

15.9.2025

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Title

An investigation of student teachers' knowledge about their own learning

Publication year

2003

Source/Footnote

In: Higher education. - 45 (2003) 1, S. 109 - 125

Inventory number

15879

Keywords

Ausland : Australien : Schule ; Studentische Hilfskräfte

Abstract

Twenty-nine student teachers from a large metropolitan university in Queensland, Australia were interviewed at the beginning (Time 1) and end (Time 2) of a year-long graduate diploma in education to investigate the nature of their knowledge about learning and changes in such knowledge over the year. At Time 1 and Time 2 most students thought learning should be meaningful and preferred to use transformative learning approaches. However, students indicated a willingness to engage in reproductive approaches to learning if the content to be learned was uninteresting, workloads were high, or assessment was examination-focussed. The results also indicated that while many students did not experience significant changes in their knowledge about learning over the year, they believed that transformative learning had become more of a focus for them. Investigating student teachers' knowledge about learning has implications for effective learning in teacher education programs. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)