

INNOVATIVE METHODS IN MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT BOOK



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NARVA KOLLEDŽ

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VERA KHOTINETS, DrSc

Multicultural Competency of High School Students and its Development through the Project and Research Activity

Udmurt University, Russia

In Russia multicultural education is based on cultural values of each personality, each ethnic group and is realized as a dialogue of cultures in education. A three-component model serves as the fundamental for designing the content in Russia's multicultural education system. The core of ethnic education is considered to be an ethnic component that is oriented to study own ethnic culture. An interethnic component encourages a personality development in Russia's culture within interethnic cultural and educational environment. A multiethnic component promotes globalization of education that is aimed to acquire human values through the global educational space.

One of the technologies is suggested as an example of the implementation of intercultural education. The research is aimed to study the development of the intercultural competency of high school students from different ethnic backgrounds through project and research work. The intercultural competence was developed through teaching with chunks of special techniques and methods of autonomous learning that is problem-solving tasks, projects, research activities and group work. They appear to create active learning.

As a result the elements of intercultural competency were formed and identified through the development of tolerant conscience, positive ethnic identity, system of values, models of intercultural behaviour and intercultural communications: co-operation, co-action, and friendliness in interactions. Furthermore, it was observed that the students demonstrated an extensive reach in educational activity via the willingness to learn more about multicultural world, a desire to personal and social fulfilment, forming a socially responsible behaviour, a wider range of socially significant activities in a certain ethnocultural environment.