

INCORPORATING EPOSTL (EUROPEAN PORTFOLIO FOR STUDENT TEACHERS OF LANGUAGES) INTO METHODOLOGY COURSE

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ABSTRACT

This study tries to determine the pre-service teachers' views on the role of the EPOSTL (European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages) in increasing the effectiveness of Methodology course. Methodology course is crucial at English Language Teaching Departments as its main goal is to fill the gap between theory and practice. However, it is arguable that it is successful in filling this gap. Therefore, a way- the EPOSTL that could help improve the course was suggested by determining the views of the student teachers in this study. In order to determine these views, firstly a pilot study in which the EPOSTL was used was carried out in Methodology course for 16 weeks. After the pilot study, semi-structured interviews were conducted with 8 student teachers. The qualitative data gathered from the interviews were analyzed by using content analysis. The results showed that student teachers had positive attitudes towards using the EPOSTL in the Methodology course. The student teachers believed that the EPOSTL increased the effectiveness of this course as it provided more feedback, self-assessment and reflection. And Methodology course with the EPOSTL was much closer to filling the gap between theory and practice.

Key Words: EPOSTL, Methodology courses, pre-service teacher education, English Language Teaching, student teachers.