIANA GUIȚĂ-ALEXANDRU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: In Romanian public policy there is a lot of talking these days about the inefficiency of the educational institutions and the need for an educational system reform. We think that an important part of this national problem is the deficient organizational culture of each educational institution.

Purpose of study: The paper presents the results of a research study that aimed to identify the type of the organizational culture existent in a Romanian state university, the way it is perceived by the employees, and identifying the type of the organizational culture wanted by the employees. We also evaluated the work motivation, emphasized the association with the type of the organizational culture and the correlation between a series of classificatory variables and the perception of the organizational climate.

Research Methods: The research sample included a number of 102 university teachers, aged between 25 and 57, from assistant professors to full professors. We used two measures: ESA Questionnaire (Ciucurel, 2006), for evaluating the work motivation, and Organizational Culture Questionnaire (Harrison, Stokes, 1992).

Findings: The results showed that the main organizational culture existent was the power type and that the employees hope for a support type. In what concerns the work motivation, teachers from the university had a high self-actualization motivation. The paper includes statistical data.

Conclusions: The organization meets a series of human needs: affiliation (explained by the fact that members receive affection from colleagues), psychosocial comfort, social recognition, and fulfillment. As regards motivation for work, teachers of the investigated organization show self-fulfillment motivation, followed by well-developed economic motivation and poorly represented social motivation. As regards workplace motivational valences, the university is perceived as a means of satisfying self-fulfillment needs to an average extent, economic needs to an average to small extent and social needs to a small extent. As regards existing organizational culture, power-type culture comes first, followed by role-type culture. In terms of desired organizational culture there is a need for change, given the preference for support and task-type culture.

Keywords: organizational culture, work motivation for academic staff
Title: Peculiarities regarding creativity in paranoid schizophrenia

AUTHOR(S): ATUDOREI ANCA-LAURA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Creativity, a real hallmark of our human condition, is far from being understood in its intimate mechanisms. Especially during the last decades, disciplines like art psychology, esthetics or neurosciences were trying to develop different theories to take us forward into this terra incognita. Approaching creativity in close relation with psychopathology can also provide valuable data.

Purpose of study: The current paper is a quantitative research that aims at underlining creativity particularities in paranoid schizophrenia, hoping that the findings will lead to a better understanding of creativity and will be applicable to psychotherapeutic programs based on artistic means.

Research Methods: The study comprises a number of 60 subjects randomly selected from the patients with paranoid schizophrenia that addressed the Dr. Gavril Curteanu City Clinical Hospital, Oradea. After giving their written consent, the participants were individually assessed with PANSS (Positive and negative Syndrome Scale) and Revised Art Scale (RAS).

Findings: We identified a negative correlation at a significance level p<.05 between the severity of positive symptoms and creativity in subjects treated for paranoid schizophrenia. Furthermore, the item related to delusions (P1) and the item for suspiciousness/persecution (P6) from the positive symptoms subscale have a significant negative connection with the RAS score, p<.05 and p<.01. A significant positive correlation between the score of the negative subscale PANSS and RAS results at a significance level p<.05 was also identified. Among the negative symptoms, lack of spontaneity and flow of conversation correlates positively with RAS score and a strong connection exists between the two, p<.01.

Conclusions: The emphasized correlations represent only one aspect of the psychopathological creativity problem, which also requires to be integrated in the big picture of human creativity. The results of the research raise theoretical questions that must be addressed. However, the findings can prove to be useful in building complex therapeutic intervention programs for patients with paranoid schizophrenia. The relatively small number of participants, slightly uneven distribution by gender and level of education, and the insufficient data regarding the creativity scale used can be pointed out as study limitations but may also represent challenges for future research.

Keywords: creativity, artistic perception, paranoid schizophrenia
Title: Gender Discrimination and Education Practitioners. Reality, Perception, Possible Solutions

AUTHOR(S): OANA-RICA POPA, NORICA-FELICIA BUCUR

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Promoting gender equality (GE) has been one of the targets of Western civilization for more than five decades. Nevertheless, gender discrimination (GD) is still very much a big issue in many societies and, to a certain degree, this is a result of the way people get educated within the school system.

Purpose of study: This study aims at determining the extent to which Romanian prospective or current education practitioners are informed about GD problems and thus to infer whether they are prepared to promote GE within and through schools.

Research Methods: A questionnaire-based survey was used, having as a reference point the recent nationally developed GD surveys in Romania. The items of the questionnaire (closed, multiple choice, open) were selected and adapted in order to be able to establish what and how much educators know about GD, considering that being knowledgeable about gender issues could successfully embark educators on developing a correct attitude towards gender.

Findings: (1) GD is prevailing and there is no real GE in Romania; (2) respondents find it difficult to define discrimination in general, and GD in particular (they are unable to correctly identify GD main features); (3) GD is mainly perceived as discrimination against women; (4) subjects are unaware of Romanian legal provisions against GD; (5) unlike results stemming from recent GD research in Romania, respondents in our survey categorically reject traditional gender role stereotypes and prejudices; (6) mentality, the education system and tradition are the main causes of GD in Romania and one can fight against them by using the education system, family and community.

Conclusions: Our small scale survey identified the education system as both cause and possible remedy for reducing the gender gap in Romania, and very much in line with recent Romanian and EU statistics on the issue in question, it outlined the importance of educators being educated about GD in order to be able to promote GE. Therefore, pre-service or in-service teacher education programmes should comprise a core module on GE.

Keywords: gender discrimination, gender equality, education system, education practitioners
Title: Social perception of aggression by high school students

AUTHOR(S): ENACHE RODICA GABRIELA, POTIRNICHE NEDELUSA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Our research originated from the desire and need to study the phenomena of aggression and violence which, at least in Romania of the last few years, appear to become more noticeable. Several factors can have a negative impact on the behavior of teenagers. The causes of aggression are complex, however two distinct categories can be identified: (i) psycho-individual factors springing from the depth of human individuality (e.g., mental perturbations, negative feelings, temperamental dispositions, intelligence level and emotional control) and, (ii) external factors generated by the socio-economic and educational background in which an individual is brought up (e.g., aggression within the family, severe parental discipline, exposure to the aggression of peers, exposure to violence through mass-media, video games or gambling, and extended exposure to violence in real life).

Purpose of study: This study focuses on the teenager perception of aggression and violence as manifested in high school.

Research Methods: The data used in this study was collected from 60 teenagers between 16 and 19 years old, from two high schools in Constanta County, Romania.

Findings: The results indicate an insufficient level of information and education among teenagers regarding aggression and violence in high school. Moreover, several forms of aggression, along with its risks factors were identified in this study. The most common form of aggression was verbal violence, while the most important risk factors appear to be those related to the socio-economic environment in which the teenagers are educated. Family environment plays a crucial role in determining the presence of aggressive acts among teenagers.

Conclusions: The corrective measures to address the proliferation of teenagers violence included counseling and out-of-school programs, educational programs to understand aggression and violence. In extreme cases, students recommended expelling their aggressive or violent peers from school.

Keywords: Aggression, violence, teenager
Title: The introduction of cultural education in initial and continuous teacher training programmes in Romania. Operational perspectives

AUTHOR(S): NICULAE CRISTEA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: In the 3rd millennium world, in a global society, in which society is characterised by unity in diversity, Europe has become a new epicentre of world power. Trying to eliminate violent nationalisms and extremisms, EU is developing common objectives and values in the field of interculturality that are in line with the respect for and safeguarding of cultural and linguistic identity and diversity of Member States, as well as with the development of cultural patrimony. Our country has to align the educational policies with the European policies and provisions.

Purpose of study: The aim of this study is to demonstrate the importance of intercultural education as a component of initial and continuous teacher training programmes in Romania. The present study starts from the premise that intercultural education encourages contacts, communication, exchanges, which result in the shrinking of "social distance". Training and developing the spirit of tolerance represents a major desideratum of intercultural education. The role of the teacher is that of appreciating the students' cultures of origin, making them aware of cultural diversity, surpassing preconceived ideas and stereotypes and practicing a non-discriminating behaviour.

Research Methods: In my study I carried out a thorough analysis of bibliographic references in the field of intercultural education, as well as of the EU programmatic and policy documents in order to understand the state-of-the art in the field of intercultural education in Europe and worldwide. I also revised the Romanian educational policies, and I focused on teacher education programmes in general. I made a correlation with European teacher education programmes and I designed a possible curricula for in-service and pre-service courses and the contents that they should include.

Findings: The results of my research revealed that it is possible and necessary to adapt the contents of teacher education programmes at national level so as to include elements of intercultural education for teachers to round-off their pedagogical training.

Conclusions: The conclusion of my study is that there is a real need to introduce courses of intercultural education within the curriculum of teacher training education, both pre-service and in-service

Keywords: intercultural education; teacher training programmes
Title: The Efficacy of Relaxation and Systematic Desensitization in Reducing Dental Anxiety

AUTHOR(S): NEACSU VALENTINA, DUMITRACHE MIHAELA ADINA, SFEATCU RUXANDRA, MARU NICOLETA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Dental anxiety is deemed as a multidimensional state which imposes a holistic approach of the anxious patient. The research is based upon Berggren, Hakeberg & Carlsson theory, who proved the efficacy of relaxation, systematic desensitization and cognitive approach in reducing anxiety.

Purpose of study: To compare the efficacy of two methods for treating dental anxiety: relaxation therapy and systematic desensitization respectively.

Research Methods: Patients have been instructed to fill in questionnaires to record the dental anxiety level, assessed with 2 scales: Modified Dental Anxiety Scale (Humphris G.), which assesses five situations that generate anxiety, and Dental Phobia Assessment Questionnaire (developed by Kleinknecht), which assesses avoiding anxiety, physiological signs and categories of anxiogenic-perceived stimuli. Muscle relaxation technique, together with relaxation suggestions, and systematic desensitization technique have been used.

Findings: 60 patients meet the criteria for inclusion into the research project (MDAS≥13). By using One Sample T test of SPSS software, the difference between DFS score means has been calculated both at baseline and after interventions. Anxiety decrease is statistically significant for the whole group (p=0.000, p<0.05, t=14.183). For group I (N=20) where muscle relaxation has been used, DFS score differences are statistically significant on all components, avoidance-anticipation (1), physiological (2) and to stimuli (3) (t(1)=13.534, t(2)=17.448, t(3)=7.541, p= 0.000<0.05). For group II (N=20) where desensitization has been used, DFS value differences show a statistically significant decrease on all components (t(1)=16.907, t(2)=35.897, t(3)=36.732, p= 0.000<0.05). For the control group (N=20), DFS score differences are not statistically significant (p=0.330>0.05). The total anxiety level has been mostly reduced by using the relaxation technique (total difference between DFS means = 23), followed by the desensitization technique (DFS difference = 21.35). The physiological anxiety and avoidance level has been mostly reduced by using the relaxation technique (avoidance DFS difference = 2.65) and the level of anxiety to stimuli by using the desensitization technique (physiological DFS difference = 13.45).

Conclusions: The anxiety level has been decreased mostly by relaxation, compared with systematic desensitization, both globally and per subcomponents. The methods used to reduce anxiety should take into consideration the identified anxiety level and patients' psychological characteristics.

Keywords: dental anxiety level, muscle relaxation technique, relaxation suggestions, systematic desensitization technique
Title: Dimensions of the personality of the military students from Land Forces Academy of Sibiu. A psychometric approach.

AUTHOR(S): CRISTIAN MIHAI SUMEDREA, CORNELIU MOSOIU, SANDINA ILIE

Extended Abstract

Problem statement:
The applicability areas of researches in personality are extremely varied, one of them being the military sciences. Folding the personality profile over a standard profile that meets the military demands is a challenge for military psychologists. In the remodeling of the easy bias resources, to meet standard profile structures, serious resources are involved. Regarding the present study, the discussions between the test providing company (AMN TOOLKIT NETHERLANDS) and Land Forces Academy of Sibiu revealed the necessity of building a personality evaluation instrument for students. The proposed approach proves to be a pioneer in the field, at least in the land military forces area.

Purpose of study: The objective of our approach consists in identifying the norms for the following dimensions of personality: emotional stability (es), extraversion (e), openness to new experiences (one), consciousness (c), thoroughness (t) and need of external stimulus (nes).

Research Methods: The research was carried from December 2012 to February 2013. The steps of this research were:
1. Computerised-administration of tests;
2. Analysis of test scores on each dimension tested;
3. Analysis of the items of each dimension;
4. Reliability-analysis of administrated tests;
5. Establishing the norms.

Findings: The psychometric approach leads to the obtaining of the following norms (for each dimension, the scores which are mentioned below have the following sequence of significances: lowest 10%, next 20%, middle 40%, next 20%, highest 10%):
nes: 0-14; 15-21; 20-28; 29-32; 33-40
es: 0-23; 24-28; 29-32; 33-37; 38-40
e: 0-24; 25-28; 29-33; 34-38; 39-40
one: 0-24; 25-27; 28-31; 32-35; 36-36
c: 0-25; 26-28; 29-33; 34-36; 37-40
t: 0-32; 33-35; 36-41; 42-46; 47-48

Conclusions: The research allowed obtaining a valid evaluation instrument for military students. The tests have proved reliable, with a high internal consistency (Alpha Cronbach coefficients 0.816; Guttman coefficients > 0.737). Validity of the tests was confirmed by the method of validity of the construct. Taking into account the reliability and validity criteria, the scores obtained by dividing and ordering the scores of each dimension, according to the corresponding percentage (10%, 20%, 40%, 20%, 10%) turned out to be valid.

Keywords: Alpha Cronbach coefficient, Guttman coefficient, item, norm, personality, reliability, validity.
Title: Family Support, Positive Thinking and Spirituality Correlates On Psychologically Distressed Heart Failure Patients in Malaysia

AUTHOR(S): NOR FIRDOUS MOHAMED, AIZAI AZAN, MOHAMED HATTA SHAHAROM, OTHMAN LEBAR, RAYMOND FREDICK PETERSON

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Despite increasing prevalent of Heart Failure patients in the Western study, however there are no published research has investigate the psychological prevalence of HF patients in Malaysia during this study was conducted. Hence, this pilot study was conducted to determine prevalence of anxiety and depression among multi-ethnic HF.

Purpose of study: This study sought to screen the psychological profile among multi-ethnic heart failure patients in Malaysia

Research Methods: A brief survey questionnaire combining a socio-demographic questionnaire and the Hospital Anxiety and the Depression Stress Scale (HADS) was administered at the National Heart Institute, Malaysia to 211 HF patients. Later, semi-structured interviews were used to gain an in-depth understanding of the psychological findings from the prior quantitative survey. For the interview sample, 19 warded HF patients were selected from the quantitative survey participants. The sample included 13 Malays, 4 Indians and 2 Chinese. These purposive interviews were audio taped and transcribed verbatim using thematic content analysis, while quantitative survey data were analyzed using SPSS 19.0.

Findings: The study demonstrated that depression and anxiety are rare in the Malaysia HF populations, with 6% respondents scoring as depressed and 9% scoring as anxious. Reasons for the low frequency of anxiety and depression among the multietnic HF patients in Malaysia were explained through exploratory factors such as family support, a positive thinking strategy, and spiritual belief that emerged from the qualitative interviews.

Conclusions: Prevalence of anxiety and depression among HF patients in Malaysia is lower compared to the Western population. Heart failure can be distressing for some patients in Malaysia however due to some motivating factors they enhance their psychological wellbeing towards a positive quality of life. These important factors should be inculcated during development of future treatment programs for multi-ethnic Heart Failure patients in Malaysia.

Keywords: Anxiety; Depression; Health-Related Quality of Life; Family Support; Spirituality and Positive Thinking
Title: Individual differences associated with dispositional trust: The relationship with self-esteem and self-efficacy

AUTHOR(S): ANA ŞTEFANIA ISAILĂ, CLAUDIA LENUȚA RUS, DANIELA MARIA ANDREI

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Dispositional trust also named trust propensity (Mayer et al., 1995) or generalized trust (Uslaner, 2002) is the most relevant trust antecedent in contexts involving unfamiliar actors or new contexts (Bigley & Pearce, 1998; McKnight, Cummings, & Chervany, 1998). While acknowledging that individuals can differ considerably in their disposition to trust other people (Gurtman, 1992; Sorrentino et al., 1995), individual differences associated with it received very little attention.

Purpose of study: Our aim is to investigate individual differences associated with dispositional trust (propensity to trust and generalized trust) by looking at its relationship with self-esteem (Study 1) and self-efficacy (Study 2).

Research Methods: We used cross-sectional surveys. Study 1. Participants: 212 students. Instruments: Propensity to trust Scale (adapted version of Costa and Anderson’s scale, 2010), Generalized trust (Rosenberg, 1956), Rosenberg’s self-esteem scale (Rosenberg, 1965). Study 2. Participants: 360 (57.5% students, 42.5% employees). Instruments: Propensity to trust Scale, Generalized trust, Generalized Self-Efficacy Scale (Schwarzer & Jerusalem, 1995).

Findings: We conducted confirmatory analysis of the scales and investigated the correlations between variables. Results showed that: Self-esteem was significantly related to propensity to trust, r(208) = .14, p < .05, but not to generalized trust, ρ(210) = .09, p > .05. We found no significant relationship between propensity to trust and generalized trust. (Study 1). Self-efficacy was significantly related to propensity to trust, r(360) = .13, p < .05, but not to generalized trust, ρ(360) = .08, p > .05. Propensity to trust and generalized trust were significantly related ρ(360) = .21, p < .001. (Study 2).

Conclusions: Although in the past generalized trust and propensity to trust have been used as equivalent measures of dispositional trust, our results show different patterns of relationships with self-esteem and self-efficacy and also non-constant correlations between them. This might indicate that the two facets of dispositional trust might work at different levels and display different patterns of relationships with the other trust dimensions and with other concepts. More research is needed to investigate the structure and relationships among them.

Keywords: dispositional trust, propensity to trust, generalized trust, self-esteem, self-efficacy.
Title: Organizational Citizenship Behaviour, Work Satisfaction and Employees' Personality

AUTHOR(S): PAVALACHE-ILIE MARIELA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The syntagm organizational citizenship behavior describes a voluntary behaviour of the employees, meant to support the effective functioning of the organisation without expecting any formal reward. There are relatively few studies of the OCB conducted on the Romanian population, although this type of behaviour has obvious implications upon the organisational person and upon the organisation as a whole.

Purpose of study: In order to analyse the relation between the good soldier syndrome and work satisfaction, personality and socio-demographic variables on the Romanian population, and to identify some predictors of the OCB, two successive studies were conducted, one in military organisations and the other in civil organisations.

Research Methods: The first study concerned 62 contract-based employees from the army, in management and executive positions. Three tools were used: The Organisational Citizenship Behaviour Questionnaire; The Self-efficacy Scale; The Work Locus of Control Scale. The participants in the second study were 56 employees from the private and public sector (a public school and a foster care centre). The instruments used were: The Organisational Citizenship Behaviour Questionnaire, and the Job Satisfaction Questionnaire.

Findings: There is a significant correlation between OCB and total self-efficacy, general self-efficacy, and the internality. The employees having managerial functions in the army get more involved in organisational citizenship behaviour than those having executive functions in the same structure. The secondary education employees tend to get more involved in the OCB than those who benefited from higher education. As a tendency, women get more involved in OCB. Two explanatory variables of the organizational citizenship behaviour have been identified: job position and self-efficacy. Between the OCB and job satisfaction there is a medium association. The results of the regression analysis showed that job satisfaction is a weak predictor of OCB. By comparing the type of organisations we conclude that the highest level of OCB is reached in the foster care centre. The maximum degree of satisfaction was registered among school employees.

Conclusions: An interesting research direction is the perception of OCB from the perspective of the cultural differences, which could influence both the involvement of actants in such behaviours and the way they are perceived by their supervisors and colleagues.

Keywords: organizational citizenship behaviour, predictors, work satisfaction, self-efficacy, internality, Romanian public and private organizations
Title: The Appropriation of the Academic Environment and the Social Network as Academic Success Factors - A trans-cultural study

AUTHOR(S): PAVALACHE-ILIE MARIELA, RIOUX LILIANE

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: By using the cognitive and affective mechanism, the individual invests the space with intentions and acts, due to which (s)he escapes routine and builds his/her identity. This way, he/she appropriates space, dominating it and avoiding being dominated by it. The start of the academic studies is a transition which sometimes painfully impacts the student, due to the fact that he leaves a familiar, secure environment in order to integrate and adapt to a new environment, with a different lifestyle. More researchers concentrated on the space appropriation mechanisms, but focused less on the consequences of space appropriation on the academic success of the students.

