Study program: Leadership in Education

Type and level of studies: Master studies, second cycle degree program

Course unit: Educational systems in comparative perspective

Teacher in charge: Jelena Teodorovic, PhD, associate professor

Language of instruction: English

ECTS credits and course status: 6 ECTS, elective

Prerequisite: /

Semester: Summer semester (II)

Course unit objective: Acquiring knowledge about governance, finance, effectiveness (quality) and equity policies in various educational systems in the world. Examination and analysis of interrelatedness between efficiency, effectiveness and equity in education. Application of acquired knowledge in analytical and critical examination of policies and practices in educational system in Serbia.

Learning outcomes of course unit: Students will be able to: identify and understand contemporary trends in educational systems around the world; identify different governance and finance models in education, as well as policies regarding efficiency, quality and equity in education; connect different aspects of education; apply holistic way of thinking about the educational system; analytically and critically think about policies and practicies in education.

Content of the course: (1) Theoretical basis of comparative education. (2) Formal organization of education in various countries. (3) Structure of control and finance. Models of governance of educational systems. Models of financing of educational systems. Consequences of certain financial decisions on equity and quality of education. Per capita financing as an example. (4) Equity in education. Contribution of early childhood education and care, educational homogeneity, financing and accessibility policies to (in)equalities in education. (5) Quality of education I. Initial training, induction and further professional development of teachers. Supply of and demand for teachers. Working conditions and salaries. (6) Quality of education II. Development and quality of curriculum. Control, formulation and content of curriculum. (7) Quality assurance system. Forms and functions of national exams. Self-assessment, external evaluation and school inspection. Teacher accountability. Consequences of quality assurance system on quality and equity in education. (8) Outcomes of educational systems. International testing (TIMSS, PISA, PIAAC), indicators and studies.

Literature

(1) Barber, M., & Mourshed, M. (2007). How the world's best-performing school systems come out on top. New York, NY: McKinsey & Company. (2) Eurydice. (2001). Deset godina reformi obrazovanja u evropskim zemljama. Beograd: Ministarstvo prosvete i sporta Republike Srbije. [Ten years of reform in European countries] (3) ОЕЦД (2010). Наставници су битни: како привући, усавршавати и задржати ефикасне наставнике. Београд: Завод за уџбенике и наставна средства. [Teachers matter] (4) Spasenović, V. (2013.) Školski sistemi iz komparativne perspektive. Beograd: Institut za pedagogiju i andragogiju Filozofskog fakulteta Univerziteta u Beogradu. [School systems from comparative perspective] (5) Stanković, D. (2010). Upravljanje sistemom obrazovanja: Međunarodni trendovi i glavne teme. Zbornik Instituta za pedagoška istraživanja, 42(1), 42-55. [Governing educational systems: International trends and main topics]

Web and video resources

OECD: http://gpseducation.oecd.org; Pearson Foundation: Strong performers and successful reformers in education. [films]; World Bank: http://saber.worldbank.org

Lectures: 30 Practice: 30 Independent work: 15

Teaching methods: Lectures. Discussion and critical analyses of texts and video clips. Individual and group student work, presentations, using online resources for country comparisons.

Assessment of knowledge (maximum nubmer of points is 100)

Pre-final obligation	points	Final exam	points
Activity during lesson	10	Written exam	45
Presentation	30		
Homework assignment	15		

Grading system			
Grade	Number of points	Description	
10	91-100	Excellent	
9	81-90	Exceptionally good	
8	71-80	Very good	
7	61-70	Good	
6	51-60	Passing	
5	≤50	Failing	