

## ACADEMIC ESSAY WRITING IN TURKISH HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM: CRITICAL THINKING OR READY MADE STRUCTURE?

Onur ŞARAPLI  
Merter –İstanbul  
TURKEY

### ABSTRACT

This study analyses the causes and the fundamental problems students in Turkey face when producing scientific research papers focusing on measurement and assessment methods, curriculum design, English language and academic writing skills of students. The study is based on a questionnaire consisting of 12 questions prepared in 2012. It was designed to measure the general research skills of 100 undergraduate students from different programs at one of the universities in Turkey. Results showed that academic essay writing is as difficult to university students as it is to academics. The researcher believes that this study can emphasize why academic writing is an issue for scholars and university students in Turkey.

**Key Words:** Research methods, curriculum design, measurement and assessment methods.