Purpose of study: This transcultural research aims at analysing the relations between the appropriation of the academic environment, the students' academic success and the size of the social network.

Research Methods: The participants were students from Romania (103) and France (152). The questionnaire consists of: 1) an identification part describing the socio-demographic (age, gender, type of habitation) and individual (social network inside the faculty) variables; 2) A French and Romanian adaptation of the scale of space appropriation. Academic success is expressed by the average calculated at the end of the university year on the basis of academic documents and with the agreement of the students.

Findings: The Romanian students appropriate the academic environment much more intensely than the French ones. In Romania, the academic success is positively associated with a proper appropriation of the academic environment, both globally, and at the level of knowledge of the environment and stimulative environment. There have been no significant associations between the size of the social network and academic success, for any of the samples. For the Romanian students, the large social network is associated with an intense appropriation of the learning space inside the university. As a tendency, in both countries, female students appropriate the academic environment more intensely as compared to male students, but gender is not a relevant variable for the size of the social network.

Conclusions: An interesting research direction is the difference in meaning of the word ‘friend’ in the two samples, considering the fact that the social network of the Romanian students is much larger than the one of the French students.

Keywords: appropriation of the academic environment, knowledge of the environment, stimulative environment, easy circulation, social network, academic succes, transcultural study, Romania, France
**Title:** PSYCHOMETRIC PROPERTIES OF THE DYADIC ADJUSTMENT SCALE FOR MEASUREMENT OF MARITAL QUALITY WITH ITALIAN COUPLES

**AUTHOR(S):** CHIARA GARBARINI, EVA GERINO, ELISA MARINO, LUCA ROLLÉ, PIERA BRUSTIA

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** Dyadic adjustment, or general relationship quality, can be defined as individual and dyadic property (Spanier, 1976). Studies have highlighted the importance to have a quantitative measure of couple quality in clinical and research settings. Spanier (1976) created the Dyadic Adjustment Scale (DAS), a 32 items self-report tool, to investigate the perception that each partner within the couple has of the relationship. It has four subscales: dyadic consensus (DC), dyadic satisfaction (DS), dyadic cohesion (DH), and affectional expression (AE).

**Purpose of study:** The aim of the study was to evaluate the psychometric properties of the DAS in the Italian context.

**Research Methods:** We administered a questionnaire composed by a socio-anagraphical sheet and the DAS to 896 subjects (mean = 44.54; SD = 10). Regarding the inclusion criteria, all people involved in the survey had to be of age, married or cohabiting for at least two years.

**Findings:** Using SPSS, we perform two EFA (without and with an established number of factor to be extracted). The factor extraction method we used was the ML with oblique rotation method (Spanier, 1976). The four factor model resulted the best one, according to Spanier (1989). These factors explained the 45.473% of the total variance. Two items (17 and 21) seemed to be problematic. CFA showed a discrete fit of the four factor model to the data, but fit indexes improved considerably with the removal of these two items. The reliability of the emerged dimensions was good: the DC factor had an Cronbach’s α of .85, the DH factor of .67, the AE of .76, the DS factor of .82.

**Conclusions:** The reliability allows us to state, given the high values of the indices that were obtained, that there is an internal cohesion in each of the subscales. The CFA is in line with the original model proposed by Spanier (1976), although the results are not entirely convincing, since we detected some items that interfered negatively with the model. This could justify further studies, in the direction of analysing a new version of the DAS, that could not include these two items.

**Keywords:** DAS; Dyadic Adjustment; Couples relationship; Psychometric properties.
Title: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND NEWSPAPER: AN EXPLORATIVE STUDY

AUTHOR(S): LUCA ROLLÈ, SILVIA ABBÀ, ROBERTA FAZZINO, ELISA MARINO, PIERA BRUSTIA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The media play a leading role in the construction of public opinion, especially in relation to sensitive issues: Domestic Violence (D.V.) is one of this (Spitzberg & Cadiz, 2002). The idea that media portraits the news in a neutral way have been denied, specifically if related to victimization and crime (Meyers, 1997).

Purpose of study: The aim of this study is to point out how is the D.V. is represented in two most widespread Italian newspapers, "Corriere della Sera" and "la Repubblica" - in the years 2002 and 2012 - the first one is the most widely read by men and the second by women and both are not politically aligned.

Research Methods: Seven keywords has been used to find out the articles on D.V., in the online and hardcopy newspapers' archives. The founded articles have been given to two independent judges to establish the criteria for the micro categorization. Before they have been asked to create two category: form and content.

Findings: 46 articles were founded in the archives of 2002 while 304 in 2012 - an increasing of 31% of the articles online has been evidenced. The woman journalists are the 34% (2012) compared to 17% in 2002 and has been visible a reducing of man journalist 27% in the year 2012. The more adopted style in 2002 is the emphatic (46%), decreasing to 28% in the 2012. Denouncing style is 9% in 2002 and it increased to 27% in 2012 (an increase of 300%). This is the style adopted by the majority of women journalist in both years while the style more adopted by men is emphatic (64%-45%). Although in 2002 no man uses the style of denunciation, in 2012 is equal to 17%.

Conclusions: We evidenced an increasing of denouncing articles. The "Corriere della Sera" while presenting an investigation concerning D.V. publishes fewer articles than "la Repubblica"; this one publishes more denouncing articles - style mostly used by women journalists: it's visible the increasing of women dealing with women (Lloyd, & Ramon, 2013).

Keywords: newspaper; domestic violence; intimate partner violence; media;
**Title:** The relation between perfectionism, perfectionistic self-presentation and coping strategies in medical employees

**AUTHOR(S):** BARBARA CRĂCIUN, DIANA PAULA DUDĂU

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** Perfectionism is a personality trait that interferes in a complex manner with all aspects of human life. There is a specific interest to determine if it is important to consider the fact that the way perfectionists use different coping strategies might also be affected by the intervention of other variables, such as the tendency to apply a perfectionistic self-presentation strategy.

**Purpose of study:** The purpose of the study was to investigate the coping strategies that the persons with high levels of trait perfectionism and perfectionistic self-presentation tendencies usually apply in dealing with stressful situations.

**Research Methods:** The following instruments have been used: Perfectionism Inventory (PI; Hill et al., 2004), Perfectionistic Self-Presentation Scale (PSPS; Hewitt et al., 2003) and COPE Inventory (Carver, Scheier & Weintraub, 1989).

**Findings:** The participants to this study (N=60) have been investigated with three self-questionnaires. One of the statistic procedure used was the correlational analysis. The results revealed that conscientious perfectionism was associated strongly with perfectionistic self-promotion (r=.58, p<.01), moderately with active coping (r=.35, p<.01) and weakly with the tendency to seek social support for instrumental reasons (r=.19, p<.01).

**Conclusions:** Overall, our results indicated that there were some clear differences between the two groups, regarding the intercorrelational matrix of self-evaluative perfectionism and coping strategies. More precisely, men’s scores on self-evaluative perfectionism were negatively associated with the tendency to seek social support for both instrumental and emotional reasons and not statistically significant associated with active coping. In contrast, self-evaluative perfectionism on women correlated significantly only with active coping and the tendency to seek support for emotional reasons.

**Keywords:** Perfectionism, perfectionistic self-presentation, coping strategies.
Title: Object relationship and Therapeutics approach in autism

AUTHOR(S): POPA MARIANA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The paper has as topic a child of seven years, suffering from neurological disorders under treatment (hydrocephalus and spinal bifida) and with accented notes of autism.

Purpose of study: The main objective of the presentation is highlighting the specificity of development object relationship in the case of autism in conjunction with the picture characteristic his psychic.

Research Methods: The arrangements of therapeutic intervention oscillate between psychoanalysis and the techniques of experiential psychotherapy.

Findings: The way of presentation is the description of a sequence of rehabilitation intervention with her comments and conceptualization of the events developed by the therapeutic intervention.

Conclusions: In general for identifying the object and also adhesive relationships, it nevertheless highlights a progress in establishing the relationship of object to bite me not to feel the pain of separation, to accept objects and ultimately transition to an increasingly diversified symbolic activity.

Keywords: autism, object relationship, rehabilitation intervention
**Title:** BEING TWICE EXCEPTIONAL: GIFTED STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

**AUTHOR(S):** CRISTIAN BUICĂ-BELCIU, DORU-VLAD POPOVICI

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** Gifted students with learning disabilities are a heterogeneous group of children, often described as twice exceptional students. They exhibit puzzling patterns of behavior, higher-level intellectual abilities, advanced vocabulary, and exceptional comprehension of abstract ideas and concepts being intertwined with poor reading and writing skills, and poor phonemic awareness. Current identification procedures are failing on certain children because of the "masking" effect (due to the compensation process). Some controversial issues regarding identification of gifted students with learning disabilities are discussed, as well as some popular intervention strategies.

**Purpose of study:** The study aims to give a concise and clear view of the twice exceptionality domain of special education focusing on specific issues related to identification and intervention strategies usually employed with gifted students with learning disabilities.

**Research Methods:** A corpus of frequently quoted empirical and theoretical studies was reviewed in order to get complete and correct information concerning gifted students with learning disabilities.

**Findings:** For the time being, there is no consensus regarding neither proper identification of gifted students with learning disabilities, nor fully effective intervention strategies. Certain controversial facts and trends are highlighted.

**Conclusions:** Gifted students with learning disabilities differ significantly from their peers - gifted or not, with disabilities or not - claiming an identity of their own. Researchers and educators have grasped the idea that these children have specific needs and they require tailored intervention programs. Identification and subsequent interventions are still controversial proving the fact that this highly specialized area of special education is under substantial transformation. Major breakthroughs in the field are yet to come.

**Keywords:** Special education; gifted education; learning disabilities; twice/dual exceptionality
Title: THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IRRATIONAL COGNITIONS, AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL MEMORY, COPING STRATEGIES AND COMPLICATED GRIEF

AUTHOR(S): NAGY DIANA, STEFAN SZAMOSKOZI

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: It is estimated that between 10 and 20% of bereaved people experience complicated grief symptoms in response to their loss. In the present study, we aim to investigate the relationship between the crucial components stated in the cognitive-behavioral conceptualization of complicated grief (Boelen et al., 2006).

Purpose of study: To investigate the relationship between irrational cognitions, autobiographical memory, coping strategies and complicated grief in undergraduate college students (n=57) and estimate the predictive value of each of the three components on complicated grief symptoms.

Research Methods: Data regarding the variables of interest was collected via online administration of psychological tests/instruments regarding each dimension.

Findings: Using SPSS, we computed a correlational analysis between complicated grief and: irrational cognitions (r=.368, p<.01), autobiographical memory (r=-.361, p<.01), and coping strategies (r=.323, p<.05). Also, in a subsequent multiple regression analysis, autobiographical memory specificity emerged as a significant predictor of complicated grief symptoms.

Conclusions: We obtained significant correlations between all the variables of interest for the present study. Also, out of the three factors postulated in the model, autobiographical memory specificity significantly predicted complicated grief symptoms among college students. Further studies are required in order to test possible causal relationships.

Keywords: irrational cognitions, autobiographical memory, coping strategies, complicated grief
Title: Correlations between perfectionism, stress, psychopathological symptoms and burnout in the medical field

AUTHOR(S): PETRU MIHAI CRAIOVAN

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Stress and burnout are considered to be modern epidemics, and their importance to physical health and work ability has been acknowledged worldwide. The factors influential on burnout have been indicated in many studies over the years. Research has shown that, in addition to contextual factors such as job demands, personality characteristics play an important role in employee stress and burnout. Therefore one personality characteristic that has been closely associated with stress and burnout is perfectionism.

Purpose of study: In this study we analyze the correlations between these variables found among the medical domain personnel. Also, according to the research design, we expect to identify correlations between stress, perfectionism and psychopathological symptomatology that have not been studied until the present moment.

Research Methods: The measures that we used were Perfectionism Inventory (Hill et al., 2004), Perceived Stress Scale (PSS-10; Cohen et al., 1983), Maslach Burnout Inventory-Educators Survey (MBI-ES, Maslach & Jackson, 1986) and Symptom Check List (SCL-90-R; Derogatis, 1983).

Findings: The obtained results indicated the fact that the associations between perfectionism tendencies, perceived stress, burnout and psychopathological symptoms in medical employees were positively and statistically significant (e.g. PSS with PI with r=.83, p<.01).

Conclusions: Our results were concordant with the ones revealed in previous research (e.g., Pereira et al., 2012) suggesting the fact that perfectionism, perceived stress, burnout and psychopathological tendencies could describe a correlational pattern of problems characteristic for some medical employees. According to our study, the doctors and nurses with high perfectionistic tendencies could also have a pronounced susceptibility to perceive different life situations as being more stressful, as well as to be more prone to develop burnout symptoms (like emotional tiredness and depersonalization) and, in some degree, psychopathological symptoms (especially somatization, anxiety and depression).

Keywords: perfectionism, perceived stress, burnout, psychopathological symptoms.
Title: Characteristics of Effective Teacher

AUTHOR(S): LUPASCU ANDREIA RAMONA, PANISOARA GEORGETA, PANISOARA ION OVIDIU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Developing a desired behavior of the teacher is the subject of many studies, therefore teacher effectiveness issue is always topical. When teacher know how to be attractive for their teenage pupils many of school problems diminishes: school dropout, school violence and absenteeism.

Purpose of study: The objective of the research was to detect the student perception of what a "good" and a "bad" teacher means, which are the personal and professional aspects of teachers in educational environment. Also the study wanted to examine the differences in the perception of teacher according to the biological sex of the students.

Research Methods: Study data were obtained by application of a questionnaire in which subjects selected from a predefined list of characteristics what they appreciate or complain to teachers. Structurally, the questionnaire includes two multiple choice items, the first item containing 10 statements weaknesses of the teacher and the second 15 statements representing qualities.

Findings: Test for independent samples revealed statistically insignificant results about gender differences for some teachers negative appraisal: give excessive demands (1, N=52)=0.787, p=0.375; excessive authority (1, N=52)=1,261, p=0.262; heavy work/low grades (1, N=52)=0.103, p=0.749; working without passion (1, N=52)=0.080, p=0.777; uncertain explanations (1, N=52)=0.923, p=0.337. Statistically insignificant results were found for the positive characteristics of teachers: communicative (1, N=52)=2.364, p=0.124; good training (1, N=52)=1.564, p=0.211; presence of sense of humor (1, N=52)=0.433 p=0.510; friendly with students (1, N=52)=0.591, p=0.442; balanced / calm (1, N=52)=0094, p=0.760. There is a statistically significant difference for students and schoolgirls in terms of characteristics: master of his knowledge (1, N=52)= 4.282, p=0,039 < p=0,05; tolerance (1, N=52)= 4.952, p=0,026 < p=0,05 and for control of emotions and behavior (1, N=52)= 4.457, p=0,035 < p=0,05.

Conclusions: The teenage pupils appreciate different traits of teachers like: calm, tolerance, presence of sense of humor, friendly, a well prepared teacher. Instead, both male and female students disagree with features like: excessive demands and authority, working without passion, uncertain explanations, ironic language and also being too tolerant. Characteristic of perseverance is appreciated by female students more than male students, also the tolerance and control of emotions and behavior.

Keywords: effective features, ineffective characteristics, teenage, motivation, professionals behavior.
Title: The use of dual therapy Quetiapine - psychoanalytic psychotherapy in Hypochondriac Disorder

AUTHOR(S): SIMONA TRIFU, MEDANA FĂT, MIHAEŁA ION

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Specialized literature posits that hypochondriac disorder has a moderate prognosis, relapses and/or frequent recurrences and responds well to therapeutic insurance and reinsurance, antidepressants and low dose of antipsychotic medication.

Purpose of study: We want a presentation from drug and psychotherapeutic perspective of a young patient with the onset of the disorder at age 24 and with significant interference both in the area of psychological vulnerability (a life history marked by significant trauma) and in the area of a somatic vulnerability.

Research Methods: After about five years of taking only psychotropic medication, doctors decide to administrate the patient a single drug, Quetiapine, with immediate release. Thus, her physical state began to be closely monitored with focus on her immediate reactions, her overall physical state. In parallel, for the next five years, a therapeutic alliance was formed, doubling the medication with psychoanalytic psychotherapy and analyzing information from a psychological point of view. The main assumptions: that moderate-dose of antipsychotic potentiates the secure climate of psychotherapy, and it is mutually true that psychodynamic psychotherapy, a form of in-depth psychology, is the space where Quetiapine can disassemble rigid defenses within hypochondriac field.

Findings: Using the information available from the two long-term analysis (the single-drug treatment monitoring and the psychoanalytic psychotherapy), there have been found data on subjective feelings of self-understanding, the steps towards accepting the world and life, raising the pathology from the somatic field to the opportunity to live and express depression, significant decrease of inner tension and, consequently, of intra- and extra-psychic conflicts, the increase of life quality and of social functioning.

Conclusions: Hypochondriac disorder cannot be approached only by administering medication, the concepts of therapeutic alliance, primary and secondary benefits, containment, game of suffering between psyche and soma, being fully expressed in this mental illness, where depressive pathology takes the distorted form of errors of judgment regarding one’s body perception.

Keywords: depressive disorder; Quetiapine; behavior; therapeutic alliance; antidepressants.
Title: IMPACT OF DIABETES, THE DIABETES DURATION AND THE GLYCEMIC CONTROL ON COGNITIVE FUNCTIONS. A QUANTITATIVE META-ANALYSIS.

AUTHOR(S): KALCZA-JANOSI KINGA, STEFAN SZAMOSKOZI

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The brain covers its energy needs using primarily glucose, patients with diabetes are a high-risk group for cognitive disorders. However, the neuropsychological results of different studies are heterogeneous in terms of affected cognitive domains and the severity of damage, as a consequence, the exact pattern and the magnitude of cognitive dysfunction are still unclear.

Purpose of study: To clarify the impact of diabetes, the diabetes duration and glycemic control on cognitive functions.

Research Methods: The research to identify the studies on cognitive performances in patients with diabetes compared with non-diabetic control subjects was performed in the databases Medline, Pubmed, ScienceDirect. Initial search of the databases allowed the selection of the 989 abstracts identified from searching databases. Following the analysis of eligibility a number of 9 studies were included in the meta-analysis.

Findings: Adults with diabetes showed lower performance than control subjects in all cognitive domains. The size of the effects has the highest value on immediate verbal memory (d = -0.85), on delayed verbal memory (d = -0.75), on psychomotor activity (d = -0.71) and overall intellectual abilities (d = -0.68). The data show small effect on general memory (d = -0.50), visual and visuospatial processing (d = -0.33), executive functions (d = -0.38), for attention (d = -0.43) and language / verbal skills (d = -0.41).

Conclusions: There is a modest but still significant difference between patients with diabetes and non-diabetic control subjects in terms of cognitive performance. Although the effect sizes of the diabetes on cognitive functions generally oscillate between low and moderate values they should still be considered because they can affect daily activities.

Keywords: diabetes, cognitive functions, IQ, memory, learning, attention, executive functions, visual processing, psychomotor activity
Title: Career counseling needs for students - a comparative study

AUTHOR(S): SORINA CHIRCU

Extended Abstract

**Problem statement:** The career counseling field is in a debut phase in the technical university system and represents a reality, an ever rising number of students manifesting confusion regarding the choice of the correct university to attend as well as choosing a profession in accordance to their education. In this sense, identifying the career counseling needs of students represents an important aspect, because it allows the creation of counseling programs in accordance with the observed needs, which will enlarge the popularity and utility of counseling services among students.

**Purpose of study:** The purpose of the paper was to observe comparatively the career counseling needs of students from year I, II, III for the adequate development of counseling programs.

**Research Methods:** The research methods used were survey-based research and social documents analysis. In our study the analysis of documents comprised statistical data regarding the number of students in Politehnica University of Bucharest, data necessary for the above sampling. The survey regarding identifying the career counseling needs of year I, II, III students analyze students' opinion regarding the counseling services and the career counseling needs of respondents.

**Findings:** The resulting data shows us that the general hypothesis "we expect that the career counseling needs of students from the technical university system to be different from one year to the next across the three study years", is confirmed. For example, regarding information about the labor market, we can see a grown interest towards finding a part-time job for year I students; year II students offer a bigger importance to information regarding salaries and work conditions, and year III students are interested mostly in salaries and finding a job.

