

initially foreseen that third year students would show more self-confidence given that they have more theoretical knowledge and experience. However, the analysis showed that it is actually the theoretical and practical knowledge of older students that allows for a more realistic insight into the complexity of individual tasks awaiting prospective preschool teachers. Furthermore, it is the acquired knowledge and skills that helped the students recognise and acknowledge their weak points and, consequently, made them more critical of themselves and of their qualifications for their future work. To summarize, we can say that the students who are sure of their career choice display greater self-confidence and self-assuredness in themselves and in their abilities. It is these students who experience joy of teaching and inclination towards their profession. In addition, they are motivated from within and therefore – in our opinion – are more ambitious.

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