

COMPARISON OF THE OPINIONS OF THE GRADUATE STUDENTS IN KAZAKHSTAN ABOUT THEIR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COMPETENCIES

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Abstract

The purpose of the current study is to compare the opinions of graduate students continuing their graduate studies in Kazakhstan about their scientific research competencies. As the present study aims to compare the graduate students' existing scientific research competencies, it was designed as a descriptive study in the survey model. Survey models are research approaches aiming to describe any state having existed in the past or still existing at present as it was or is.

The study group of the current research consists of graduate students randomly selected from among the students continuing their graduate studies in the fields of educational sciences and subject area education at the universities of Avrasya University, Abay University, Pavlodar State University and Ahmet Yesevi University in Kazakhstan.

In the current study, as the data collection tool, The Scientific Research Competency Scale developed by Lyazzat Beisenbayeva was used. The reliability and validity studies of the scale were conducted ($\alpha=0.958$). The findings of the study revealed that no gender-based significant difference was found among the opinions stated about the sub-dimensions and the whole of the scale. Depending on the students' graduate education level, a significant difference was found in the opinions stated about the sub-dimensions of measuring tool and data analysis in favor of the master's students.

Keywords: Graduate Students, Kazakhstan, Scientific Research.