**Conclusions:** Counseling services given both in individual consultations, workshops, trainings, group counseling can be attractive for students stimulating them to participate, if they start from real, identified needs.

**Keywords:** career counseling, technical students, career decision, counseling needs, labour market
Title: The aptitude profile of the technical student - a comparative study

AUTHOR(S): SORINA CHIRCU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: If more than 10 years ago the entrance exam was a written exam, which would assess the level of preparedness of a student, starting a few years back we’re seeing that certain faculties are giving the option to students to enter through results derived from their file analysis. A lot of students register to several faculties through results derived from their file analysis are found in the situation where the beautiful dream “to have higher studies” becomes really annoying if it doesn’t come into accordance with the level of preparedness from high school and the present aptitudes.

Purpose of study: The aim of the research was to analysis of a 3-year study on 127 students coming from 2 faculties with 2 different entrance methods and to identify the existing relationship between the personality profile of technical students and their professional option, selecting the main variables of the students’ personality profile which are a result of the applied tests and the specifics of the institution undergone.

Research Methods: The research methods used where aptitude tests and social documents analysis. In our study the analysis of documents comprised statistical data regarding the number of students and data regarding the specifics of college majors in the Politehnica University of Bucharest. The aptitude tests present in our paper and necessary for the engineers are the sequential test and the 3D test.

Findings: According to the aptitude model presented, engineers must prove exceptional values for the sequential logic aptitude, and for the 3D aptitude. Correlating the obtained results, we can see clearly the fact that both the exceptional potential level as well as the progress rate of these in the 1st year of study until 3rd year of study is a lot bigger at the students of the faculties chose to use written exams, the other one chose to use grades derived from the analysis of entrance files.

Conclusions: The intervention of career counseling and orientation services for students becomes therefore absolutely necessary as an ameliorating measure in sustaining students towards finishing their bachelor studies and integrating students into the labor market in the field they have graduated.

Keywords: aptitude tests, technical abilities, personality profile, technical students, career decision
Title: DIAGNOSING OCCUPATIONAL STRESS IN ROMANIAN ORGANISATIONS

AUTHOR(S): ADRIAN TUDOR BRATE

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Occupational stress in different work settings is still one of the major topics investigated in the last years from different perspectives, because of the impact of its effects at individual and organizational level (influencing and linked to job performance and satisfaction, organizational behavior, acute and chronic health problems, burnout, aggression in all forms, anxiety, personnel fluctuation, producing high costs for different types of organizations and socioprofessional categories).

Purpose of study: The main purpose of this study is to measure the main variables of occupational/organisational stress: stressors (socio-professional pressures), personality dimensions and coping strategies (individual differences), stress outcomes and effects, using a comprehensive model of diagnosis and management.

Research Methods: The romanian version (PMI-RO, Brate, 2004, 2006, 2008) of the Pressure Management Indicator (PMI, developed by Williams & Cooper, 1998) was distributed to employed participants from different romanian organizations in the public and private sector, after it was translated and adapted. The data collecting, cleaning and verification left for now a sample of 1026 questionnaires with no missing data and each participant having only completed one administration of the PMI-RO.

Findings: The majority of stressors variables are significantly negative correlated with the effects (high levels of organizational satisfaction, security, mental and physical well-being were negatively correlated with high pressure (intense perceived stressors). The outcome variables were positively correlated with increased control and influence, the drive dimension of Type A (with the exception of organisational satisfaction), and greater use of problem focus and life-work balance, as coping strategies. The coping strategies positively correlate with each other, also the other personality subscales (individual differences, for ex. personal influence with control), with four exceptions where they correlate negatively: type A with impatience and personal influence, impatience with control and control with social support. High levels of organizational satisfaction, security, and mental and physical well-being were negatively correlated with high pressure (stressors). Control and influence, as individual differences and general coping are significant predictors for the stress effects in general (cumulative effects). Drive A type is a significant predictor for state of mind

Conclusions: The results led us to the conclusion that the stressors variables have generally a negative impact on the outcome variables (effects) and that specific individual differences and coping strategies are significantly associated with outcomes variables of occupational stress, for the romanian participants.

Keywords: occupational stress, stressors, effects, individual differences, coping strategies, Romanian employees
Title: THE MEDIATING ROLE OF INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES IN THE INTERACTION BETWEEN SPECIFIC SOCIOPROFESSIONAL PRESSURES AND JOB SATISFACTION

AUTHOR(S): ADRIAN TUDOR BRATE

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: In the dynamic process of organisational stress, the role of personality, of individual differences and of management/coping strategies mediating/moderating the impact of socioprofessional pressures on the different effects of organisational stress is still a present theme.

Purpose of study: To identify significant interactions with mediating role, of specific individual differences and coping strategies, in the relationship between specific stressors (socioprofessional pressures) and job satisfaction, within a tested model;

Research Methods: The romanian version (PMI-RO, Brate, 2004, 2007a,b, 2008) of the Pressure Management Indicator (PMI, developed by Williams & Cooper, 1998) was distributed to a sample of N=311 employees from an organization with administrative and services activities. At the time of completion, participants were informed about the objectives of the study and give their consent to participate to the study. The data were computed with specific statistical programs and a mediational model was tested.

Findings: The recursive model, tested on job satisfaction has shown, that for the sample of 311 participants, the variables personal influence and control are mediating the relationship between organizational climate and job satisfaction; in addition, more intensive perceived control mediates the relationship between social-professional recognition and job satisfaction. Also, the use of focusing on the problem, as a stress coping strategy, will influence positively job satisfaction.

Conclusions: According to the obtained model, we have identified a significant mediating influence of control and personal influence (as individual differences), in the complex interaction between specific organisational stressors (organisational climate and recognition) and job satisfaction, as an indicator of occupational stress. The results have practical implications for the future research, about the diagnosis, prevention and intervention of stress, for different socio-professional categories and organisational contexts.

Keywords: organisational stress, sources of pressure, individual differences, coping strategies, effects, mediating role, job satisfaction
Title: Cognitive beliefs about and the positive psychological tendency towards e-Government

AUTHOR(S): ADEL ALADWANI

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: More and more, citizens are requesting information-responsive government services with higher levels of quality. At the same time, as governments have started to improve the quantity of their services and interactions with citizens, building a quality e-government (electronic government) portal that encompasses all these services has become essential for many of these authorities. This online environment (e-government) allows citizens to have quick and easy access to services via a website (portal) on the internet. However, so far little is known about e-government quality attributes as cognitive beliefs and the relationship of these with attitudes of citizens toward e-government.

Purpose of study: The goal of this study was to examine the relationship between citizens' cognitive beliefs about e-government and their positive psychological tendency towards the same.

Research Methods: The study used data collected via a field study and tested this link between the two variables via a structural equation modelling technique.

Findings: It has been found that there is a strong positive connection between citizens' cognitive beliefs about e-government and their positive psychological tendency.

Conclusions: The results imply that interested public administrators need to give special attention to e-government quality features in order to convince citizens of using the website and achieve the expected advantages.

Keywords: Cognitive Beliefs; Psychological Tendency; e-Government; Quality; Citizens.
Title: Digit ratios as correlates of accident involvement and aggressive driving - a pilot study

AUTHOR(S): HAVÂRNEANU CORNELIU E., JILAVU ALEXANDRA R., HAVÂRNEANU GRIGORE M.

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: There is a growing body of literature which suggests that the ratio between different hand fingers is a reliable indicator of the extent of prenatal exposure to testosterone and relatively good predictor of risky and aggressive behaviors. The most popular measures are the ratio between the index finger (2D) and the ring finger (4D), also known as 2D:4D, as well as the ratio between the index finger and the sum of all the other four hand fingers, often labeled rel2.

Purpose of study: This exploratory study focuses on the relationship between these two finger ratios, aggressive driving behavior, and the individual accident involvement rate. More specifically, we analyzed the correlations between the driver’s 2D:4D and rel2 finger ratios, the number of traffic accidents and penalties, as well as the four factors of the Driving Anger Expression Inventory (DAX, Deffenbacher et al., 2002).

Research Methods: One hundred and fifty right-handed male drivers participated in this study. Each participant had the right hand scanned after the correct basal creases had been marked out with a needle-point pen which allowed an accurate measurement of the finger ratios. All participants were then asked to fill in the self-report measures including the DAX and the number of previous accidents and traffic penalties.

Findings: The results indicated a significant correlation between rel2 and the individual number of traffic accidents. However, no significant correlation was found between the 2D:4D ratio and the number of accidents. Moreover, there was no significant correlation between the finger ratios and the expressions of aggressive driving.

Conclusions: These results are in line with the studies which state that rel2 is a superior marker of prenatal testosterone exposure. They also provide some support for the digit ratio as a potential predictor of accident proneness. The questionable implications for using the digit ratios in the prediction of aggressive driving are discussed.

Keywords: digit ratio; 2D:4D; rel2; accident involvement rate; aggressive driving.
Extended Abstract

**Problem statement:** The driver's decision to violate the speed limits depends on contextual factors related to the road infrastructure as well as on external motives such as time pressure or the visibility of the traffic police. For example, several studies have shown that the perception of imminent police control makes drivers reduce their speeds but only for a short period of time. Similarly, over speeding is likely to occur if the driver is in a hurry to reach the destination. However, there are very few studies which address these variables in interaction.

**Purpose of study:** This aim of this study is to examine how speeding behavior varies in several contexts defined by three factors which interact in real road traffic: (1) traffic police (present, absent), (2) time pressure (present, absent), and (3) the type of road given by the location of driving (urban road, road outside the city).

**Research Methods:** From the interaction of the three factors we designed 8 scenarios which illustrate a typical Romanian traffic situation. Each scenario consisted of a picture taken from the driver’s perspective and a short piece of descriptive text. We asked the drivers to judge each situation and report the intended speed for each scenario. Data was collected from 620 participants (322 men and 298 women).

**Findings:** The results showed a main effect for each of the three variables. The drivers exceed the speed limit mostly when they are under time pressure to reach their destination, when there is no visible police prowl car and when they are driving in the urban areas. The results also suggest important interactions between the factors: when drivers are under time pressure they will exceed the speed limit no matter what type of road they are driving on and whether or not the police are present.

**Conclusions:** Our results are in line with the international findings on speed limit enforcement and the key role of time pressure in the choice of travelling speed. The conclusions are important for the prevention of over speeding in Romanian traffic situations and provide some hints for improving the intervention methods of the traffic police.

**Keywords:** speeding behavior; time pressure; police control.
**Title:** Relaxation and hypnosis in reducing anxious-depressive symptoms and insomnia among adults

**AUTHOR(S):** IRINA HOLDEVICI

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** Recent studies have shown that insomnia is often experienced by people who present problems of anxious-depressive disorder diagnosis.

**Purpose of study:** The purpose of the study was to investigate the effects of a hypnotherapeutic and relaxation intervention applied in the case of 61 patients who present anxious-depressive symptomatology and insomnia.

**Research Methods:** The measures that we used were The Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale (CES-D, Radloff, 1977), The Hamilton Anxiety Rating Scale (HAM-A, Hamilton, 1959) and The Insomnia Severity Index (ISI, Morin et al., 2001).

**Findings:** To test the research hypothesis a variance analysis was made using ANOVA repeated measures. This analysis was applied to verify if the independent variable, the psychotherapeutic intervention which included relaxation and hypnosis techniques, has a significant effect on the dependent variable, the anxiety which was measured using the HAM-A instrument. The same type of analysis was also used for the depression variable and also for the insomnia dependent variable. The Box test was significant in the situation of variance equality (p < .01).

**Conclusions:** Our results were consistent with the ones obtained in previous research, supporting the fact that hypnosis and relaxation techniques could help patients in gaining a better control over the anxiety, depression and insomnia symptoms that they experienced (e.g., Robertson, 2012).

**Keywords:** hypnosis, relaxation, anxiety, insomnia.
Title: A quantitative meta-analysis of the effectiveness of psychosocial interventions in dementia

AUTHOR(S): IONICIOIU IOANA, STEFAN SZAMOSKOZI, DANIEL DAVID

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Dementias are the leading cause of disability among older people all over the world (Milne, 2010). Due to increase of lifespan of the people, the incidence of dementias is in constant growth (Choi et al., 2009). Considering all these, there is a high recognition of the fact that, psychosocial interventions make an essential contribution in dementia care and that can be effective also in terms of costs (Knapp et al., 2006).

Purpose of study: Although scientific evidence shows that psychosocial interventions are effective in dementia care in general, these evidence in case of specific psychosocial interventions are mixed and limited. So, the purpose of this study is to investigate the effectiveness of these interventions in dementia and to provide an insight into the size effects identified.

Research Methods: Studies of interest were selected based on the keywords, in specialized databases such as: MEDLINE, PsychINFO, EBSCO, WEB OF SCIENCE. We also search the references of relevant articles.

Findings: Using The Meta-Analysis Calculator, we calculated the effect size for each measurement of outcome type: cognitive deficits, problematic behaviors, mood and quality of life. We obtained a small effect size of behavioral interventions for the apathy dimension: D = 0.24; 95%IC [0.22; 0.28].

Conclusions: For the other three outcome variables, we didn’t obtain significant results. However, behavioral interventions were showed to be effective, even though their effect is low.

Keywords: nonpharmacological therapy, dementia, psychosocial interventions, efficacy evaluation.
Title: Educational policies to promote talent in Romania

AUTHOR(S): MARIA CLAUDIA CUC

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: A key priority in the reform of Romanian education is the development of educational policies to support and promote excellence.

Purpose of study: The motivation for choosing the theme focuses on specific applicative dimension, adequate to the needs and psychological profile of the category of gifted beneficiaries, the existence of an informational vacuum existing in the Romanian educational system in terms of educational policy to promote talent. They aimed to examine legislative measures that encourage excellence support and training of teachers competent in managing educational services and psycho-pedagogical assistance for gifted children in the schools in Romania.

Research Methods: In the research were used: a written questionnaire survey method, a semi-structured interview method, the method of research of curriculum documents and other school documents, aiming to measure the results from a quantitative and qualitative perspective.

Findings: With reference to information obtained from a sample of 100 teachers from pre-university education, the findings have emerged: 75% of teachers do not know the law regarding the education of gifted children capable of high performance, over 55% of teachers do not know the national strategy for Gifted Education, was also recorded a lack of teacher training on the psycho-pedagogical, methodological direction and the curriculum they teach, lack of socio-economical security policy at community level.

Conclusions: Diagnostic study obtained allowed the teacher to coordinate the activities and their efficiency, according to the forms of cooperation between educational policies outlined in this perspective and the political and legal framework. Educational policy coordinates are drawn, showing conclusively the aspects that circumscribe the real need for professional development in relation to the quality of the results obtained in promoting talent.

Keywords: educational policy, excellence, strategy, teaching skills
Title: Psychosocial behavior of adult homeless people according to age

AUTHOR(S): BADEA VICTOR, BADEA MARIANA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Out of the observations during counseling sessions with adult homeless people, I have realized there are some differences in their way of behaving with those around them and of relating to themselves (the way they describe themselves, they perceive their own needs, they relate to the past, present and future). I have also noticed there is a certain behavior specificity depending both on the period lived in the streets and on the subject's age.

Purpose of study: Based on these observations, I aimed to examine the effects of living in the streets on the psychosocial behavior of adult homeless people (N = 90, three equal groups of 30 subjects) and to see if there was any correlation between their age and their usual behavior.

Research Methods: In order to achieve this goal, I initially identified a series of behavioral aspects (variables), frequently encountered in adult homeless people. Then I identified the presence or absence of these characteristics in three groups of persons, selected according to "age" variable: group a = aged 20-35, group b = aged 36-50 and group c = aged 51-65. Those particular characteristics have been extracted by using the semi-structured interview, observation and case-study.

Findings: By applying the non-parametric tests Mann-Whitney and Wilcoxon for the comparison between independent samples to the three sub-groups constituted according to "age" criterion, I have noticed that there are statistically significant differences between the data characterizing group a and group b. These are found in the variables concerning responsibility assignment and belonging to a group. After comparing group a to group c I have discovered statistically significant differences in the indicators: responsibility assignment, belonging to a group, declared relational difficulties and tendency towards dissimulation.

Conclusions: Living in the streets affects adult homeless people's behavior, but the effect experienced is different according to their age. These pieces of information are extremely useful in the process of differentiated psychosocial assistance for adult homeless persons of different ages.

Keywords: adult homeless people, psychosocial behavior, living in the streets
Title: Preliminary development of the Consciousness Quotient Inventory (CQ-i): introducing the conscious experience as a research variable in psychological assessment

AUTHOR(S): BRAZDAU OVIDIU, OPARICU CRISTIAN-DAN

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: This study describes the development and preliminary validation of the Consciousness Quotient Inventory (CQ-i), a new psychological assessment tool that evaluates the level of consciousness and introduces the conscious experience as an explicit research variable in psychological assessment. CQ-i beta v.2013 was developed through 14 studies on a population of 6,800 individuals, between 2005 and 2013. The CQ consists of 6 dimensions: physical, emotional, cognitive, spiritual, social-relational and self-consciousness. Preliminary validation data indicates that the CQ is a new composite measure of the human psyche and it can be evaluated using an adequate psychological assessment methodology.

Keywords: Consciousness Quotient Inventory, consciousness, assessment; psychometrics
Title: Applications of personal development in the re-education of imprisoned women

AUTHOR(S): GOLU FLORINDA, GORBANESCU ADRIAN

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Generally, people's moral standards are dictated by universal laws and cultural influences. An event history analysis indicated that feelings of guilt at the beginning of the sentence were correlated with a low rate of recurrence, and feelings of shame were correlated with an increased rate of relapse.

Purpose of study: In this research we aim at highlighting the role of moral emotions in the development and re-education of imprisoned women. We want to show that shame and guilt are two important feelings in the "cure" and rehabilitation of inmates. We intend to assess the level of shame and guilt of inmates to see the feelings the subjects feel for their crimes. We also want to implement a program of personal development, based on activities supported by interpersonal relationships and interactions, in order to increase feelings of guilt and reduce feelings of shame. Another objective is to highlight the difference in the two types of emotions depending on the legal status (non-recidivist/recidivist).

Research Methods: To measure the feelings of shame and guilt we used a questionnaire consisting of 16 that we called SGQ (8 items measure the level of shame and 8 items assess the guilt). To assess self-esteem the Rosenberg questionnaire was used.

Findings: Although self-esteem has a significant effect on the feeling of shame, the interaction between legal situation* type of offence is not significant ($F = 0.55, p > 0.05, \eta^2 = 0.12$). Self-esteem has also a significant effect on the feeling of guilt, but the interaction legal status* type of offence is not significant ($F = 1.35, p > 0.05, \eta^2 = 0.25$). We see that there is a significant difference between the two groups both at the level of shame ($F = 7.37, p < 0.05, \eta^2 = 0.44$) and at the level of guilt ($F = 4.00, p < 0.05, \eta^2 = 0.36$) at the end of the personal development program.

Conclusions: Throughout the progress of this program, we aimed at facilitating self-knowledge, making connections and connecting the participants, giving them the opportunities to explore personal characteristics and practice different ways of expressing their personality.

Keywords: recidivism, shame, guilt, self-esteem, personal development.
Title: Predictors of domestic violence - a comparative analysis

AUTHOR(S): GOLU FLORINDA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The concept of domestic violence refers to acts of violence and abuse by a family member over another. For many people, "home" implies a regime of terror and violence from someone who should be protective and fiduciary.

Purpose of study: This study aims to conduct a comparative analysis among women who are victims of domestic violence and women who have not experienced episodes of violence in the family. This study is a phase in the development of a larger study in which we want to identify a number of predictors of domestic violence. Therefore, in this research we want to highlight a number of predictors of domestic violence.

Research Methods: Anamnesis questionnaire, verbal hostility scale from hostility questionnaire by Buss abd Perry and Rosenberg Questionnaire.

Findings: The results obtained indicate that the level of education and occupational status are significant predictors of domestic violence, while self-esteem and verbal hostility have not predictive power on this phenomenon. We also noticed that there is a significant difference in the verbal hostility and self-esteem among women victims of domestic violence and women who are not affected by this scourge.

Conclusions: There is no only one factor to explain the violence perpetrated against women. A number of cultural and social factors leads women to remain vulnerable to domestic violence: historical factors, socio-economic, control female sexuality, belief in the superiority of men, legislation and cultural sanctions that have traditionally denied women and children independent legal and social status.

