The diploma thesis “Current issues in adult education in the helping professions" deals with present possibilities of life-long education of a helping professional. In the theoretical part it focuses on the general terminology and specifies the terms that characterise the helping professions. It introduces the issue of competencies, which, at the present time, have become output categories in the educational process. The thesis describes individual phases of a professional career and educational opportunities which are connected with the different phases. The theoretical part is linked to qualitative research focused on personal experience of helping professionals with education.