

Psychology in Higher Secondary Education (ISCED 3) in Slovakia (I.)

Psychology as a part of compulsory subject „Social Studies“
(introduction, basic terminology)

Grammar Schools (gymnázium)

Social-psychological Training
(new compulsory subject according to new school law passed in 2008)

Psychology – seminar
(facultative/optional 1 or 2 years course)

	2003	2005	2007
Grammar Schools – number of students	100057	99758	99915
Number of students attending facultative psychology seminar	677 (0.68%)	775 (0.78%)	916 (0.92%)

Vocational Schools

Pedagogical & Social Academies

- compulsory 4 years programme in psychology

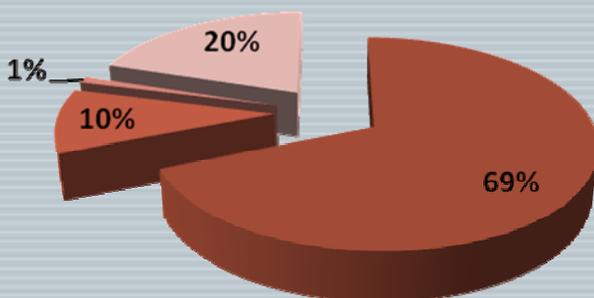
Medical Schools

- 1 or 2 compulsory courses in psychology

Business Academies and other vocational schools

- facultative/optional courses in applied psychology

What do students think about teaching psychology at secondary schools?
(research among 123 university students)



69% think , we need more psychology courses.

10% think that no changes are necessary.

1% of students think, we need no psychology.

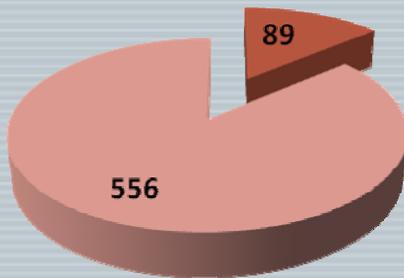
20% of students do not know.

The effort of some Slovak psychologists and teachers to establish compulsory psychology course in higher secondary education was not successful. According to new school law schools can teach more psychology only as an optional subject (they can implement new subjects in their „School Educational Programme“).

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Psychology teachers and their educational background

According to the official statistics from 2005 about 14% of psychology teachers do not have required qualification:



14 % of psychology teachers do not have required qualification.

86 % of psychology teachers have required qualification.

Psychology Teachers' Training

Psychology teachers have been trained at Comenius University (Faculty of Education) since 1993. We have about 15 to 25 graduates every academic year.

PROGRAMME

Bachelor's Degree – 3 years

general philosophy, pedagogy (teaching theory) and psychology disciplines

Master's Degree – 2 years

applied disciplines including **Didactics of psychology** (psychology teaching methodology) and **practice teaching**.

Psychology teachers' training programme is in the process of modernization. Our aim is to incorporate new legislation aspects, European context and new educational technologies into psychology teachers' training.