Keywords: domestic violence, self-esteem, abuse, hostility, prediction.
Title: The Motivation of Romanian Volunteers: values and implications

AUTHOR(S): MIHAI ELENA CLAUDIA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Volunteerism may serve to obtain satisfaction of subjective needs, but also to express values and to obtain qualification and/or knowledge. That's why the rate of this type of activity has increased in many countries. Though, due to various social factors, the level in which Romanians participate in volunteer work is among the lowest in Europe. From this point of view, it is worth approaching the motivation of the Romanian volunteers.

Purpose of study: The purpose of this research is to identify the predominant personal and interpersonal values of a sample of 40 Romanian volunteers, and the main functions served by volunteerism, in their cases. It is an exploratory endeavor, which aims to go deep inside the motivational structure of such subjects.

Research Methods: In order to examine the structure of volunteers' motivation, we've used Volunteer Functions Inventory (VFI), validated by Clary et al. (1998). We've also investigated the personal and interpersonal values of the participants, using two instruments developed by L. Gordon: Survey of Personal Values (SPV) and Survey of Interpersonal Values (SIV).

Findings: The volunteers investigated by us were motivated by values like: goal orientation, orderliness, benevolence, independence. They have strong needs to understand the domain in which they activate and to express altruistic values. For them is less important to be noticed as leaders or to be viewed favourably by the others, to be in a position of power and to receive support. The implications of the voluntary work in their actual or future career are also very important for them and they are the main factor that serve in choosing the domain in which to activate.

Conclusions: In order to obtain maximum profit from this kind of activity, the organizations need to know the values of their volunteers, their personal and professional needs, and to provide opportunities to fulfill those needs.

Keywords: volunteerism, motivation, personal and interpersonal values, motivational functions
Title: College students' mental health from the psychoanalytic approach of Cencillo

AUTHOR(S): RALUCA TOMŞA, VICENTE ORTIZ, JAVIER SEDANO, CRISTINA JENARO

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The study of psychological adjustment in college students, particularly anxiety and depression of adjusting in their first year of college, has been the subject of interest in several studies but there is a lack of studies taking a psychoanalytic perspective. We recently have access to ISMOS questionnaire (Ortiz & Sedano, 2012) which evaluates the psychological adjustment according to Cencillo's psychoanalytic principles.

Purpose of study: To assess the degree of psychological adjustment of first-year college students (N= 137), using assessment tools from different psychological orientations and to analyze the association between the constructs analyzed.

Research Methods: For this study we used three questionnaires widely known: Beck Depression Inventory (BDI), Beck Anxiety Inventory (BAI) and Goldberg Health Questionnaire, version of 28 items (GHQ-28). In addition, we used ISMOS (Ortiz and Sedano, 2012) which consists of 32 items grouped into four factors (emotional level, practical level, body level, existential level) eight items each, measuring psychological adjustment.

Findings: 7.30% of participants scored as having moderate depression and 2.20% scored as having severe depression on the Beck Depression Inventory tool. Regarding BAI scores, 31.40% of participants obtained scores higher than the 14 cut-off point. Data concerning clinical scores in the GHQ-28 revealed that 5.11% of the students showed somatic Symptoms clinical scores, 30.66% obtained clinical scores in Anxiety-Insomnia and 3.65% participants obtained clinical scores in depression. Concerning the ISMOS scores, 35.77% of the participants obtained moderated Emotional Symptoms, 3.65% obtained Practical severe symptoms and 46.72% presented Practical moderated symptoms. Regarding Bodily symptoms 9.49% of the participants obtained scores denoting severe issues, and 56.93% scored as having moderate bodily symptoms. In regard to the symptoms of Existential Concerns, 2.19% of the participants obtained scores denoting severe symptoms and 27.74% obtained moderate scores.

Conclusions: A small but significant group of first-year students shows different problems, among the most frequent, the presence of bodily symptoms, anxiety, emotional, somatic and existential symptoms. It is important to provide early attention to these symptoms. Psychological counseling has demonstrated to be useful to reduce anxiety, depression and other psychological issues in university students.

Keywords: anxiety, depression, somatic symptoms, psychoanalysis.
**Title:** The efficacy of cognitive-behavioral intervention in pathological gambling treatment

**AUTHOR(S):** STELIANA RIZEANU

**Extended Abstract**

**Problem statement:** Gambling is a common, socially acceptable and legal leisure activity that involves wagering something of value (usually money) on a game or event whose outcome is unpredictable and determined by chance (Ladouceur et al., 2002).

This behaviour can influence the gambler's physical and mental health. Early identification and appropriate treatment can limit the long-term adverse consequences and improve outcome.

At the present time, a number of different treatment modalities have been applied to pathological gamblers, but not standardized practice guidelines have been developed (Fong, 2005).

Treatment for pathological gambling include cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), self-help support groups, such as Gamblers Anonymous and medications: antidepressants and opioid agonists.

**Purpose of study:** Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) attempt to alter gambler's cognitions and behaviours and it involves identifying high-risk situations that lead to urges to gamble.

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the efficacy of a new model of cognitive-behavioral therapy in a cohort of 119 pathological gamblers to see if it is effective even after a three months follow-up.

**Research Methods:** We used clinical interviews with the patients and their family, the South Oaks Gambling Screen (SOGS), the Beck Depression Inventory (BDI) and the Hamilton Anxiety Rate Scale before applying the therapy programme, after the programme and at a three months follow-up.

**Findings:** Posttest results indicated highly significant changes in the treatment group on all outcome measures and analysis of data from 3 month follow-up revealed maintenance of therapeutic gains.

**Conclusions:** This paper presents the results obtained by evaluating the efficiency of a psychotherapy programme which have been used in the purpose of reducing and ameliorating the symptomatology met on pathological gamblers.

The proposed model of cognitive-behavioral therapy was effective in the treatment for pathological gambling and those with pathological gambling no longer have to rely solely on passage of time to improve.

**Keywords:** pathological gambling, cognitive-behavioral treatment, therapy
Title: Job relocation prediction
AUTHOR(S): GORBĂNESCU ADRIAN

Extended Abstract

**Problem statement:** Transit opportunities and congestion in the area are factors that have a significant effect on individuals when they are in front of a relocation decision. Many researches in United States of America studied the journey durations related to job activities. Levinson și Wu said that the opportunity to travel on highways or with high-speed trains increases the chance to accept jobs that are in different place than the city home.

**Purpose of study:** The overall objective of this research is to highlight the predictive power of demographic characteristics (age, gender, marital status, has/does not have children, level of education) and the individual skills (job satisfaction, initiative) on decision to accept or refuse a job in another town.

**Research Methods:** Job satisfaction questionnaire, personal development opportunities scale, perception of labour market scale, initiative scale.

**Findings:** The results obtained indicate that age, gender, marital status and whether subjects were children are significant predictors for the decision to accept job relocation. In contrast, education level, job satisfaction, opportunity for personal development, initiative and perception of labor market have not predictive power on job relocation decision.

**Conclusions:** Job relocation decision is very difficult not only by the fact that any change involves a degree of risk-taking, but also that the factors entering into such an equation are many and various.

**Keywords:** job relocation, prediction, demographic
Title: Meditation as adaptation strategy

AUTHOR(S): ALIODOR MANOLEA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The meditation technique used, requires a concentration of the attention, generating a state of altered consciousness, includes mechanisms that elude the barrier of the conscious self-control. The attention is focused on the physical body, therefore at the skin level appeared sensorial perceptions of the somatic manifestations of the subliminal recordings of the conditionings from the implicit memory. This action results in the elimination of the maladaptive emotional memories as well as of the accompanying physiological reactions.

Purpose of study: to highlight the significant difference between the psycho-emotional potentials at two distinct moments: before and after meditation technique. To highlight how that meditation technique influence the emotional state of human being and how the meditation is useful in the process of coping.

Research Methods: The study group was composed of 9 subjects, with different meditation experience, have participating in a meditative traineeship for 10 days, during 100 hours of meditations. The experimental design used was one using repeated measures before and after the meditation sessions. For determining electro-biological and psycho-emotional state, the hand temperature and the electro-dermal activity measurements were made.

Findings: In applying the t test for the normal distributed dependent variables, statistically significant differences were confirmed for some quantum vortices, MIND, BODY components and EnergeticLevel. In applying Wicoxon nonparametric tests statistically significant differences were confirmed for other some variables: QV1, QV2, QV5, QV7, SPIRIT and ColorDeltaLambda. In this study, QV(i) means quantum vortex (i) of the human quantum field.

Conclusions: Proportion in which spiritual abilities are present has increased (dependent variable SPIRIT), due to the decrease of the other two components, BODY and MIND, demonstrating that subjects were even in altered state of consciousness, and this was at a profound level, highlighted by the dependent variables EnergeticLevel and ColorDeltaLambda, whose mean values have increased significantly. In this state of consciousness has manifested itself an increased activity of the quantum vortices, showing the effects of meditation on the various facets of human personality. Effects obtained during the meditation session demonstrates the potential of meditation for emotional control used as a coping strategy.

Keywords: meditation; implicit memory; altered state of consciousness; symptom; subliminal; subconscious; unconscious;
Title: Emphasizing the psycho-quantum way of psychotherapeutic action: Quantum Deep Psychotherapy

AUTHOR(S): ALIODOR MANOLEA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The cognitive theory aims at correcting, restructuring false cognitions and dysfunctional beliefs incurred due to the painful way in which we perceive exterior information. The Ellis's rational-emotional therapy and Beck's studies emphasize the theoretical bases of actual cognitive-behavioral currents. In the Coherence Therapy, Ecker and Hulley built a theory of therapeutic changes based on searching into the past and identifying the "emotional wounds" of the subjects' past.

Purpose of study: to highlight how the QDP therapy manage the traumatic event which occurred in the person's history, at the quantum level of reality.

Research Methods: A bibliographical research was performed for finding the theoretical framework in which enroll the QDP as psycho-quantum therapy.

Findings: In QDP therapy, a transforming change which involve those mental processes which generate symptoms. Simultaneously to the elimination of the constructions generating symptoms, their associated neural circuits are also deleted and thus, new constructions and circuits are created by the phenomenon of neuroplasticity-synaptic changes and subjective attention emerges as a critical agent of change. This action is an altered state of consciousness. Peter Ulric Tse show that some chemical receptors, are actually blocked by a single atom of magnesium. Because macroscopic level of the brain activity depends on the position of a single atom, which in turn is a reality at the quantum level, means that neurons amplify activity of the magnesium atom quantum level to the level of neural circuits and of the behavior in real life. Thus, our behavior is subject to quantum effects. And this is the level at which the QDP as psycho-quantum therapy, work indirectly.

Conclusions: The Quantum Deep Psychotherapy uses a repertoire of appropriate techniques and a flexible working style, experimentally or phenomenologically achieved activities for the discovery, transformation or annihilation of the conditionings, integration of the new acquired inner realities and the new ways of inner and outer relation. Termination of unconscious conditional action makes the person to experiment, verbalize and embrace the emotional truth of the new situation, in which he feels he has control over the generation of the symptom.

Keywords: Quantum Deep Psychotherapy, psycho-quantum, conditioning, initial triggering factors, emotion, psychosomatic.
Title: Self-directed learning, personality traits and academic achievement

AUTHOR(S): CAZAN ANA-MARIA, ŞCHIOPCA BIANCA ANDREEA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Self-directed learning has become one of the primary aims of education in the last few decades. Self-directed learning can be viewed as a process by which individuals set goals, locate resources, choose the method and evaluate progress through critical reflection (Brookfield, 1995). Self-directed learning tends to be associated with academic achievement (Lounsbury, Levy, Park, Gibson, & Smith, 2009) and with personality traits. Researchers have also noted that learners who are self-directed have higher levels of self-efficacy (Oliveira & Simões, 2006; Stockdale & Brockett, 2011). Personality traits explain the content of self-directed learning (Ponton, Derrick, & Paul, 2005).

Purpose of study: This study aims at analyzing the relations between self-directed learning, personality traits and academic achievement. The main hypothesis is that self-directed learners have a high level of academic achievement. We also assume that self-directed learning and personality traits such as conscientiousness and openness to experience predict academic achievement.

Research Methods: The participants were 121 undergraduate first year students. We used the following questionnaires:

Self-rating scale of self-directed learning (SRSSDL - Williamson, 2007) - is a 60 items self-rating instrument developed for measuring the level of self-directedness in one’s learning process. IPIP-50 (Rusu et al., 2012) - is an instrument developed through the IPIP project, which measures the five dimensions of personality: Openness, Extraversion, Emotional Stability, Conscientiousness and Agreeableness.

Findings: The results revealed that self-directed learning and personality traits are correlated. The only personality trait which is not associated with self-directed learning is emotional stability. The results revealed that self-directed learning predicts academic achievement, the predictive value being more efficient when the study year is added as predictor. The personality traits seem not to be significant predictors. The study year is an efficient predictor; self-directed learners from the third year have higher academic performances that first year students.

Conclusions: The findings of the present study affirm the importance of the self-directed learning construct and can prove its role as a personality trait. The results also showed that SRSSDL can be a useful tool in the diagnosis of student learning needs in order to improve their academic adjustment. It is important that both educators and learners have a clear understanding of the concept and nature of self-directed learning skills for its further development.

Keywords: self-directed learning; personality traits; academic achievement; learning strategies; learning activities.
Title: The relationship between linguistic environment, anxiety and development of competency for verbal communication at children with hearing deficiency

AUTHOR(S): POPA MARIANA, CUCERZAN IULIANA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The paper presents a compared study between two sets of children with hearing deficiency who benefit of different family language environment, verbal communication and sign language.

Purpose of study: The purpose of study is to observe the way in which those environments influence the anxiety level on the one hand and on the other hand the extent to which these factors boost or restrict the development of verbal communication.

Research Methods: To investigate the level of development of verbal communication it was used written form, the morphological analysis of a composition and a vocabulary sample Rey adapted for the competence and performance in verbal communication; Anxiety Inventory (S.T.A.I.) Author: Charles D. Spielberger and Castaneda Anxiety Questionnaire; the assessment of parental support it was realized with the Scale of Reciprocity Perception of parental Behavior (S.P.R.C.P).

Findings: The research showed that family language environment in which prevail verbal communication is a source of anxiety for children with hearing deficiency due to the communication barriers encountered. The results of research tools showed that the subjects which are not based on a common language to communicate with the family have a higher level of anxiety but in the same time they have so far superior results in verbal competence both in oral form as well as in the written form in comparison with the children with hearing deficiency coming from deaf families.

Conclusions: In this case, the anxiety is a brake factor or a sustain factor of verbal communication development joined the primitive curing on behalf of the verbal linguistic environment in which the child grows?! This remains to investigate

Keywords: hearing deficiency, linguistic environment, communication, anxiety
Title: Academic Adjustment Questionnaire for the university students

AUTHOR(S): CLINCIU AUREL ION, CAZAN ANA-MARIA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Students' adjustment to university environment is an important factor in predicting outcomes and is crucial to their future achievements. Many researchers show that adjustment difficulties are found to be the most common problem among first year students. School adaptation is an issue extensively studied in the past decade (Clinciu, 2003; Clinciu, 2012) which lead to the creation of School Inadaptation Questionnaire (SIQ). Its origins are the constructs measured by EPQ-junior (Eysenck & Eysenck, 1975) and it was generated by the empirical method.

Purpose of study: The main objective of this study was to extend the questionnaire SIQ at university level and to verify the utility two basic concepts measured Neuroticism and Rebelliousness. We also aim to adapt SIQ to the specific of the academic learning, generating a short-instrument, robust and with good psychometric qualities - high reliability and validity.

Research Methods: The subjects are 517 students in the first year of humanities: Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, Faculty of Sociology, Communication and Social Work, Faculty of Law. All the participants were investigated with adapted SIQ for academic space (Academic Adaptation Questionnaire - AAQ) and additionally with two instruments destined to student adjustment and stress, Student Adaptation to College Questionnaire (SACQ) and Student-life Stress Inventory (SSI).

Findings: In order to verify the factorial validity of the Academic Adjustment Questionnaire, we used the exploratory factor analysis. The reliability is very high for the entire AAQ scale (.864), but also for Neuroticism (.844, respectively), and for Procrastination, although slightly smaller (.771). The significant correlations between the AAQ scales and the total scores of SACQ and the SSI stress scales highlight the concurrent validity and the construct validity of the Academic Adjustment Questionnaire.

Conclusions: Whether used alone or in conjunction with other similar instruments (ie SACQ or SSI), the new instrument provides a specific expression to the emotional adaptive reaction (through Neuroticism) and to the efficiency of the academic adaptation (through Procrastination). Therefore it can be used to highlight the effects of the academic stress, of the teaching strategies or to measure the effect of counseling and interventions in the university area.

Keywords: adaptation; stress, first year students, gender; age
Title: Emotional Regulation Strategies related to Coping Strategies and Aleythimic Traits in Dermatologic Patients

AUTHOR(S): CIULUVICA CRISTINA, AMERIO PAOLO, DI NARDO MARIA, FULCHERI MARIO

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Emotion regulation is one of several forms of affect regulation. In the literature there are international contributions regarding the presence of alexithimic traits in dermatologic patients, while the role of emotion regulation and dysregulation mechanisms seems less studied.

Purpose of study: The aim of this study is to assess two emotion regulation mechanisms: reappraisal and suppression, in relation with coping mechanisms, alexithimic traits and life quality in dermatologic patients.

Research Methods: The sample comprised 41 dermatologic patients: 23 with psoriasis and 18 with a skin condition other than psoriasis (acne, dermatitis, vitiligo, pruritus). The comparison subjects were 27 healthy individuals. Emotion Regulation Questionnaire (ERQ; Gross&John, 2003), Toronto Alexithimia Scale (TAS; Parker, Taylor & Bagby, 2003), Brief COPE Scale (Carver, 1997), were used in order to assess the two emotion regulation strategies, the presence of alexithimic components, coping mechanisms, while Positive and Negative Affect Scale (Terraciano et al., 2003), Satisfaction with Life Scale (Diener et al., 1985) and WHOQOL-Brief (World Health Organization Quality of Life, 1998) for patients life satisfaction and life quality.

Findings: The data analysis shows significant differences between the patients with psoriasis and both patients with other skin conditions and healthy individuals in values of ERQ scales: suppression (f=3.26, p<.005) and reappraisal (f=3.45, p <.05). The results suggests that patients affected by psoriasis report higher scores in suppression of emotional behavior then others two comparison groups. Regarding the existing correlation of reappraisal and suppression with quality of life and life satisfaction in dermatologic patients, our study reveals a strong positive correlation between the values of reappraisal, and both positive affects (r=.69, p<.001) and life satisfaction ( r=.59, p<.001). There is also suggested a negative correlation between reappraisal and values of negative affects (r=.-63, p<.001)

Conclusions: This study suggests the existence of emotional dysregulation patterns in dermatologic patients, that could, not only aggravate and maintain the dermatologic conditions but also influence the patient life quality.

Keywords: Emotion Regulation, Strategies, Suppression, Reappraisal, Psoriasis, Dermatologic.
Title: Difficulties in Emotional Regulation in chronic diseases: A Comparative Study Between Obese, Cardiopatic and Dermatologic Patients

AUTHOR(S): CIULUVICA (NEAGU) CRISTINA, VERROCCHIO MARIA, FULCHERI MARIO

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Chronical diseases represent a very special, risky state that require a lifelong treatment and a strict adjustment to a new, healthier life program.

Purpose of study: The aim of present study was a multidimensional assessment of emotion regulation and dysregulation in a sample of obese, cardiopatic and dermatologic patients. We used an integrative conceptualization that involve not only the modulation of emotional arousal, the suppression of emotional behavior, and the reappraisal of emotional event, but also the awareness, understanding and acceptance of emotions.

Research Methods: The sample consisted in 103 adults (31 dermatologic, 23 cardiopatic, 22 obese patients, and 27 healthy persons). Emotion regulation strategies were assessed by the Emotion Regulation Questionnaire (ERQ, Gross & John, 2003), patterns of emotional dysregulation by Difficulties in Emotion Regulation Scale (DERS, Roemer& Gratz, 2004), attachment models by Relation Questionnaire (RQ), and Toronto Alexithimia Scale (TAS, 2003). Illness Perception Questionnaire (IPQR) and WHOQOL were used to assess patient subjective illness perception and life quality.

