

Dissertation marking and feedback sheet

Programme: Erasmus Mundus MA/Mgr. in Special and Inclusive Education

Module: Dissertation

Module code: ERM030L003S

Student Name: Diana Oliveros Martín

Student Number:

viva 11.12.2023

1st Marker's name: Dr. Jana Stará. PhD.

2nd marker. Doc. PhDr. Jan Šiška, PhD

Use (i.e. exploration and discussion) of literature/evidence

Diana uses the relevant literature. She approves the orientation in the topic area; though it is sometimes difficult to follow the text (because of rather complicated construction). Diana uses the relevant sources and applied them in an original design of the review of literature. The references and quoting are well documented; self-originated work is clearly separated from other people's work.

Design of project– research question or hypothesis, and methodology

The design of the project is challenging and original. However, it brought some problems when dealing with it. To develop a questionnaire for purpose of the study was a very challenging task. Diana suggested a blueprint with variables and corresponding items (appendix 2) and reformulated the items few times during the expert and peer reviews and piloting the tool (it should be more described in the text). The questionnaire was translated in Czech and it is probable that the understanding of some concepts and issues of the author and the respondents would differ. Diana, as a person with different mother tongue and living and studying in a different environment, cannot detect it. This situation means that qualitative research should play an important role in dealing with the research question. However, Diana was not able to get voluntaries for the interviews from *Teaching at primary school* students.). The interview with one student of a different teaching program (and proper parts of the conclusions where Diana compare the quantitative and qualitative data) are irrelevant (Students of these two study programs have different teachers, different subjects.). Due to that fact the data are not so worthwhile as they could be.

The sample description contains a mistake- *Teaching at primary school* program is a five - years master program (not 3 years bachelor + 2 years master as is written on pages 28 and 29).

Data analysis and Presentation

The author approves her understanding during the data interpretations. Even I am

sceptical about possibility to generalise the results of this research, Diana approved the knowledge and skills to analyse the data. Her work can be inspiring for other students who would continue on searching inclusive and democratic practices at universities and their mutual connections and developing the methodology that can be used when dealing with this research task.

Structure, communication, and presentation

Diana focuses on the role of faculties of education in developing teacher students' attitudes to inclusivity. The goals of the dissertation are quite ambitious but actual and challenging. The formulations where Diana defines the dissertation task are complicated and difficult to follow. Nevertheless when reading carefully, it is visible that she understands the issue and connected phenomena well.

Also in other parts of her dissertation, the advanced organizers and the summary of results would help to better orientation in the text.

The author has worked autonomously; even she consulted individual parts of the dissertation during the process of writing with me and with her peer colleagues.

Overall comments (including any areas for further improvement):

A very good performance where the candidate demonstrates sound judgment and a very good degree of independent thinking.

Topics for author to be discussed during the advocacy:

1. What are the main challenges for improving democratic environment at the study program *Teaching at primary school* at Faculty of education, Charles University in Prague? How they could relate to students' conceptions of inclusivity?
2. What do you recommend for future students of Erasmus Mundus program – how they can attach participants for interviews?

2nd Marker's Name:

2nd Marker's Comments:

The literature review is coherent and comprehensive. Diana uses up to date literature. Diana in the literature review shows understanding of the key concepts. Her own insights are there. Analyses around themes are relatively identifies and organised. There are several conceptual categories which would need deeper synthesis mainly access to education, participation, tertiary education, teacher education.

In introductory chapter Diana claims that "researching the phenomenon may contribute to the development of concrete strategies and programme arrangements..." (s. 7) What strategies and programme arrangements would you identify?

Methods used in the project are appropriate. The choice is justified. Diana used them in correct and creative way. Mixed method was applied. Identification of strengths and weaknesses or advantages/disadvantages is not fully described.

The project itself is original same as the data analyses. The analysis appropriate and

thorough. It produces rich data and presents data rather clearly. (The pictures are named as scatter plot, table, diagram. Diagram No. 5 is?)

The conclusion provides a good summary of the results. There are some interesting conclusions such as "it is not enough to give student teachers the right to vote their rep..."

What is meant here? How is it linked to the main theme of the study?

To some extent it explains what has been accomplished. However limitations of the research methods are not fully discussed. It does state its contribution but in rather short way. This part should profit from better link to introduction.

The project itself is original same as the data analyses. The analysis appropriate and thorough. It produces rich data and presents data rather clearly. (The pictures are named as scatter plot, table, diagram. Diagram No. 5 is?)

Overall comments (including any areas for further improvement):

Well done. Original and creative piece of research. It does have some applicability.

Please briefly consider education as a human right and your findings. What does it demonstrate?

What are weaknesses of your methods?

AGREED MARK:

(All Grades are provisional and Subject to Confirmation by the Board of Examiners and by Senate)

excellent