



Name: **Rada Jancic**  
Address: **Universitätsstr. 25, D-33615 Bielefeld; M7-101**  
Phone: **+49-521-1066060**  
E-mail: **rada.jancic@uni-bielefeld.de**

#### PhD Project:

##### **Capability-related subjective theories of primary school teachers**

Studies in teaching and learning in primary school classrooms are usually achievement-oriented. However, there has been a strong tradition of research on teacher thinking and studies on teachers' subjective theories constitute small part of that research corpus. Being characterized as relatively stable cognitions but also alterable through experience, often implicit, having argumentative structure and various functions (to constitute reality, explain past events, predict and generate suggestions) subjective theories are seen as important factors in shaping actions. Furthermore, considered to be part of the "hidden curriculum", they are regarded as important constituent of the teaching style, having great influence on pupils' school experience.

In my research I attempt to reconstruct subjective theories of primary school teachers about implications of teaching process on pupils' capability-formation. Theoretical framework is based on capability approach, as developed by Martha Nussbaum and Amartya Sen, and Paul Ricoeur's phenomenology of capable human being. Emphasis on the recognition of individuality of every human being, exercised in the form of capability to narrate and capability to act led to question:

What are subjective theories of primary school teachers about recognizing pupil as a capable human being in classroom context?

The study will be conducted in different primary schools in Serbia with four teachers (working with children aged 7 till 11). Reconstruction of teachers' subjective theories will be based on data collected by video-stimulated recall interviews. It is believed that video stimulated reflection can assist teachers to verbalize their thoughts and feelings. This research intends to help shed light on how teachers make sense of and act in every-day school environment providing with that the other perspective to classroom inquiry.

#### Curriculum Vitae:

##### Education:

10/2010 – 09/2013 PhD candidate at Bielefeld University, Research School Education and Capabilities  
1998 – 2003 Diploma studies at University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Education in Sombor (Serbia): Primary school teacher

##### Work experience:

03/2010 – 10/2010 International Relations Officer at Faculty of Education in Sombor, University of Novi Sad  
05/2007 – 02/2010 Teacher in Primary School "Ivo Lola Ribar" in Sombor  
08/2006 – 03/2007 Consultant at Faculty of Education in Sombor: writing developmental project proposal for teacher education

01/2005 – 06/2006 Coordinator at Serbian Teacher Education Development Programme (STEP) – supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Finland and under the auspice of Embassy of Finland in Belgrade

01/2003- 12/2004 Assistant to the teacher education specialist at Serbian Teacher Education Development Programme (STEP) – supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Finland and under the auspice of Embassy of Finland in Belgrade

## Publications and Presentations:

### *Forthcoming presentations:*

1. September 2011: 'Teachers' capability related subjective theories' - poster presentation at Human Development and Capability Association Conference (HDCA) in The Hague, The Netherlands
2. September 2011: 'Capabilities in primary school: education as a social elevator' – poster presentation at the Emerging Researchers' Conference of the European Conference on Educational Research (ECER) in Berlin, Germany

## Further Information:

[http://ekvv.uni-bielefeld.de/pers\\_publ/publ/PersonDetail.jsp?personId=21908008](http://ekvv.uni-bielefeld.de/pers_publ/publ/PersonDetail.jsp?personId=21908008)

### Research interests:

- Teacher thinking
- Teachers' subjective theories
- Stimulated recall in educational research
- Capabilities approach in education