Findings: The significant results regard the relation between suppression of emotional behavior and both patients quality of life and illness subjective perception as follows: Physical Domain (r=.53, p<.001), Psychological Domain (r=.43, p=.001), Social Relations (r=.41, p=.001), Illness Timeline (r=.53, p=.007), Illness Consequences (r=.41, p < .004), Illness Coherence (r=.38, p=.007), Emotional Representations (r=.29, p<.05). The results proved the existence of a significant variance between the four groups regarding both emotion regulation mechanisms; suppression (F=3.08; p=.02), reappraisal (F =3.42; p=.01), dysregulation patterns: awareness (F=32.14; p=.00), strategies (F=5.27; p=.001), clarity (F=32.14; p=.00), and difficulties in emotion communication (F =3.84; p=.007).

Conclusions: Our results suggest that patients affected by chronicle diseases with psychosomatic components present difficulties in different domains of emotional dysregulation that could influence on patient quality of life. Concluding, it could be suggested an integrated medical and psychological assessment including a multidimensional evaluation of emotional dysregulation.

Keywords: Emotion Regulation, Awareness, Suppression, Reappraisal, Quality of life
Title: Ego Defence Mechanisms in Patients with "Hypertension at work" and Patients with Essential Hypertension: A Comparative Analysis

AUTHOR(S): ELENA PERVICHKO, YURY ZINCHENKO

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Arterial hypertension (AH) is one of the most dangerous and common diseases of cardiovascular system. Today there are detected more and more patients with AH, whose blood pressure values at work time appear to be higher than those at leisure. This form of AH is called "hypertension (HTN) at work". We presumed that a group of patients with HTN at work will differ from patients with essential HTN in personality features and, in the first place, in specifics of ego defence mechanisms. It is known that normative functioning of defence mechanisms provides for stability and order of personality world-view, and adequate self-regulation at the unfavourable conjunction of emotional conflict.

Purpose of study: In order to undertake a comparative analysis of ego defence mechanisms in patients with HTN at work and in patients with essential HTN, to reveal peculiarities of each group.

Research Methods: We used the Thematic Apperception Test (Murray, 1943/1971), and the Life Style Index questionnaire (Plutchik, Kellerman and Conte, 1979). We examined 85 people with HTN at work, and 85 patients with essential HTN.

Findings: It was shown that emotional processes of the examined patients with HTN is distinctively characterized by predominance of negative experience, which can be projected, denied or suppressed by patients.

The group of patients with essential HTN differs from patients with HTN at work in use of more primitive ego defences. They reliably more often than patients with HTN at work use such defence mechanisms as idealization with further devaluation and also projection and projective identification. Defence mechanisms "intellectualization" and "rationalization" are reliably more rare in this group than in the group of patients with HTN at work.

The group of patients with HTN at work is characterized by wider range of employed defence mechanisms, predominant use of defence modes of neurotic level and more developed ability for reflection over feelings.

Conclusions: Obtained results contribute to general understanding of the role of psychological factors in AH pathogenesis, urge for psychological assessment and psychotherapy of patients with AH, particularly - patients with HTN at work.

Keywords: Ego Defence Mechanisms, Life Style Index, Thematic Apperception Test, Hypertension at Work, Essential Arterial Hypertension
Title: When pain is useful? - a neuroscience approach

AUTHOR(S): CALIN MIHAI TANASI, VIOREL IULIAN TANASE, TUDOR HARSOVESCU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Normally, the amount of pain reflects the degree of injury. Acute pain decreases as the injury heals. If the pain remains after a normal period for the injury to heal, it becomes chronic pain. Acute pain is a symptom; chronic pain is a disease itself.

Purpose of study: The goal of this article is to familiarize the reader with neuroscience data helpful in the management of psychological impact in patients with acute and chronic pain conditions.

Research Methods: We propose a theoretical framework that allows professionals in psychology to identify the elements that are necessary for the recognition and evaluation of different types of pain properly.

Findings: Pain is not equivalent to nociception. Nociception is the neural processes of encoding and processing only noxious stimuli (and no other stimuli) that can lead to the perception of pain. When we refer to the perception of pain disorders, we should distinguish between hyperalgesia and hypersensitivity. Hyperalgesia represents an increased response to a stimulus which is normally painful. Another pain perception disorder is called allodynia, meaning pain due to a stimulus that does not normally provoke pain. It is important to recognize that allodynia involves a change in the quality of a sensation, whether tactile, thermal, or of any other sort. The original modality is normally non-painful, but the response is painful. There is thus a loss of specificity of a sensory modality. By contrast, hyperalgesia represents an augmented response in a specific mode, namely, pain.

Conclusions: Nociceptive pain is protective. It is due to rapid synaptic transmission by glutamate binding AMPA receptors. Windup is an increase in the gain of dorsal horn neurons due to slower, longer lasting depolarization of the cell membrane. Temporal summation is the psychophysical equivalent. Central sensitization is a longer lasting change in excitability of dorsal horn neurons. Longer lasting stimuli (e.g., nerve injury) alter gene expression further prolonging hyperexcitability. Loss of inhibitory modulation (disinhibition) can permanently increase hyperexcitability leading to chronic pain. Stress is interesting - acute stress can attenuate pain but chronic stress can exacerbate pain.

Keywords: acute pain; nociception; chronic pain; sensitization; behavioral approaches;
Title: Modern methods used in the study of human anatomy

AUTHOR(S): CALIN MIHAI TANASI, VIOREL IULIAN TANASE, TUDOR HARSOVESCU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: In the 21st century, due to the explosive growth of the media and Internet, people, in their thirst for knowledge are increasingly interested to decipher the structures of the human body.

Purpose of study: The definition of anatomy is ana + temeinon = by cutting. So, dissection in the past, present and future represents the main means of highlighting the anatomical formations, involving active student participation.

Research Methods: Our teaching practice made clear how important is the active student participation in the teaching - learning process. The role of knowledge construction by students themselves in learning is really significant, reflected in the formation of critical and reflexive individuals and qualified professionals.

Findings: Anatomy is one of the few disciplines of medicine where no changes occur, as the structure of the human body remains the same. Yet, every teacher struggles permanently to improve their course. All the time, they have tried to strike a balance between the number of concepts presented and the iconography quality, the type of analyzer used in reception and the understanding by the student. There will still be questions from students about the understanding of certain structures. Thus, the teacher will be able on the one hand to explain these unknown subjects to the students, access pictures or demonstrations to clarify the concepts and upgrade their course based on the redundancy and importance of questions.

Conclusions: By active participation in the teaching - learning process, the students felt more motivated, interested and were more involved in classes. The teacher's role became more titled because it is no longer a mere transmitter of knowledge, which students could acquire through any other media and became a mediator, a partner of the students in the search for knowledge. The use of constructive psychological methodologies in the teaching of human anatomy facilitated the learning by the students, making it more significant than the traditional methodology.

Keywords: human anatomy; dissection; teaching; learning; constructive psychological methodologies;
Title: The RT-based Concealed Information Test: An overview of current research and future perspectives

AUTHOR(S): MIHAI VARGA, GEORGE VISU-PETRA, MIRCEA MICLEA, IOAN BUŞ

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Research interest in deception detection has significantly increased during the past decades. It is of particular interest to forensic science to advance in the understanding of memory assessment of suspects with regards to crime-related information. There has been a significant concern in developing adequate techniques that allow for such assessment.

Purpose of study: The purpose of the current article is to succinctly review recent progress in deception detection techniques, with a focus on revealing concealed information that people are not willing to disclose. Within this paradigm, directions for research on the cognitive correlates of deception are discussed, emphasizing specific processes that need further examination. Given the robust theoretical background of the novel Reaction Time-based Concealed Information Test, we argue for the value of this line of research in uncovering the underlying cognitive mechanisms involved in deceptive behavior.

Research Methods: We reviewed the main theoretical assumptions behind the RT-based Concealed Information Test and we presented an overview of the relevant research in the field.

Findings: The use of reaction times in guilty knowledge detection has previously been studied in several paradigms, but received a great deal of attention when it was integrated in the orienting response information processing paradigm and tested with the CIT. Several studies have successfully proven that a reaction-time (RT) based test may successfully reveal concealed information. In the pursuit of validating the RT-based test, a new research opportunity has emerged. Due to its simplicity, an RT-based test has great advantages for related cognitive research of deception. This method can offer a unique framework for the analysis of the cognitive mechanisms involved in concealing information. Research might profit from further examination of reaction time in the CIT. It is an easily obtained measure, and individual differences in response times might not be of concern if quantified using within-subject metrics.

Conclusions: Response latency can be used for detecting concealed information with the CIT. Given the robust theoretical background of the RT-based CIT, and the promise of improvements using more sophisticated statistics, we hope that the use of the RT-based CIT will grow in the current research of concealed information detection.

Keywords: deception detection, concealed information test, response time, cognition of deception
Title: Emotion Regulation in Patients with Essential Hypertension: Subjective-evaluative, Physiological, and Behavioral Aspects

AUTHOR(S): ELENA PERVICHKO, YURY ZINCHENKO, OLGA OSTROUMOVA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Hypertension (HTN) is one of the most common and dangerous diseases of the cardiovascular system. Researchers unanimously point out the role of emotional intensity in formation of clinical features of essential HTN.

While pathophysiological mechanisms of blood pressure growth in stressful situations have been scrupulously studied, psychological mechanisms of recurring emotional tension in HTN patients still remain uncertain and represent one of the most important tasks in detecting HTN etiology and pathogenesis.

The mechanism of emotions repression is commonly regarded as a dominant in the structure of psychological defense mechanisms and mechanisms of emotion regulation in patients with HTN. However, recent studies on emotion regulation revealed the fact that it is impossible to describe an integrated personality profile of HTN patients.

Purpose of study: To investigate the specific features of emotion regulation in a stressful situation in patients with essential HTN applying subjective-evaluative, physiological, and behavioral characteristics.

Research Methods: The main method of this research was the method of psychological experiment. A stressful situation was created experimentally employing the procedure of aspiration level study. Subjective-evaluative, physiological, and behavioral characteristics were traced.

We examined 170 subjects with essential HTN and 82 healthy individuals.

Findings: In a situation modulating experimental stress HTN patients demonstrate a specific complex of physiological, subjective-evaluative and behavioral reactions and also aspiration level specifics, which reliably differs them from healthy people.

52.3% of HTN patients showed the growth of anxiety which disorganizes behavior, it is accompanied by open emotion expression and a variety of behavioral manifestations.

47.7% of patients with HTN characteristically display the mechanisms of suppression and denial of situations causing anxiety, as well as repression of emotions generated in stressful situations.

Conclusions: Received results confirmed the hypothesis that patients with HTN are heterogeneous in the ways of emotion regulation. Both described ways, as it is known, are ineffective for coping with emotional intensity.

Obtained results prove that emotion regulation assessment can be effectively approached with the above described set of parameters.

Our results allow us to individualize strategies of work featuring them respectively for patients with HTN and healthy individuals in stressful situations.

Keywords: emotion regulation; essential hypertension; emotion expression; emotional tension; expression of emotions; facial expressions
Title: Motivation for the teaching career

AUTHOR(S): LAURA ŞERBĂNESCU, TEODORA POPESCU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The changes undergone by the educational system in Romania over the last 20 years have brought about numerous shifts in all stakeholders’ perception on the role and place of the teaching career. Motivation for this profession had generally decreased, and less and less people are desirous to enter, or stay in the system.

Purpose of study: The aim of the present paper is to bring forth some of the partial results of a quantitative research carried out from 2012 to 2012, within the project SOPHRD/87/1.3/S/63709, Quality, innovation, communication in the system of continuous training of discipline didacticians in higher education", pertaining to the system of initial training for the teaching career in universities, currently in progress in our country. As concerns the subject of the present article, it deals with the motivation in choosing the teaching career. The research is also based on documentary evidence concerning studies and analyses in the field of teacher training in Romania over the last few years.

Research Methods: The main research methods used were questionnaires and focus groups, aimed at the identification of data concerning the teacher training system. The questionnaires included items through which subjects were asked to select the reasons for choosing / not choosing the teaching career. 1200 were students, 1200 were beginning teachers in secondary education, 200 were university teachers of discipline didactics and / or coordinators of students' teaching practicum. The sample of university teachers who teach discipline didactics and / or coordinate students’ practicum and that of the students consisted of subjects selected from 20 of the universities where there exist accredited Teacher education departments. The third sample, i.e. that of beginning teachers consisted of teachers selected from institutions all over the country. The second method used in our research, i.e. the focus group, was applied among 230 university teachers who teach discipline didactics and / or coordinate students’ teaching practicum.

Findings: The results of our research revealed that the main driver in choosing the teaching career is pleasure of working with children. In the case of deterrents, the main one is the low salary, followed by reduced social status.

Conclusions: The interpretation of result brings added information as compared to previous research carried out in the field of the topic we presented, in the sense of shifting the importance given to choosing / not choosing the teaching career by the students.

Keywords: motivation; teacher training; teaching career
Title: Influence of Psychotherapeutic Interventions on Occupational Stress

AUTHOR(S): DUMITRESCU CATALINA GEORGETA, ANITEI MIHAI

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Occupational stress is one of the main concerns of psychologists in organizations due to the effects it has on employees and implicitly on the organization. Thus, diagnosis and monitoring of stress levels within an organization as well as the development of intervention plans in order to reduce stress are necessary.

Purpose of study: The objective of this study is to determine the occupational stress level of employees and create a therapeutic intervention program in order to significantly reduce occupational stress levels. Thus, we expect there to be significant differences regarding the level of occupational stress between pre-intervention testing and post-intervention testing. In this research design, the independent variable is therapeutic intervention and the dependent variable is occupational stress.

Research Methods: To measure the level of occupational stress the Job Stress Scale was used, a questionnaire developed by Parker & Which Decotiis (1983). In the first stage it was administrated to 60 METRO employees twice. Therapy program development and implementation followed, a process involving all employees. After the psychotherapy program stress level was reevaluated.

Findings: There was a significant difference between pre-intervention occupational stress testing and post-intervention occupational stress testing $t(58) = 2.86$, $p <0.01$, and thus we can conclude that therapeutic intervention had a significant impact on occupational stress, the stress level during test 2 was significantly lower compared to stress level during the first stress test.

Conclusions: This study achieved its purpose, demonstrating that short-term therapeutic interventions are beneficial in reducing occupational stress. The research in the field of occupational stress and stress prevention vary from country to country, as well as the level of therapeutic interventions. Much more research is needed, more so in Romania, especially in studies which evaluate the long-term effectiveness of intervention strategies against stress.

Keywords: Occupational stress, work anxiety, training, psychotherapy, counseling at workplace
Title: Fostering entrepreneurial drive and competence in university students of economics and engineering

AUTHOR(S): IOAN ACHIM MOISE, TEODORA POPESCU, MANUELLA KADAR, MARIA MUNTEAN

Extended Abstract

**Problem statement:** The global knowledge society nowadays calls for citizens endowed with self-awareness, critical thinking, initiative taking, decision-making capacity and time management skills. It is the role of tertiary education to foster entrepreneurial vision in students, and to develop an entrepreneurial culture amongst young undergraduates. The entrepreneur is above all an innovator, who actively brings forth different innovations in the productive process through using scientific and technological breakthroughs for profit-yielding purposes. Entrepreneurial innovation (Schumpeter 1942) can take many forms, such as the introduction in the market of a new or better quality product, the creation of a new productive process, the opening of a new market or, finally, the creation of a novel form or organization of a company.

**Purpose of study:** The aim of this study is to investigate the role of tertiary education in the identification and mobilisation of creative talent, enabling students to overcome hesitations based on the fear of failure and transforming the theoretical knowledge on entrepreneurship into innovative ideas and practical solutions. Courses in entrepreneurship have to foster and encourage self-awareness, critical thinking, initiative taking, decision-making capacity and time management skills.

**Research Methods:** Our investigation consisted of applying a questionnaire among 208 students of engineering and 142 students of economics. The questionnaire, structured into two main parts: entrepreneurial knowledge and entrepreneurial skills, aimed at identifying students' knowledge and attitudes towards entrepreneurship. The results of the questionnaire were processed using the SPSS statistical analysis software. The final analysis of the data obtained comprised both quantitative and qualitative interpretation.

**Findings:** The results revealed that the students' entrepreneurial knowledge was rather limited in the case of engineering students, and slightly better in the case of economics students. Both categories of students possess the necessary problem solving skills and the desire to start on their own.

**Conclusions:** The most relevant conclusion of the questionnaire we carried out among the Engineering students was that they definitely need specific training in entrepreneurship; however, this only would not be sufficient to empower them for the challenges of setting up a small business in Romania. This training in entrepreneurship has to be complemented by courses in business law, accounting, finances, etc.

**Keywords:** entrepreneurship education; engineering students, economics students.
Title: EMPATHY INSERTION IN COGNITIVE-BEHAVIOURAL THERAPY

AUTHOR(S): DIMITRIU IULIA-ODETTE

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The theories of the therapeutic alliance place empathy in the centre of therapeutic relation (Bohart & Greenberg, 1997; Clark, 2007). But there are numerous researchers calling the attention upon the fact that however there are few theoretical developments and systematic researches related to the empathy insertion in the actual psychotherapies scope.

Purpose of study: This study aims at underlining a special skill of the psychotherapist of cognitive-behavioural orientation - the empathic predictivity, as a requisite condition of the therapeutic progress. On the other side, the patient should hold an ability of interactionism kind, as a positive predictor of the therapeutic progress.

Research Methods: Two lots have been established, one consisting of 20 psychotherapists of cognitive-behavioural orientation, the other of 100 patients (each psychotherapist being in relation with 5 patients) presenting anxious and depressive disorders. The following instruments have been used: Questionnaire measuring the emotional empathy (Q.M.E.E.), Dymond Predictive Empathy Test, Beck Depression Inventory (B.D.I.), Hamilton Anxiety Scale (H.A.S.) and Wilson-Barber Creative Imagination Scale.

Findings: Regarding the emotional empathy, the empathy average on the psychotherapists’ lot is +51,80, rate listed within the medium empathic level. The empathy average on the patients’ lot is +40, rate listed within the medium empathic level. The general average per lot differ significantly: 51,8 vs. 40, hence we may conclude that psychotherapists are more empathic than their patients.

As for the predictive empathy, the psychotherapists' average for empathic predictivity is 9,50 and is listed within the medium empathic - medium-good empathic level. The patients' average for empathic predictivity is 10,00 and is listed within the medium empathic level. We may assert that also the patients, besides their psychotherapist, certify a very high level of empathic predictivity.

Conclusions: Cognitive-Behavioural Therapies test their efficiency in the treatment of anxious and depressive disorders. The therapist validate his competence as holder of a special skill - empathic predictivity and the patient expresses an indisputable relational potential, but actually applied to the given therapeutic situation, potential which may be activated for his own recovery.

Keywords: Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy, empathy, empathic predictivity
Title: Facts and Trends Related to the Policies Aiming at Attracting Student Teachers

AUTHOR(S): ROMIȚĂ IUCU, ANCA BORZEA, COSMINA MIRONOV

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The present article focuses on presenting some facts related to the policies aiming at attracting prospect teachers based on a research led by the European Network on Teacher Education Policies (ENTEP). This translates into an expert overlook at 17 countries - Austria, Cyprus, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, Flanders, Germany, Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, and French Community of Belgium and based on the analysis and interpreting the data in formulating a set of conclusions and possible recommendations for future developments in the field.

Purpose of study: In 2011, England's ENTEP representative, Michael Day, designed a Survey of Teacher Recruitment consisting of 31 questions, including both open and closed questions, divided in four specific areas of study: (1) Approaches to selecting potential candidates to become student teachers, (2) Approaches to selecting teachers for employment, (3) Policies aimed at attracting people to train to become teachers, (4) Success criteria.

In the present paper we should consider only the answers in relation to the third area of study. The aim of the survey was to allow comparison by ENTEP members of the procedures used in their countries to recruit teachers into the profession: Austria, Cyprus, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, Flanders, Germany, Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, and French Community of Belgium.

Research Methods: A questionnaire - the questions were designed to allow members to enter free text rather than structured answers into boxes.

The survey covered the policies aimed at attracting new teachers to join the profession, and the means used to select suitable people to train to be teachers

Findings: Based on research findings in this area, conclusions of previous international and national studies and surveys among different categories of stakeholders including student teachers, but also on the experience and expertise of the authors of this research, one can formulate some assumptions as to what causes the teaching profession to be perceived as more or less attractive and consequently the profile of those students who enrol into ITT.

Relevant for our paper as far as the content of the core concept, attractiveness of the teaching career, we identified as the four most important factors for attracting teachers to the profession: salary, employment security, status of the profession, and commitment to education/contribution to society.

