

# THESIS STATEMENT

by **Dr. Ekaterina Georgieva Cherneva –**

**Associate Professor in the Preschool Pedagogy Department**

**at the Faculty of Pedagogy**

**of PU „Paisii Hilendarski“**

for awarding the educational and scientific degree „doctor“

by: field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences

professional direction 1.3. Teaching Pedagogy in...

doctoral program Teaching methodology in Bulgarian language and literature

**Author: Natalia Ivanova Matseva**

**Topic:** „Development of the key competence „Study skills“ when working with text in Bulgarian language education (5th - 7th grade)“

**Research supervisor:** Ass. Prof. Dr. Fani Evgenieva Boykova, Faculty of Philology of PU „Paisii Hilendarski“

## **1. General presentation of the procedure and the doctoral student**

By Order No. P-21-541. from 15.03.2023 from the Rector of the Plovdiv University „Paisii Hilendarski“ I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury for a provision of a procedure for a thesis defence on the topic: „Development of the key competence „Study skills“ when working with text in Bulgarian language education (5th - 7th grade)“ for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree „doctor“ in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1.3. Teaching Pedagogy in..., doctoral program Teaching methodology in Bulgarian language and literature. The author of the thesis is Natalia Ivanova Matseva - a doctoral student in (full-time/part-time/independent training) at the department „Bulgarian literature and theory of literature“ with scientific supervisor Assoc. Ph.D. Fani Evgenieva Boykova from the Faculty of Philology of PU „Paisii Hilendarski“.

The set of paper materials presented by Natalia Ivanova Matseva is in accordance with Article 36 (1) of the Regulation for the Development of the Academic Staff of PU and includes the following documents: a request to the Rector of PU to open the procedure for the thesis

defense; a CV in European format; a protocol from the departmental council related to reporting the readiness to open the procedure and to a preliminary discussion of the thesis; a dissertational work; a summary; a list of scientific publications on the topic of the thesis; a copy of the scientific publications; a list of noticed citations; a declaration of originality and authenticity of the attached documents; a reference of conformity with the specific requirements of the relevant faculty (only for doctoral students enrolled until 05/04/2018).

The doctoral student has attached 7 publications on the topic of the thesis.

Natalia Matseva completed her higher education at PU „Paisii Hilendarski“, majoring in Bulgarian and Russian, secondary school teacher, with a master’s degree. She has an additional master's degree in finance from Veliko Tarnovo University „St. Cyril and Methodius“. Currently, she is teaching Bulgarian language and literature at the Secondary School „St. Paisii Hilendarski“ in Plovdiv and has 14 years of experience in this direction.

## **2. Relevance of the topic**

The developed dissertational work is extremely relevant because it is based on the concept of the complex of competencies necessary for personal development, considered as a combination of knowledge, skills and attitudes, while at the same time the education in Bulgarian language and literature, aimed at specific results when working with the text, is brought to the fore.

## **3. Knowing the problem**

Doctoral student Natalia Matseva has made a competent analysis of the state of the problem, rounding out with grounded conclusions and a position on individual issues. This is verified by the adapted general concept regarding the ability to learn according to the teaching of Bulgarian in junior high school, focusing attention on working with text.

## **4. Research methodology**

The chosen research methodology allows achieving the set goal, and the tasks solved in the dissertational work receive an adequate answer. Among the methodological ideas, the selection of information, note-taking and presentation are particularly valuable, which directly correspond to the formation of the ability to read with understanding, and hence to the ability to learn, which is the main goal of the study.

The rich educational environment created implies a high degree of interactivity via the applied techniques: positive classroom; use of electronic resources; co-teaching; brain attack.

## **5. Characterization and evaluation of the dissertational work and contributions**

The proposed dissertational work „DEVELOPMENT OF THE KEY COMPETENCY „STUDY SKILLS“ WHEN WORKING WITH TEXT IN BULGARIAN LANGUAGE

EDUCATION (5TH - 7TH GRADE)“ is significant because it includes research on priority competencies in Bulgarian language education - working with text in Bulgarian language lessons with students from 5th to 7th grade. The process of research work is refracted through the lens of opportunities to develop a key skill, namely the skill of studying.

An indisputable contribution is the author's package, which includes the use of a variety of educational methods, approaches and teaching techniques, implying an active knowledge position and motivation of the students.

#### **6. Evaluation of the publications and personal contribution of the doctoral student**

On the topic of the scientific research, 7 (seven) articles have been published, which indicate the results of applied methodological options in the thesis and analyse the empirical data on the success of the educational process in the use of various means for the creation of a positive and supportive environment for developing the key competence „Study skills“ in teaching of Bulgarian language and literature.

#### **7. Summary**

The summary is made according to the requirements of the regulations for the acquisition of academic degrees of PU „Paisii Hilendarski“ and the Law regarding the Development of the Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria. It has a volume of 34 pages and reflects the main results achieved in the thesis.

#### **8. Recommendations for future use of dissertation contributions and results**

I advise Natalia Matseva to make the results of the scientific research available to a wider circle of teachers by publishing them as a monograph or a teaching aid.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Due to the above, I confidently give my *positive assessment* of the conducted research, presented in the dissertational work, the summary and the achieved results and contributions, and *I propose to the honourable scientific jury to award the educational and scientific degree „doctor“* to **Natalia Ivanova Matseva** in the field of higher education: 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1.3. Teaching pedagogy in ..., doctoral program Teaching methodology in Bulgarian language and literature.

24. 04. 2023

**Statement given by:** .....

(signature)

Ass. Prof. Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva