

Academic Motivation in College Students from Romania, Hungary and Germany. A Cross-Cultural investigation

EDITH WAGNER¹

Abstract

Recent research points to the extreme importance of contextual and cultural factors in the process of motivation and cognition (Pintrich, 2003), thus indicating that individuals' motivational profile, as well as the functional relations of motivational constructs to other important outcomes like performance, achievement, might depend on their culture and ethnicity. Academic motivation research including participants from Romania, especially focusing on the Hungarian ethnic minority living in Romania is very scarce. The present paper proposed a contribution to this topic, by making an attempt to identify the specific motivational profile of ethnic Hungarian college students living in Romania, by comparing them with students from Hungary and Germany. The results show that there may be cultural differences in academic motivation components as well motivational regulation strategies between these groups. Directions for future research are also discussed.

Keywords

academic motivation, engagement, motivational regulation strategies, cultural, Romania