

## **Authors and teachers perceptions of enrichment activities in the national education course textbooks for the secondary stage**

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### **Abstract**

The study aimed to examine the enrichment activities in the national education course text books for the secondary stage from the viewpoint of the authors in the National Centre for the Development of Educational Curricula and teachers in the schools of the city of Damascus.

The sample consisted of (49) teachers, which represents the whole population in Damascus (89 teachers in total) and (11) authors of social studies at the National Centre for the Development of Educational Curricula. The study tool consisted of a questionnaire which includes four areas, each of which consists of five types of enrichment activities: Discussing, thinking, researching on the internet, adding to your information, and life attitudes. This tool was applied in 2013/2014 to answer the following questions:

- 1-To what extent the enrichment activities are included in the national education course textbooks for the secondary stage from the viewpoints of authors and teachers?
2. To what extent enrichment activities in the national education course textbooks for the secondary stage are highlighted from the viewpoints of authors and teachers?
3. To what extent the enrichment activities included in the national education course textbooks for the secondary stage are appropriate from the viewpoints of authors and teachers?

4. To what extent the enrichment activities included in the national education course textbooks for the secondary stage are related to the content of the material from the viewpoints of authors and teachers?

5. Is there any difference between the mean scores of the respondents on the four types of enrichment activities?

The study also attempted to find out if there were any significant statistical differences at the level of (0.05) between the mean scores of the authors of the material and that of the teachers with regard to the four categories of the questionnaire.

The findings of the study were as follows:

-The enrichment activities were clear, appropriate and related to the content of the material in the national education course textbooks from the standpoint of members of the two study groups, but to varying degrees, where the teachers believed that the extent to which the enrichment activities were realized were lower than what the authors demonstrated.

-There were significant statistical differences among the average scores of the study sample responses about the extent to which the five types of activities (discussing, thinking, research on the internet, adding to your information and life attitudes) were realized in regard to their enrichment, clarity and appropriateness for the class grade and its relation to the content of the written material of the National Education course. These differences were in favour of the authors who stated that these activities were realized with greater percentages than what the teachers thought.