

Predictions and Attitudes towards Giftedness and Gifted Education

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ABSTRACT This study aims to determine the predictions and attitudes of teacher candidates studying in the education department towards the education of gifted children. Descriptive statistics with a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods were used in this study. The participants of the study consist of 245 university students. 20 of them studying in the Gifted Education Department and Primary School Education Department are also included for the applying of the semi-structured interview form. To collect the quantitative data, the "attitude scale towards gifted education" and semi-structured interview form developed by the researcher were used as data collection tools. Results show that teacher candidates have positive attitudes towards the education of gifted children. Most of the teacher candidates studying in the gifted education department have predicted the best part of working with gifted children as taking their cognitive behavior into consideration while a few of them have taken their affective and psychomotor behavior into consideration.