

ABSTRACT

This master's thesis is concerned with biology teaching in alternative schools providing upper secondary education in the Czech Republic. Its aim is to describe and compare the teaching of biology at selected alternative secondary schools based on three case studies. The selected schools are Gymnázium Na Zatlance with alternative programme ALT, Gymnázium Přírodní škola and Waldorfské lyceum Praha.

The chosen strategy of the performed qualitative research was a cross-case study, data were obtained by direct observation of the lessons, individual interviews with teachers, group interviews with pupils and document analysis.

The concept of biology teaching in selected schools is elaborately analysed, including the description of specific lessons. In addition, the ideological basis, the organisation and evaluation in each school is analysed too.

Comparison of selected schools identified common characteristic features such as emphasis on personal development of pupils, non-traditional teaching organisation, evaluation without school grades, frequent excursions, respecting approach towards pupils and deviation from systematics in biology teaching.

The thesis provides a deep insight into biology teaching in alternative secondary schools, which is an under-represented area of the Czech education system. Moreover, this thesis could also serve as a source of inspiration for the pedagogical public.