Our research brings forth some evidence to prove that innovative measures are now gradually being implemented to remedy these shortcomings. Under these circumstances, we strongly believe that further impact studies and research focused on teachers' professional profile and the variables that define the attractiveness of the teaching profession should become more important in the debates on education in Europe.
Conclusions: Studies in this area tend to underline that there are three aspects that require close attention, the first two closely connected to the ITT and a third which can act as a variable to which anyone interested can easily relate to in order to make a decision on becoming teacher:

- Management of the profession so that it attracts a sufficient number of prospective teachers into ITT;
- Organization of the ITT in such a way as provide prospective teachers with the range of skills required to work to quality standards;
- Provision of sufficiently 'competitive' working conditions to motivate them throughout their careers.

A negative or ambivalent image of the prestige and social status of teachers may weaken the profession's attractiveness and have a direct impact on the quality of practice as well as on the number of students who deliberately choose to become teachers. Systemic, rather than punctual, approaches are needed to improve the profession's image and counteract negative portrayals.

Keywords: European Network on Teacher Education Policies, attractiveness of teaching career, initial teacher training.
Title: The effects of a cinema-therapy group on diminishing anxiety in young people

AUTHOR(S): SORINA DUMITRACHE

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Cinema-therapy refers to the use of movies as a support for the individual’s personal and interpersonal development and it represents a promising method that enhances both the attractiveness of the therapeutic process and the depth of a significant personal and relational development.

Purpose of study: By means of this research, we aim to build and develop a cinema-therapy program, as well as to identify its effects on the participants’ anxiety level.

Research Methods: The working hypothesis is the following: “There are statistically significant differences regarding the anxiety “parameter” between the beneficiaries of a personal development program based on movies and the students who do not benefit from such a program”. The sample consisted of 60 participants (30 in the experimental sample and 30 in the control sample) who were students of socio-humanistic profile faculties, men and women, aged 19-22. The used instrument: Hamilton Anxiety Rating Scale.

Findings: The results of the present study indicate a significant drop in anxiety among the participants in the cinema-therapy program as opposed to those from the control sample.

Conclusions: This paper is an advocacy of the use of movies as a support in the personal development process, in the modelling of emotional, value and behavioural dimensions of human personality.

Keywords: cinema-therapy, personal development centred on movies, therapy of unification
**Title:** Primary school skills development through integrated activities

**AUTHOR(S):** TUDOR SOFIA LOREDANA

**Extended Abstract**

*Problem statement:* In the current vision, experts believe that curricular integration of pedagogical components targets at least two levels: the articulation of all components of the educational process, such as the objectives, content, methods and means of education etc., and integration of subject areas and/or curriculum areas, integrating disciplines in varied designs of integrated teaching (transdisciplinary)

*Purpose of study:* The purpose of this study is to determine the effectiveness of integrated teaching activities measured against school age students competencies, as they are provided for educational finality provided in the National Curriculum for this level.

*Research Methods:* We use for this analysis the experiment, docimological test - pretest and posttest for three indicators (oral and written expression ability, the ability to operate with natural numbers 0-100 limits without crossing order, the ability to apply information to solve problems.)

*Findings:* In the control group, the level of sig is normal, indicating an increase of the results for each indicator, but the value of this is very small compared with the values of the experimental group, the increase may be explained by natural development of student outcomes as a results of intellectual development (t value indicates the statistical significance of the difference). Regarding the experimental group sig value indicates significant differences in all indicators and the value of this is very high at the indicator ability to solve problems, the results showing a significant increase in these indicators.

*Conclusions:* From the presented data, especially the use of some forms of curriculum integration of inter-and transdisciplinary model in designing, organizing and teaching activities proves effective in terms of significant indicators.

*Keywords:* curriculum integration, integrated curriculum, integrated instruction, integrated design, integrated learning situation
Title: Perception of teachers on curriculum integration. Integration patterns practice

AUTHOR(S): TUDOR SOFIA LOREDANA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The evolution of the educational policies in Romania determined the tendency to a qualified curricular analysis and planning of concrete educational situations and a differentiation and individualization of the learning experiences. (Cretu, 1998) Educational Reform in Romania intervened through National Curriculum for preschool in 2009 and through OM 3418/ 2013 which provides the modification of syllabi for preparatory, I and II classes with the implementation of the integrated approach in preschool and primary educational levels.

Purpose of study: The objectives of this study involve the identification of primary school teachers perception regarding the effectiveness of achieving interdisciplinarity. There is also a correlation between curricular content that is - in relation to curricular areas / areas where integration is done - and the level of curriculum integration.

Research Methods: The research data was gathered by using a self-assessment sheet adapted from Integrated Approach of Curricular Content. Self-evaluation of integrated activities sheet consists of items centered on teacher and (a) student’s work (b) as follows: (a) how to integrate curriculum, operational design of projection and implementation of integrative educational scenario.

Findings: As regards the operational modalities of planning and implementing of the integration didactic scenario, there are differences registered from one level of experience to another, but also in relation to the school grades. Teaching having little and large experience manifest reserve towards integrated didactic activities. However, teachers of primary school grades (preparatory, I, a-II-a) develop integrating activities to a larger extent.

Conclusions: The conclusions of the study emphasize the dissonances between the curricular paradigms inventoried in the educational reform and school reality. One can observe the lack of experience of the educators as concerns the interdisciplinary planning and implicitly a relative superficial knowledge of the specific practices. Among the curricular integration modalities, most subjects plan interdisciplinary learning situations, at the level of a curricular domain, and rarely integrate contents which belong to different curricular domains. The activity is more frequent used in small grades, as compared to the III-th and IV-th grades where teachers are more reserved.

Keywords: key competences, integrated curriculum, interdisciplinary approach, authentic assessment, student-centered
Title: Stereotypes and deception in cheating behavior: a Romanian perspective

AUTHOR(S): IORDANESCU EUGEN, BARA VICTOR CONSTANTIN

Extended Abstract

**Problem statement:** Most people are cheating when they have the opportunity, but most of the time they are cheating much less than they could, which allows them to keep positive self image. Most people seem to have an internal auto-surveillance system, which might determine them to cheat in a comparable measure when they might catch the others or when they must "catch" themselves. Self-justification or self-deception helps people to deal easier with the idea of cheating, which makes them cheat more than when such justifications are missing. Further more, Self-deception (Mazar & Ariely, 2006), seen as being a wrong presentation of reality which allows us to sustain unrealistic positive views of ourselves (Trivers, 2000) is one of the important factors which determines and sustains the dis-honest behaviors.

**Purpose of study:** Within the context of a large number of stereotype evaluations referring to the dis-honest behavior of the Romanian people, we test the hypotheses according to which the usage of negative labeling in connection with the dishonest behavior of a group favors the increasement of frequency of this behavior.

**Research Methods:** Volunteer students (52), randomly divided in two independent experimental groups, have completed a questionnaire which pretended to measure the tendency to have dishonest behaviors. We told to experimental group that the "test" resultant indicates a higher tendency to have dishonest behaviors (stealing, cheating, lie, etc.), and to the Control Group has not been announced any "test" result. When they left the room, one by one, each participant has been instructed to take a pencil, as a reward, in the next

**Findings:** The difference between the two groups is significant, the hypothesis of null being rejected. (χ^2 = 15.58, DF = 1, p = 0.000)

**Conclusions:** The deception of the experimental group has predisposed them to dishonest behaviors and has produced a significant difference regarding the number of pencils that the subjects have ascribed themselves.

Keywords: Cheating, dishonest behavior, experiment, deception, Romania
Title: The effects of parental influences and school readiness of child

AUTHOR(S): STAN MARIA MAGDALENA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Besides the psycho-social maturity level of the child, the studies show that parental involvement in the first school year increases the probability that the child would adapt easily and obtain better results significantly. The specialty studies indicate the fact that parents' involvement in their children's school activities determines higher grades and better school attendance, more positive attitudes and behaviours, higher graduation rates, and greater enrollment in higher education. There are large debates not only about the child who should be ready for school activities but also about the parents who should be ready to face child's transition to school. Beside parental involvement and parental style, the socio-demographic characteristics of the families have been analyzed as predictors of children's academic success - lower income, large families, single parent and the educational level of parents (less educated).

Purpose of study: Studying the specialty literature, we have observed that parental style does not influence child development directly, but through the agency of parental practices. The present study aims at analyzing the effects of the interface among the family characteristics (educational level, structure, size), parental involvement during the first school year (parent-child communication, communication with the teachers, affective support), parental style (warmth, supervision) and the child academic success, determining as such the regulating role of the parental style.

Research Methods: The research was conducted on a fixed sample, not randomized, the research group comprising 106 children and their parents. The instruments used in the study measured parental involvement, parenting style and academic acquisitions in mathematics assessment tests at the end of 1st class.

Findings: The data obtained by us demonstrated the fact that parental style and parents' involvement represent more powerful predictors than family characteristics (structure, size, educational level), as well as the fact that parental style is manifested through the degree of the parents' involvement.

Conclusions: Transition to school represents a difficult process not only for children but also for their parents. The practical implications of the study refer first to home-school connections which are crucial in the transition from the kindergarten.

Keywords: school readiness, parental involvement, parenting style, social competence, emotional competence, academic performance
Title: The effects of organizational citizenship behavior in the academic environment

AUTHOR(S): STAN MARIA MAGDALENA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Organizational citizenship behavior - without being directly or explicitly rewarded by the formal compensation system, the informal behavior contributes to organizational efficiency and acquires within the context of the Romanian academic environment certain specific features. It is known that OCB determines the organizational success to a large extent.

Purpose of study: The present study aims at analyzing the level of OCB in an academic organization from Romanian on one hand and secondly, at identifying the relations established among professional competence, personality factors, job satisfaction and organizational citizenship behavior at the teaching staff within the Romanian academic environment.

Research Methods: The research had been carried out in an university from Romania and the sample consisted from 62 university teachers, men and women, having different specialities and different university degrees, aged between 28 and 63 years and with a didactic experience between 5 and 40 years. We used a questionnaire-based method and the instruments had been adapted for each investigated construct.

Findings: The present pilot-study directs us towards the construction of an OCB conceptual model specific for the Romanian academic environment.

Conclusions: The proposed model has a practical value orienting academic organizations toward the development of adequate personnel policies for the affirmation of OCB, as they are the main beneficiaries of these behavioural practices of their employees.

Keywords: Organizational Citizenship Behavior, Job Satisfaction, locus of control, academic environment, predictors
Title: Psychological variables to professional satisfaction for teachers

AUTHOR(S): PAISI LAZARESCU MIHAELA

Extended Abstract

**Problem statement:** Job satisfaction represents the positive affective answer determined by the completion of the job requirements, the feeling of satisfaction derived from the development of one's activity, the achievement of the individual expectations related to the respective activity. The sources of job satisfaction are related to psychological factors (personality traits, age, professional training, work experience, etc.), organizational factors (promotion and reward opportunities, organizational structure etc.), factors connected with work content, work conditions and social factors (interpersonal relations with colleagues and executives, the psycho-social climate, etc.)

**Purpose of study:** The study aims at intercepting the existence of certain significant differences at the level of psychological variables - extroversion / introversion, neuropathy and job satisfaction of the teaching staff from the preschool and primary school level, according to gender, age, work experience and the specific of professional activity.

**Research Methods:** The sample consisted of 85 teachers from the preschool and primary school level. In order to measure the personality dimensions, we used the Eysenck Personality Test (E.P.I.), and for job satisfaction we used Job satisfaction Questionnaire which includes four dimensions (reward and promotion, leadership and personal relations, organization and communication and general satisfaction).

**Findings:** The results obtained underlined the fact that there are no significant differences between job satisfaction of the preschool and primary school teachers. Significant differences had been recorded between male and female subjects, between those from the urban and rural areas and between those with little and considerable work experience. Job satisfaction correlates positively with extraversion/ stability, as well as with introversion /stability.

**Conclusions:** The results obtained confirmed that there is a lower or a higher job satisfaction level according to the different levels of the evaluated dimension.

In order to prevent and diminish professional dissatisfaction, it is beneficial to identify the sources of dissatisfaction for each employee by using verbal and non-verbal communication techniques.

**Keywords:** professional satisfaction, psychological variables, extroversion/introversion, nevrosism
Title: Theoretical approaches regarding the psychophysiology of emotions, facial expressions and emotional regulation

AUTHOR(S): MIHAI VALENTIN CIOlacu

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: This paper presents different techniques of emotional self-regulation and the emotional adjustment stages. Following the literature review, the articles and theories that argue that emotional self-regulation is a complex process that requires dedication and practice were summarized. Without exercise and patience we can all too easily lose control of our own emotions instead of having control over them. In this article we will learn how to develop a higher level of awareness of our own emotions and how we can implement the techniques of emotional self-regulation. An increased level of awareness of our own emotions regardless of the intensity with which they manifest is needed to help us understand the message that they convey and to predict their evolution.

Purpose of study: When we feel that the intensity of our emotions will increase it is important to start the breathing exercises. When we begin to regain control is the time to remove all our harmful thoughts and implement the relaxation exercises. On a short-term breathing control can do wonders helping us to avoid certain reactions which we could regret.

Research Methods: Theoretical review

Findings: There is little research available on this subject

Conclusions: Relaxation techniques help us detach and is indicated on the long term. At work implementing a 20-minute breaks dedicated only to relaxation exercises will increase employee productivity. Cognitive techniques are also very important and working on these three planes: breathing, relaxation, cognition we can develop beneficial habits. It is very important to learn and repeat these emotional self-regulation techniques because only through repetition we can develop habits.

Keywords: emotional self-regulation, breathing exercises, relaxation, cognitive techniques
Title: Learning, practicing and applying emotional regulation techniques

AUTHOR(S): MIHAI VALENTIN CIOLACU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: This paper presents different techniques of emotional self-regulation and the emotional adjustment stages. Following the literature review, the articles and theories that argue that emotional self-regulation is a complex process that requires dedication and practice were summarized. Without exercise and patience we can all too easily lose control of our own emotions instead of having control over them. In this article we will learn how to develop a higher level of awareness of our own emotions and how we can implement the techniques of emotional self-regulation. An increased level of awareness of our own emotions regardless of the intensity with which they manifest is needed to help us understand the message that they convey and to predict their evolution.

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Keywords: emotional self-regulation, breathing exercises, relaxation, cognitive techniques
Title: Neuromarketing and evaluation of cognitive and emotional responses of consumers to marketing stimuli.

AUTHOR(S): VLĂȘCEANU SEBASTIAN

Extended Abstract

**Problem statement:** Neuromarketing is an emerging interdisciplinary field at the interface between neuroscience, psychology and marketing through which there are assessed cognitive and emotional consumer responses to marketing stimuli (advertising campaigns, brands, advertising, products and so on). It is assessed the effect that certain advertising campaigns, brands, products have on us from a cognitively and emotionally viewpoint, by measuring attention, encoding and emotional commitment. By neuromarketing one can learn how consumer think, how they behave and make decisions by having access to the thoughts, emotions, feelings and desires that contribute to the unconscious decision to buy.

**Purpose of study:** The purpose of this article is to analyze specific tools used in neuromarketing regarding the cognitive and emotional evaluation of consumer responses to the marketing stimuli.

**Research Methods:** This article investigates the literature in order to find out the tools, methods and specific techniques used in neuromarketing.

**Findings:** Neuromarketing has borrowed a number of methods and techniques of neuroscience, neuromarketing or consumer neuroscience makes a transition from specific marketing tools such as focus group, observation, direct investigation, interviewing to a number of tools that record both brain electrical activity and metabolic activity such as electroencephalograph (EEG), transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), steady state topography (SST), magnetoencephalography (MEG), functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), positron emission tomography (PET). In addition neuromarketing also used implicit association test and other tools, methods and techniques such as biometric eye-tracking, facial electromyography, facial decoding technology, measurement of psychophysiological reactivity, the measurement of electrodermal reactivity, assessing the heart rate and respiratory rate.

**Conclusions:** Consumer neuroscience is increasingly becoming an area of concern for researchers and for businesses by offering superior information compared to traditional methods of marketing and proving its usefulness and effectiveness in understanding consumer behavior and decision-making process. Neuromarketing can help us understand how the unconscious processing determines our decision to buy, providing a better understanding of thought, emotion, feelings, needs and motivation of consumer in relation to marketing products.

**Keywords:** neuromarketing, decision-making, emotion, cognition, neuromarketing tools, consumer neuroscience
Title: New directions in understanding the decision-making process: neuromarketing and neuroeconomics

AUTHOR(S): VLĂSCEANU SEBASTIAN

Extended Abstract

**Problem statement:** Neuromarketing and neuroeconomics are new emerging interdisciplinary fields at the border between neuroscience, psychology, economics and marketing. Relatively close, they are studying how we make decisions, one in a broader context the economic one and other, customizing, with a focus on how consumers make the decision to buy.

**Purpose of study:** The purpose of this article is to investigate the new directions in understanding the decision-making process. Thus this article focuses on two areas that currently concern the understanding of decision-making: neuromarketing and neuroeconomics.

**Research Methods:** This article investigated the literature regarding the research in neuroeconomics, neuromarketing, these being the two new directions in understanding the decision-making process.

**Findings:** Both disciplines highlight the link between decision making and the brain regions involved in the development of this process. While neuroeconomics has crystallized as a purely academic field, integrative, that attempts to explain the mechanisms of the decision making process with emphasis on the economic behavior and decision making in the economic field, neuromarketing has proven to be a subject of a more applied nature, largely due to the marketing industry. While neuroeconomics is mainly aimed to the development and building new models of economic behavior in order to explain the decision making process, neuromarketing focuses on how consumers respond to marketing stimuli and how they make the decision to buy.

**Conclusions:** Neuromarketing and neuroeconomics play an important role in understanding the decision-making process. Both disciplines have borrowed a number of methods, techniques and tools of neuroscience. Thus, in investigating the decision-making process a growing number of researchers use a number of tools that records the electrical activity and metabolic activity of the human brain, such as electroencephalograph (EEG), transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), steady state topography (SST), magnetoencephalography (MEG), functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), positron emission tomography (PET). These tools provide answers to asked question of interest both the commercial area and the academic area. With the help of these tools we can understand and explain the neurobiological mechanisms of the decision-making process.

**Keywords:** neuromarketing, neuroeconomics, decision-making, emotion, cognition.
Title: Neuromarketing and neuroethics

AUTHOR(S): VLĂSCEANU SEBASTIAN

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The fast development of neuroscience and some of its subdomains such as neuromarketing and neuroethics has brought new questions and new challenges. Neuromarketing, interdisciplinary research field with a relatively recent history has thoroughly enjoyed the academia and business's attention, but also attracted a number of criticisms.

Purpose of study: The purpose of this article was to investigate the specific ethical issues related to neuroscience, highlighting the two areas with a recent history neuromarketing and neuroethics. In this article our main concern was the investigation of neuroethics issues in the neuromarketing research.

Research Methods: In this article the literature was investigated regarding neuromarketing and neuroethics. Thus we have investigated a number of issues concerning the ethical aspects of research in neuromarketing.

Findings: It is known that the technology used in neuromarketing research can raise a number of ethical issues. In this context, Neuromarketing Science & Business Association has developed a code of ethics, compliance with which became a condition for joining this association. Neuromarketing Science & business Association has proposed that this Code should be revised and upgraded to the highest ethical standards for neuromarketing industry in close relationship with the development of this field. The currently approved Code of ethics supports the principles already known as ICC / ESOMAR Code. Neuroethics, may prove to be useful in reviewing and updating the highest ethical standards for neuromarketing industry by elaborating new ethical rules according to the evolution of this industry. Preoccupied with the social, moral and ethical problems, neuroethics as a relatively new discipline situated at the border between neuroscience and philosophy could solve a series of theoretical and practical issues related to research in neuromarketing. These problems may be caused by consumer protection and the protection of its autonomy, the protection of different parts of neuromarketing research that could be harmed, exploited and also by neuromarketing and the freedom of consumer’s decision.

Conclusions: Investigation of issues related to neuroethics in neuromarketing can prove to be a useful approach to both areas and their beneficiaries. Without this step, there will be difficulty in maintaining ethical standards in research in neuromarketing.

