Multiple Intelligences and Their Relationship to Attitudes towards Specialization among a Sample of Dammam’s University Students, Saudi Arabia

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Abstract

This study aimed to identify the multiple intelligences and their relationship to specialization among a sample of university students from the University of Dammam, Saudi Arabia. To achieve the objectives of the study the researcher used two instruments, namely, the Scale of Attitude Towards Scholastic Specialization (Salama & Twaijri, 1997) and the Checklist of Multiple Intelligences (McKenzie, 1999), that was translated into Arabic by Abdul Kader & Abu Hashim (2007). The sample consisted of (181) students at the University of Dammam in Saudi Arabia. The study used the descriptive correlational methodology. The results of the study showed the followings: The intelligences of the students in the sample were congruent with their specializations and that the intelligences were ranked as follows: Natural Intelligence, Personal Intelligence, Social Intelligence, Kinesthetic Intelligence, Logical Intelligence, and Musical Intelligence, consequently. The study also showed that the students had a high level of positive attitude towards their specializations and an intermediate level of negative attitude towards them. The result further revealed that there was a positive significant correlation between students’ scores on the dimensions of The Multiple Intelligences Checklist and their scores on the Attitude towards Scholastic Specialization Scale. On the other hand, there was no correlation between students’ scores on the dimensions of Multiple Intelligences Checklist and their scores on the Negative Attitude towards Specialization Scale, except for the dimension of Linguistic Intelligence. The study recommended that it was important to explore the attitudes of students in the general education, and especially focus on the orientation programs for university students to explore their attitudes and find out how much they were congruent with their intelligences.