Keywords: neuromarketing, neuroethics, neuroimaging, neuroscience, research
Title: EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND SCHOOL PERFORMANCE (CORRELATIONAL STUDY)

AUTHOR(S): MIHAI-FLORENTIN CIORICARU, NICOLAE MITROFAN

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: It is said that emotional intelligence has always been around one way or another, however, up until recently it has been outshined in importance by cognitive intelligence and its measuring techniques. At the beginning of the last century, having a high intelligence quotient was considered the key to school, professional and interpersonal success. These ideas have been recently challenged and the sole importance of intelligence quotient is being contested by a revolutionary concept: emotional intelligence.

Purpose of study: This study focuses on the significance of emotional intelligence in school. The first objective is to find, if any, a link between emotional intelligence and school performance. The second objective of the present study is to identify how and if gender plays a role in that particular situation.

Hypothesis 1: It is assumed that there is a correlation between pupils’ emotional intelligence and school performance.

Hypothesis 2: It is assumed that the value of the correlation quotient between emotional intelligence and school performance is much higher in girls than in boys.

Research Methods: A sample group of 136 students attending “Mihai Viteazu” High School in Bucharest have been selected (68 boys and 68 girls) for this study. There was no reward for taking part in this research and all subjects have been volunteers. The Emotional Intelligence Test modified by Rocco (2004) and originally designed by Goleman and Bar-On, has been used for gathering data. School performance was determined by each individual’s grades at the end of the first semester.

Findings: Data analysis has revealed that a high emotional intelligence quotient is not correlated with high school performance. Also, data showed that gender plays no role in this correlation, thus neither boys nor girls have better school performance compared to the others when a high level of emotional intelligence is present.

Conclusions: Given the components of emotional intelligence, the present data shows how the educational system fails in its attempt to help students develop it and to make use of it as an educational tool. Considering how emotional intelligence helps an individual's development in cognition, assimilation, adaptation, operation process, and a variety of other factors, this is very significant. Our educational system is focused on accumulating increasingly vast theoretical and technical knowledge, while at the same time neglecting the value and importance of learning how to use and apply that knowledge outside of academic environment and succeeding in the attempt to become well adjusted adults.

Keywords: emotional intelligence, highschool performance, teenagers
Title: Emotional self-regulation of the human operator using biofeedback techniques

AUTHOR(S): MIHAI VALENTIN CIOLACU

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Using some specific emotional self-regulation techniques that imply controlling our breathing, relaxation exercises and cognitive techniques we can cope with different stimuli or emotional situations in an appropriate manner. We can also get rid of phobias and we can train to manage stressful situations at work. Many beginner sales-people manifest elevated psycho-physiological parameters when they receive an answer or when the phone is hang up on them.

Purpose of study: This study aims to highlight the effects of emotional self-regulation techniques by measuring psychophysiological parameters using the biofeedback technique.

Research Methods: Empirical research

Findings: Breathing techniques have a strong short term effect, but the relaxation techniques are beneficial over longer periods.

Conclusions: Breathing control techniques and relaxation exercises have statistically significant effects in changing the psycho-physiological parameters, as the participants coped better with the emotional stimuli.

Keywords: Biofeedback, emotional self-regulation, psycho-physiological parameters
Title: Social Stress in Romanian Teachers

AUTHOR(S): VASILE CRISTIAN

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Research has suggested that teachers are exposed to different sources of stress. There are reports showing that the main sources of teacher stress are: the lack in motivation of the students; maintaining discipline in the classroom; confronting general time pressures and workload demands; being exposed to many changes repeatedly; being continuous evaluated; challenging relations with colleagues or management; poor working conditions (Kyriacou, 2001).

Purpose of study: The study examine the level of social stress on a sample of Romanian teachers, as an indicator of the subjects mental comfort and, generally, mental health for the studied sample. Knowing the correlation between stress level and self-efficacy, this direction was discussed too.

Research Methods: Wheatley Stress Profile was administered on a sample of 55 teachers and a clinical short interview was administered in order to collect information about the work-social environment in relation to the mental well-being.

The respondents received the proper instructions for filling in the WSP.

Findings: Using statistical processing and graphical representation, the subjects were divided in two major groups: the first group with a low social stress level (below mean) and the second one with a high social stress level. Correlations with other types of stress were found and discussed.

Conclusions: 49.09% of the respondents were found having a level of social stress above the mean and over 38% reported symptoms of emotional problems: anxiety, sleep problems etc. Over 56% of the respondents reported they experienced a low self esteem at least for a period of three days in the last six months.

Keywords: teachers; social stress; mental health
Title: A Meta-analysis of Psychological Trauma Interventions

AUTHOR(S): VASILE CRISTIAN

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) was originally conceptualized as a normal response to overwhelming situations. In the last years there is increasing acceptance of the idea that exposure to a traumatic situation/stimulus may not be enough to explain the development of PTSD and the individual vulnerability factors plays an important role in understanding this condition.

Purpose of study: The study examines different approaches on psychological trauma (especially PTSD) in the literature in order to find more effective directions in trauma treatment.

Research Methods: The specific literature and appropriate studies were selected. The authors' opinions and studies' results were analyzed in order to a better understanding of the most effective approach to trauma.

Findings: There are opinions sustaining that CISD (Critical Incident Stress Debriefing) is an effective technique at a short time after the traumatic event. On the contrary, some studies suggested that CISD and non-CISD interventions do not improve natural recovery from psychological trauma.

Conclusions: The first-line psychological treatment for trauma (PTSD mainly) seems to be trauma-focused (CBT techniques, EMDR etc.). Also, the clinician should focus on increasing back the cognitive abilities of the patient working on the attention bias and decreasing the emotional arousal.

Keywords: trauma; PTSD; psychological intervention
Title: Emotional labour and motivation in teachers

AUTHOR(S): TRUTA CAMELIA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Teaching profession is one with the highest requirements redarging emotional labour. Even though previous studies (Sutton, 1991; Truta & Indreica, 2012) show that teachers engage in emotional labour as part of their professional identity with the purpose of professional efficacity, it is not clear yet what are the motivational basis of this engagement.

Purpose of study: To identify the motivational dimensions associated with performance of emotional labour by in-service Romanian teachers. Also, several job characteristics, such as the job autonomy and the requirements to express positive emotions at work, are investigated as potential antecedents of adopting emotional labour strategy.

Research Methods: In-service teachers from all educational levels completed five questionnaires assessing: emotional labour dimensions and strategies, emotional effort and emotional dissonnace, discrete emotions managed at work, dimension of work motivations, and job characteristics. Data were analysed within a correlational research design.

Findings: We identified, similar with previous studies on the topic, several job - specific antecedents of emotional labour performed by teachers, mainly specific job characteristics. Intrinsic motivation seems to have a relevant impact on teacher's decision to adopt deep acting strategy.

Conclusions: Further analysis is required in order to establish if motivation is a predictor of engaging in emotional labour or a mediator of the relations between other job - specific or personality characteristics and emotional labour.

Keywords: emotional labour, intrinsic motivation, work conditions, teaching profession
Title: Personality factors and emotions involved in consumer decision-making styles

AUTHOR(S): TRUTA CAMELIA, NITOIU CATALINA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Most authors argue that decision-making style and, therefore, consumer decision-making style, is more personality based and less contextual. Taking into account this point of view, we should then identify the personality factors underlying each style.

Purpose of study: To determine the relation between personality factors and consumers’ decision-making style in a Romanian sample.

Research Methods: Students responded to adapted versions on the Romanian population of three questionnaires assessing: consumer decision-making styles (Consumer Style Inventory - Sproles & Kendall, 1986), personality factors (extraversion, openness, emotional stability, agreeability and consciousness) (IPIP - 50, Rusu, Maricutoiu, Macsing et. al, 2012), and positive and negative affectivity(Panas).

Findings: Factorial analysis revealed a different typology of students decision-making styles than the one assumed by Sproles and Kendal. Extraversion, openness are the personality factors most strongly associated with decision-making in consumers.

Conclusions: Further analysis is necessary in order to establish a typology of the decision-making styles of Romanian consumers. Still, results suggest that others factors might be involved since both personality and affectivity explain only a small percent of the decision-making style

Keywords: consumer decision-making style, extraversion, openness, positive affectivity
Title: The Public Perception in Dobrogea of the Role of Muslim Women within the Family

AUTHOR(S): MIHAELA RUS, OSMAN SERHAN, MIHAELA LUMINITA SANDU, ALINA BUZARNA (GALBEAZA)

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Since in many Western newspapers (in France, Germany, Switzerland) Islam is considered a symbol par excellence of women subordination, the question arises whether the same label is accepted in Romania.

Purpose of study: The research objectives are: knowledge of the perception of the role of Muslim women within the family; highlighting perception differences associated to the biological gender of subjects; highlighting perception differences associated to the religious affiliation.

Research Methods: Taking into account that the core of the Muslim community in Romania is situated in Dobrogea, this study was conducted in this area, especially in Constanta County. For the analysis and interpretation of data, the results of the questionnaire were analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively. The questionnaire consisted of 20 questions. There were both multiple choice questions (with 2 to 6 possible answers) and open questions.

Findings: Islam has restored women a great number of their rights. A Muslim woman has the right to refuse or accept any matchmaker and ask for a divorce. No Islamic law forbids Muslim women to leave their houses or drive. In addition, in terms of education, a woman is forced to seek knowledge. Although there are Muslim countries in the world that impose tougher rules for women, they are not Islamic rules and they are against the teachings of the Quran.

Conclusions: Taking into account the above mentioned issues, we consider that the role of Muslim women in the family, in the public perception in Dobrogea (and in almost all countries which are in the same situation, i.e. Bulgaria, Ukraine, Russia, Macedonia etc.) must be primarily understood through the development of gender relations and then through the light of religion, culture and traditions.

Dobrogea is a region with special features, with its multicultural character, being an example of interethnic coexistence between majority and minority.

Keywords: social perception, woman, social role, Muslim woman
Title: Importance of the lifelong learning for professional development of university teachers - needs and practical implications

AUTHOR(S): NICOLETA DUȚĂ, ELENA RAFAILĂ

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Education is perhaps one of the most important social activity in the life of human beings, for by this man has a number of personal attributes, academic and cultural setting it apart from other individuals. The theoretical framework is based on classical sources on the professional development (Dillon, 1981; Fullan, 1992), and the current literature (Iucu, 2007; Ciolan et al. 2007, Potolea,Toma, 2008).

Purpose of study: The aim of this study is has shows the importance of continuous training university teaching staff as perceived by them, concerning the field by teaching skills, ained in the implementation of a multiple choice question taken from the questionnaire administrated to teachers from various universities in Romania and Spain.

Research Methods: This article focus on the preliminary phase including a written administration of a questionnaire to a sample 485 teacher. Hipothesis: if shall draw up a support system, type modular with certain particularities, then ther is a higher degree of probability that educational expertise gained to be gratear, more effective as compared to normal practice. The procedure for data collection has consisted in the application written questionnaire sent by post and email. For the analysis and interpretation of data, we used SPSS 17.0.

Findings: The results obtained by analyzing the responses of the subjects included in our sample have showed that both groups of teachers - from Romania an Spain - have the same opinions regarding the importance of the continuous pedagogical training. Our first observation concerns the very high proportion of subjects, from both countries, who have considered the continuous pedagogical training as being very important and necessary (almost 70 % of the Romanian teachers and 80% of the Spanish teachers).

Conclusions: It is necessary to stimulate individual and collective reflection process in solving problematic situations in teaching practice; to create and maintain an environment of collaboration and social interaction; to develop collaborative projects and to relate the training through action research strategies. Continuing training is both a challenge and a necessity for teachers, with a view to increase their professionalism, update and deepen their knowledge through the development of the profession.

Keywords: lifelong learning, university teachers, professional development, continuous training, EHEA
Title: PSYCHOLOGICAL VARIABLES OF JUVENILE AGGRESSIVENESS

AUTHOR(S): PAISI LAZARESCU MIHAELA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Agressive and self-agressive behaviours constitute one of the most investigated themes not only in psychology due to the fact that they are part of our lives; consequently, such behaviours can be easily observed both in school and outside it. Agressiveness is the intended conduct which aims at inflicting damages (injury, destruction, loss) upon a person (including himself/herself) or objects. It is not an antisocial behaviour and cannot be mistaken or identified with delinquency or offence-committing.

Purpose of study: This study aimed at identifying the occurrence of the main categories of juvenile agressive manifestations, as well as at emphasizing the association level between the agressive behaviours, self-image/self-esteem and the personality traits.

Research Methods: The study had been carried out on a sample of 147 subjects pupils in the high school cycle and in order to identify the manifestation degree of juvenile agressive behaviour we have used Personality objective assessment method (Zapan). The evaluation of self-esteem has been done through the Rosenberg test (Self Esteem Scale), and the evaluation of the personality traits(extroversion /introversion and neuropathy) through Eysenck personality questionnaire.

Findings: The data obtained showed that the occurrence of repetitive abusive agressiveness is high within girls as compared to boys. Junior teens are frequently abused as compared to the older ones.

After the statistic analysis of the results we have observed that there is a negative correlation between self-esteem and agressiveness and most agressive manifestations are exhibited by extrovert/unstable teenagers.

Conclusions: The conclusions of the practical research notice a high occurrence of certain forms of agressive manifestation within teenagers. Besides a low self-esteem, the agressive behaviour is also determined by temperamental traits - extroversion/introversion and neuropathy.

Keywords: aggressiveness, personal variables, extroversion, introversion, neuropathy
Title: Moral Decisions of Individuals with Autistic Traits

AUTHOR(S): BĂBĂLAI MIHAELE ANCA

Extended Abstract

**Problem statement:** Persons with autism are incapable of naming emotions, even though there is a physiological emotional response (Theo Peters, "Autism", 2009). They fail integrating the emotional stimuli in the decisional process, maintaining a rational consistency, added to the cost of a reduced behavioural flexibility.

**Purpose of study:** The study investigates the decisional process in individuals with autistic traits, selected from the general population, in a task that involves personal moral dilemmas, with high internal conflict.

**Research Methods:** The sample included 172 persons with age varying from 18 to 55 (40% female; 60% male). The first used method was the AQ questionnaire (Autism Spectrum Quotient), designed by Simon Baron-Cohen, in 2001, differentiating between the control group and the experimental group, based on the independent variable, the autistic traits. The second method is a set of 17 personal moral dilemmas, with high conflict (Greene et al., 2008), where participants are required to choose between two answer options, a utilitarian option and a deontological one (the dependent variable, their answer). The utilitarian option assumes less loss and more gains.

**Findings:** The data was analysed using the Mann-Whitney Test, to compare the distributions mode (their utilitarian answers frequency) of the two groups. The experimental group (N=88) results showed a significantly higher frequency of utilitarian judgements (58%), compared to the control group (N=88) (32%), p<0.05. That would suggest a reduced implication of moral emotions in the decision-making process.

**Conclusions:** These results are of common interest in the context of the rising prevalence of autism. Because members of families having an autistic member are themselves susceptible to mild autism (Irma Jarvela, 2002), it is important to know how these persons make decisions, in order to remember that it is harder for them to adapt to the environmental requires, especially the moral ones, so the environment should somehow be adapting to them. This knowledge about their decisional process may serve as source of coherence for their families and for themselves, by reducing ambiguity and external pressure.

**Keywords:** autistic traits, moral emotions, utilitarian, deontological
Title: Gender and educational level differences in the conceptions of learning

AUTHOR(S): VÎRBAN PETRONELA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: The study is based on literature focused on investigating differences in the conceptions of learning (Säljö, 1979; Tynjälä, 1999; Purdie and Hattie, 2002; Entwistle and McCune, 2004).

Purpose of study: Investigate the differences of: gender and educational level, in the conceptions of learning. I suppose there are statistically significant differences of: gender and educational level in the conceptions of learning.

Research Methods: The study has 200 participants: 100 high school students, grade X (profiles: mathematics and computer science, philology, pedagogy, social sciences), and 100 students from the Faculty of Psychology Year 2, the frequency of which 66 boys and 134 girls, aged 15-40 years (M = 18.79, SD = 4.04). Data were collected by means of scales: Scale conception of learning. (Purdie and Hattie, 2002), Revision III, totaling six conceptions of learning: learning is understanding, personal change, social skills development, ongoing process of information acquisition, debt.

Findings: The hypothesis was confirmed regarding gender and educational level, in the conceptions of learning. Data analysis showed differences statistically significant at p < .05 based on: gender and educational level in terms of most conceptions of learning.

Conclusions: Girls stronger than boys believe that learning is understanding, personal change, skills development, ongoing process of information acquisition.

Students believe more strongly than high school students that learning is understanding, personal change, skills development, continuous process and debt. Study results have practical implications for educational practice through improved knowledge and conceptions about learning of pupils/students in order to improve teacher-student relationships.

Keywords: Gender and educational level differences; conceptions of learning, personal change, social skills development, debt, ongoing process of information acquisition.
Title: The effects of the Unifying Creative-Meditation Technique as a treatment of Anxiety in Romanian Amateur Drivers

AUTHOR(S): MITROFAN LAURENTIU, CHRAIF MIHAELA, GOLU FLORINDA, GÂTEJ EMIL RĂZVAN

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: There are many ways of improving driving, but recently the researchers revealed that lower anxiety and aggression correlated with high skills seems to be the key of an efficient safety driving. The Unifying Creative-Meditation Technique is an experiential technique which uses the imagination and the relaxing state to make the subject more conscious about his behavior and his resources.

Purpose of study: In this study we are trying to prove the effect of the UCM technique on reducing the drivers anxiety and to reveal a link between reducing anxiety and improving performance.

Research Methods: The participants were 30 drivers (for the experimental group) and 30 drivers (for the witness group) that have been selected from our Department's students. The subjects had been part of the experimental group were asked to have the driving license for minimum one year. Instruments: the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory.

Findings: The research was conducted on a period of two months and the results were tested using SPSS statistical analysis program by applying the T test procedure. The T test for independent samples was applied for testing the mean of the experimental and the witness group. The hypothesis that claimed a difference between the two samples was validated. For a higher precision we have decided also to make a test-retest measure using the T test for paired samples. This procedure also confirmed significant differences between the two moment of measurement.

Conclusions: Considering this results we can say that the Unifying Creative Meditation Technique have a significant effect on reducing drivers anxiety all this reflecting on a high level on safety and performance in driving.

Keywords: driving anxiety, Unifying Creative Meditation Technique, safety driving
Title: The effects of the Experiential-Unifying Techniques on Reducing Anger and Aggression in Romanian Young Drivers

AUTHOR(S): MITROFAN LAURENTIU, CHRAIF MIHAELA, GOLU FLORINDA, GÂTEJ EMIL RĂZVAN

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Recent statistics shows that car accidents are the most frequent cause of death around the world. Today, there were developed many ways of training for professional and also amateur drivers but very few programs are related to the anger management in traffic situations. The Experiential-Unifying Techniques brings the individual face to face with his emotions, helping him to be conscious, aware, responsible and in control with himself.

Purpose of study: This research aims to check the effects of two Experiential-Unifying Techniques in reducing the traffic anger in order to increase traffic safety and drivers performance.

Research Methods: The participants were 40 drivers (for the experimental group) and 40 drivers (for the witness group) that have been selected from our Department's students. The condition was the maximum age of 35 years old. Instruments: Buss&Perry Questionaire , the ERGASIM driving simulator.

Findings: TThe research was conducted on a period of three weeks and the results were tested using SPSS statistical analysis program by applying the T test procedure for independent samples. The hypothesis that states a difference between the two samples was confirmed. For a higher precision we have decided also to make a test- retest measure using the T test for paired samples. This procedure also confirmed significant differences between the two moment of measurement at the experimental sample.

Conclusions: Considering this results we can assume that Experiential-Unifying Techniques such as creative-meditation and simulation have a significant effect on helping the driver to overcome his emotions, to be in touch with his own emotions and to manage the anger in order to increase traffic safety.

Keywords: driving anger, Experiential-Unifying Techniques, safety driving
Title: Involvement in Volunteering Activities, Life Satisfaction, and Social Well-Being among Macedonian and Romanian undergraduate students

AUTHOR(S): CELE STOJCHESKI, DAN ENACHE, VALERIA NEGOVAN

Extended Abstract

**Problem statement:** This research is based on literature on volunteerism (Wheeler et al., 1998; Finkelstein, 2008), life satisfaction (Diener, Suh, Lucas, & Smith, 1999) and social well being (Keyes, 1998) and focuses on the benefits of volunteering in academic environment.

**Purpose of study:** The main aim of the research was to identify the differences in relationship between undergraduate students' life satisfaction and social well-being according to their involvement in volunteering activities across two culturally different educational contexts (Macedonian and Romanian universities).

**Research Methods:** Participants in the research were 100 Macedonian undergraduate students (27 male and 73 female, aged between 18 and 24 years, M = 20.23, SD = .72) and 100 Romanian undergraduate students (10 males and 90 females, aged between 18 and 23 years, M = 20.27, SD = 1.17). Data were collected by the Satisfaction with Life Scale (Diener, Emmons, Larsen & Griffin, 1985) and by the Social Well-Being Scale from The University Student Psychosocial Well Being Inventory/USPSWBI (Negovan, 2010).

**Findings:** The results showed that the Macedonian and Romanian undergraduate students reported different levels of life satisfaction and of social well-being. The life satisfaction is higher at Macedonian students (M = 3.49, SD = .65) compared with the Romanian students' life satisfaction (M= 2.94, SD = .67). The social well being is higher at Romanian students (M= 2.59, SD = .77) compared with the Macedonian students' social well being (M= 2.21, SD = .75). In both samples, social well-being are higher for those students who are volunteering compared to the students who are not (t = from 2.01 to .75, df. 98, p = from .04 to .007) but the life satisfaction do not differ according to their involvement in volunteering activities.

Among the Macedonian students, life satisfaction correlates statistically significant weaker with social well-being (r= .27, p = .007) than among the Romanian students (r= .38, p< .001) (Z at p<0.03).

**Conclusions:** The research's results answered the study questions and can contribute to the development of intervention programs to support an efficient academic education (especially through promoting volunteering activities as cross-curricular activities for practical training in the university environment).

**Keywords:** Volunteering; life satisfaction; social well-being.
Title: Motivation and cognitive tasks. Correlative study between genders

AUTHOR(S): DANIELA DUMITRU, MIHAELA CHRAIF, ANITEI MIHAI

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: This pilot study is focused on demonstrating a connection between motivation (to accurately completing the task) and cognitive performance, namely visual short-term memory. We also assert that there are differences between genders (female and male) on how these two realities are connected (if they are).

Research Methods: Hypotheses: There is a strong positive correlation between visual memory recognition and motivation from competition. There is a strong positive correlation between visual memory recognition and motivation from personal goals. There is a strong positive correlation between visual memory recognition and level of aspiration. There is a strong positive correlation between visual memory recognition and impulsivity.

Method: Participants were 51 undergraduate students from Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, 25 males and 26 female, aged between 20 and 24 years old (m=21.46; S.D.= 1.72).

Instruments and software: VISGED and AHA tests from Vienna Test System (2012).

Findings: The results highlights statistically significant positive correlation for the male undergraduate students between variables: impulsivity and precision (r=0.752; p<0.001), level of performance and visual memory (r=0.445; p=0.026<0.05). Also the results shows statistically significant positive correlation for the female undergraduate students between variables: impulsivity and visual memory (r=0.405; p=0.04<0.05), level of precision and impulsivity (r=0.545; p=0.004<0.001).

Conclusions: Both male and female subjects showed positive correlations between impulsivity (described by the Vienna test AHA as the rapidness of solving the tasks; can be assimilated with an operational definition of reaction time) and precision (defined by the Vienna test AHA as the accuracy of solving the tasks). This means that with a proper motivation induced to the subjects the concentration and attention, the overall cognitive activation, is increasing, subjects having a better reaction time for the stimuli, so they are more prepared to respond to them, and they are more accurate in their responses.

The scores to the visual memory test correlate positive differently on male and female subjects: males have correlation with performance and females with impulsivity. It means that the overall concentration (solving the entire task) to the AHA test on males is transferring to the visual memory test, and only the reaction time is transferring to the visual memory test task on females.

Keywords: visual memory recognition, motivation from personal goals, motivation from competition, level of frustration, precision in task completing.
Title: Inductive reasoning and visual memory. A pilot study

AUTHOR(S): ANITEI MIHAI, DANIELA DUMITRU, MIHAELA CHRAIF

Extended Abstract

Problem statement:
Purpose of study: The objective: this pilot study is concentrating on researching the relationship between an inductive reasoning task that uses visual memory components and spatial visual memory.

Research Methods: Hypotheses: There is a strong positive correlation between visual representation and transformation of spatial concrete forms and visual memory recognition on male subjects. There is a strong positive correlation between mental representation and transformation of spatial concrete forms and inductive reasoning on males. There is a strong positive correlation between visual memory recognition and inductive reasoning on females.

Method: Participants were 56 undergraduate students from Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, 27 males and 29 female, aged between 19 and 22 years old (M=20.62; S.D. = 0.92).

Instruments and software: 2D visualization, VISGED and FOLO inductive reasoning tests from Vienna Test System (2012).

Findings: The results highlights statistically significant negative correlation for the male undergraduate students between variables: 2D visual representation and transformation of spatial concrete forms and inductive reasoning (r=−0.412; p<0.033), 2D visual representation and transformation of spatial concrete forms and visual memory (r=0.431; p=0.025<0.05).

Conclusions: Furthermore, the results show that there is no statistically significant negative or positive correlation for female undergraduate students between variables (p>0.05). Male group shows negative correlation between inductive reasoning and 2D visual representation and transformation because the two tests are actually measuring the same variable, inductive reasoning (the 2D test is build in the same manner as FOLO inductive reasoning test, there is a missing piece that is looking for in a set of images). The difference between the two tests is that the 2D test measures inductive reasoning by a concrete figural task and FOLO measures the same thing by an abstract figural task. Males show a negative correlation between the two types of inductive reasoning, meaning that when a male obtains high scores to an abstract inductive reasoning test he will obtain low scores to the concrete figural inductive test. This relation is not present on females. The figural task asks for a good visual memory and this is revealed also in the male group, where we have a positive relation between visual memory and 2D representation. Again, there is no relation between this variable on females. Enlarging the research groups for future studies should highlight if the results can be extended to female and male general population.

Keywords: visual representation of spatial concrete forms, visual transformation of spatial concrete forms, visual memory recognition, inductive reasoning.
Title: Are short term figural memory and visual representation, and transformation of spatial concrete forms related? A pilot study

AUTHOR(S): MIHAELA CHRAIF, DANIELA DUMITRU, MIHAI ANITEI

Extended Abstract

Problem statement:

Purpose of study: this pilot study is focused on showing possible correlations between short term figural memory recognition and visual representation and transformation of spatial concrete forms on young students on psychology.

Research Methods: There is a strong positive correlation between short term figural memory recognition and visual representation and transformation of spatial concrete forms at young students at psychology. Method: Participants were 48 undergraduate students from Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, 27 males and 29 females, aged between 19 and 22 years old (M=20.58; S.D. = 1.52).

Instruments and software: 2D visualization test and non-verbal learning test (NVLT) from Vienna Test System (2012).

Findings: The results shows that are not statistically significant correlations between the dependent variables of the 2D visualization test and nonverbal learning test (p<0.05) at young undergraduate students at psychology.

Conclusions: The fact that the hypothesis were not confirmed demonstrates that the population of young students in Psychology do not show a relation between short term figural memory and visual figural representation and transformation of spatial concrete forms. Further it is interesting to extend this study on populations from different faculties like computer science, mathematics, philosophy and other academic majors. It is also possible that the two test measuring two cognitive capacities, the visual memory of single objects (NVLT) and the visual memory of objects configuration (the parts of an object), will not correlate even on other test subjects, because there are independent capacities after all.

Keywords: short term figural memory, concrete visual figures, visual representation of spatial concrete forms, visual transformation of spatial concrete forms.
Title: The influence of progresive rock music on motivation from personal goals, motivation from competition and level of aspiration on young students at psychology

AUTHOR(S): CHRAIF MIHAELA, MITROFAN LAURENȚIU, GOLU FLORINDA, GÂTEJ EMIL RĂZVAN

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Listening music may be an important stimuli to motivation in completing tasks, attention, memory retrieval, and many other processes.

Purpose of study: The study is focused on highlighting the influence of progresive rock music on motivation from personal goals, motivation from competition and level of aspiration at young students at psychology.

Research Methods: The participants were 63 undergraduate students, age between 19 and 22 years old (M=20.54; S.D. = 1.14), students at psychology, University of Bucharest.

Instruments: OLMT test (Vienna Tests System, 2012) Objective Achievement Motivation Test is a computerized test measuring achievement motivation from personal goals and from competition. Experimental design: Independent variable: listening music with two levels: first level with no music and second level with progresive rock music. Dependents variables: motivation from personal goals, motivation from competition and level of aspiration. There were two experimental groups: the control group with no treatment and the experimental group with the exposure to progresive rock music.

Findings: Results highlights that motivation from competition and motivation from personal goals (p<0.05) is higher for the group exposed to progresive music than the control group without music (p<0.05).

Conclusions: Listening progresive rock music has a significant effect in increasing the performances to different tasks execution based on motivation from personal goals and motivation from competition. Hence, we can conclude that progresive music listened for a period of 15 min could be an important stimuli for increasing performances at work place in executing tasks, incresing motivation and spirit of competition.

Keywords: progresive rock music, motivation from personal goals, motivation from competition, level of aspiration.
Title: The influence of relaxation music on abstract visual short term memory retrieval task at young students at psychology

AUTHOR(S): CHRAIF MIHAELA, MITROFAN LAURENŢIU, GOLU FLORINDA, GÂTEJ EMIL RĂZVAN

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Listening music may be an important stimuli in memorizing and retrieval processes. Taking in consideration the many musical types, we were interested in creating a relaxation musical environment during performing visual memory retrieval task.

Purpose of study: The study is focused on highlighting the influence of relaxation music on correct and incorrect visual memory retrieval process using abstract figures.

Research Methods: The participants were 68 undergraduate students, age between 19 and 23 years old (M=20.54; S.D.= 1.14), students at psychology, Unverisity of Bucharest.

Instruments: NVLT test (Vienna Tests System, 2012) Nonverbal learning test is a computerized test measuring visual abstract retrieval memory tasks. Experimental design: Independent variable: listening music with two levels: first level with no music and second level with relaxation music. Dependents variables: sum of correct "yes" answers, sum of incorrect "yes" answers. There were two experimental groups: the control group with no treatment and the experimental group with the exposure to relaxation music.

Findings: Results highlights that sum of incorrect "yes" answers were statistically significant lower for the experimental group expose to relaxation music than the control group (p<0.05).

Conclusions: Listening relaxation music has a significant effect in decreasing the number of incorrect abstract form recognition stimuli in visual abstract forms memory retrieval. In this way, we can conclude that relaxation music has an important effect in reducing the errors in visual recognition and could be an important stimuli for increasing performances in in all the activities based on abstract visual memory recognition tasks during abstract forms retrieval process.

Keywords: relaxation music, visual abstract forms retrieval process, visual abstract forms recognition.
Title: Study concerning the dominant type of leadership in students regarding the field of completed studies
AUTHOR(S): UNGUREANU SOFIA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement:
Purpose of study: This paper aims at highlighting the crucial role of leadership styles in the academic environment by identifying differences between the averages of two groups of students: one group, domain of economic studies, and a second group of studies pertaining to the social-human studies.

Research Methods: Method: in elaborating the research, 87 participants were involved, 76 women and 11 men, aged 20-26 years (77 participants) and 26-30 years (10 participants). The instrument used was the questionnaire "Profile of the 21st century leader ", containing the factors: orientation towards reflection, society, diversity, ingenuity, people and business.

Findings: analyzing the data obtained, it was found that students in the economic field are more significantly oriented towards "the business leadership zone" than students from social-human studies are. Regarding leadership oriented towards reflection, diversity, ingenuity and people, it were not reported significant statistically differences between the averages of two groups.

Conclusions: Conclusion: on the two samples concerned, there are no notable differences in statistical terms by scores of student leadership practices.

Keywords: leadership, practice, economic, social-human studies
Title: The effects of the growth environment on the adolescents’ self-esteem, general intelligence and emotional intelligence

AUTHOR(S): STOMFF MIHAELA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: This paper aims to investigate the level of self-esteem, of general intelligence and emotional intelligence of adolescents raised in foster care, compared with a group of adolescents raised in normal family environments. According to most of the studies, the lack of family environments, together with the negative characteristics of child placement centers prevent the normal development of teenagers, thus having serious repercussions on them throughout their life.

Purpose of study: The objective of this paper is to reveal the differences between the two groups of adolescents, in order to find out if there are any disadvantages for those subjects raised in foster care.

Research Methods: The participants for this research were 70 adolescents: 35 adolescents chosen from regular families and 35 teenagers who were raised in foster care institution. The age of subjects was between 16 to 19 years old. Instruments: In order to test a difference between the two groups there were used three tests: The Rosenberg scale for self-esteem determination and the I3 test for emotional intelligence and general intelligence.

Findings: The results are showing differences between the two categories: adolescents raised in a normal family environment had higher marks at self-esteem, general and emotional evaluations. The research has revealed that those who are raised in foster care have lower rates of self-esteem, emotional and general intelligence. For testing the measures it was applied the t test for independent samples.

Conclusions: As expected, we’ve obtained positive significant differences between the two samples. From a psychological point of view, the adolescents who were raised in a normal family, have a positive attitude for themselves, great expectations for life, they are assuming risks and want to become better and better in what they do. Those raised in families are more sociable, they do not make comparisons between themselves and others being sure of the success of their actions and also being capable to reconsider a strategy in case of failure.

Keywords: adolescents, foster care, normal family environment, self-esteem, intelligence
Title: The effects of teachers' attitudes on anxiety and academic performances

AUTHOR(S): STOMFF MIHAELA

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: This paper is meant to show the anxiety effects on school activity. There were a number of 80 students that were involved in this research. The procedure aimed to identify students under anxiety effects, highlighting the influence of anxiety on students and how it affects their performance. The main hypothesis of this study is that if the anxiety level increases, than the school results are lower.

Purpose of study: One of the main objectives of this study is to measure the level of anxiety of the students and to compare this level with their performance in order to establish a possible link between this to variables. Another target is to reveal a link between teachers attitudes and the level of anxiety at school students.

Research Methods: For this research there were recruited 80 students from a high-school located in Bucharest, 30 boys and 50 girls. Their ages were between 15 and 18 years old and they agreed to participate at this study voluntary. The mean age for this subjects was 17 years old. Instruments: The State Trait Anxiety Inventory, The Questionnaire for teachers attitudes, and the register marks were measures considered in this research. For testing the hypothesis we computed the data using the SPSS software. After collecting the measures it was performed a testing using a Pearson Correlation Test (applied after normality of the values was proved) and a T test procedure for independent samples.

Findings: The positive and significant correlations between the variable "Anxiety" and the "Threatening attitudes" are shown by the value of \( r=0.632 \). The value of \( r=0.051 \) shows a not significant correlation in the case of "Non-Threatening attitudes". After applying this procedure we proceed to test the two formed samples means. The results for this procedure are showing a difference between the two samples, difference that shows those with high scores at anxiety have lower academic performances in opposition with those with lower anxiety. (m=9.75 >7.65, t=8.93)

Conclusions: As expected, the anxiety in the educational environment is generated by the teachers' attitude. (Pintilie, M., 2002). The perceived threatening attitudes are generating frustration and very high anxiety. The educational anxiety is a result of the cognitive capacity and the requirements, all this strongly marked by the teachers attitude. This attitude gives the student the feeling of being backward and ineffective which amplifies the anxiety and also creates the premises for depression.

Keywords: school anxiety teachers' attitudes, school performance
Title: Social context differences in aggressive behaviour perception at the police officers working at the office comparing with the police officers working on field

AUTHOR(S): ANITEI MIHAI, BIRAU MIHAELA, BURTAVERDE VLAD, MIHAILA TEODOR

Extended Abstract

Problem statement: Perception of aggressive behavior is a subjectively process depending on the social context, family climate, workplace climate and many other variables.

Purpose of study: The study is focused on highlighting possible differences between police officers who work in the office and those who work in the field, in terms of aggressive behavior perception.

Research Methods: For the experiment were chosen two samples of 30 subjects both male and female police officers, age ranged from 25-50 years (M = 34.7; S.D.=5.6). The first sample was represented by 30 subjects working in the office, and the second sample was composed of 30 officers carrying out their field work. The instrument: "Aggression Questionnaire "(Birau, 2013) composed from a total of 24 items that measure the aggressiveness of a lot of subjects. Crombach Alpha coefficient for the first dimension of communication is 0.778. For the two is 0.793, for the third and final dimension is 0.856 is 0.865.

Experimental design: The dependent variable in this study is the self-perceived aggression, and the independent variable is the context of work in this institution, office and field work.

Findings: Results highlights that self-perceived aggression is not statistically significant different at the police officers from office comparative with the police officers from field work context (m1=40.73<42.60; p>0.05).

Conclusions: This study shows that working in a social context as police officers work, being exposed to aggressive stimuli there is no statistically difference between office and field place of work as long as they have the same social context: police environment.

Keywords: self perception of aggressive behavior, social context, aggressive stimuli.
Title: Differences in multiple response stimuli at two eyes comparative with one eye executive task samples- a pilot study

AUTHOR(S): MIHAELA CHRAIF, DANUȚĂ CRISTINA-DANIELA, BURTAVERDE VLAD, MIHĂILĂ TEODOR

Extended Abstract

Problem statement:
Purpose of study: The impact of visual perception in one eye covered sample comparative with two eyes sample in reactivity to multiple stimuli

Research Methods: The participants were 66 undergraduate students at psychology (25 male and 41 female), aged between 20 and 26 years old, students at psychology, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, University from Bucharest. Instruments: DT test measuring the reactivity to multiple stimuli (Vienna Tests System, 2012). Experimental Design: We used one experimental group covering the left eye with a scarf specially made for the experiment. The second group it was the control group. The dependent variable are: number of correct reactions to stimuli, number of incorrect reactions to stimuli and the number of omitted reactions to stimuli.

Findings: For participants from the control group reaction time to stimuli is less complex than in people who have functional one eye, completing statistically significant more reactions correctly compared to those with monocular vision (t = 2.988, p <.05). Regarding the number of omissions (t = 0.031, p> 0.05) and making incorrect (t = 1.136, p> 0.05) both groups recorded scores of statistically differentiated.

Conclusions: Regarding cognitive acquisitions found that people with both eyes functional discriminate colors and sounds statistically significant better (p<0.05) than those with monocular vision.

It also notes a complex ability to recall their relevant characteristics of stimulus configuration and select the relevant answer according to the rules in the training or learned during the test.

Keywords: reactivity to multiple stimuli, reaction time to visual stimuli, reaction time to auditive stimuli.
Title: Differences in perception of work related stressor, physical and mental health at a beauty company comparative with a design, consultancy and management in transport infrastructure company

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Extended Abstract

Purpose of study: To show possible differences in perception of work related stressor, physical and mental health in different work context: at a beauty company comparative with a design, consultancy and management in transport infrastructure company

Research Methods: The study involve two Romanian companies, service providers, in Bucharest. They were in total of 60 participants (a sample of 30 participants from each organization in part), 38 of them were women and 22 men (M = 40.86, SD = 11.58), aged between 22-65 years. Regarding their education at the company specialized in consultancy and management in transport infrastructure company prevailed with the university and post-graduate, and the company specialized in beauty treatments and hair styling, those were with secondary education. The instrument: CAPES (Aniţei & Chraif, 2008).

Findings: it appears that hypothesis 1 which implies that statistically significant differences on autoperception of stressors at work between the two organizations is not confirmed because there is not a statistically significant difference (t =-.37, p >.05).

On the hypothesys number 2 which implies a significant difference between the physical health of people in the two organizations, it appears that even this hypothesis is not confirmed because there are no statistically significant differences regarding the physical health between the two organizations (t = 1.9, p> .05).

3rd hypothesis shows that there are no statistically significant between the mental health between the two organizations (t = -.77, p > .05).

Conclusions: It was assumed that, depending on the scope of work that each company has it, there will be significant differences statistically in terms of self-perception of stressors at work between the two organizations specialized on beauty services and the second one specialized on design, consultancy and management in transport infrastructure company. The data demonstrated that the employees of both companies show the same perception about the stressors, something we always demonstrates that the human body reacts to everything that is foreign or disturb its normal operation optimal parameters and routine activities, regardless of the intensity or type stimulus. Regarding the self-perception of physical health, it started from the premise that there are statistically significant differences between the two organizations, because it took into account the type of activity carried out by employees of each organization individually, some just out office work and possibly some for business travel. Statistically processed data have demonstrated, that, regardless of the activity in the workplace, employees will be impacted, most often on the negative work done in physical health.

Keywords: physical health, mental health, autoperception of stressors.