

Abstract

In recent years, autonomy in learning has been increasingly discussed among teachers, educators and researchers. Many people agree that learners who demonstrate a high level of autonomy in their learning are more likely to achieve success with their professional and academic goals; this is especially true in universities or colleges in western countries, where this suggestion is commonly confirmed. However, a complaint often heard about Chinese students studying in western universities is that they lack autonomy in their learning. This study examined whether Chinese postgraduate students studying in western countries are autonomous or not, and discusses the main factors which influence their levels of autonomy in learning. The study presents a descriptive, cross-sectional survey, by means of a questionnaire, which investigated the question in a sample of 141 Chinese postgraduate students studying in western countries. The data from the subjects was analysed with SPSS 19.0, and indicated that Chinese postgraduate students studying in western countries are as autonomous as their peers. This means that Chinese postgraduate students' learning experience has changed compared with the past, and this study found 3 main factors which have contributed to this change. This study might make a contribution to future studies on autonomy in learning among eastern students, and may help to improve learners' autonomy to some extent. It does, however, have some limitations.

批注 [A1]: Be careful to use the correct verb tense.

删除的内容: is

批注 [A2]: This sounds more academic.

删除的内容: have

删除的内容: being autonomyous...in their learning are ...

批注 [A3]: This more clear.

批注 [A4]: Watch out for words which look similar, but have very different meanings.

批注 [A5]: This makes more logical sense positioned here.

删除的内容: conformed

删除的内容: who studying in western universities are ...

批注 [A6]: The article – *the* – is needed here.

删除的内容: This ...he study creates ...

批注 [A8]: This makes more logical sense positioned here.

删除的内容: , research to ...

批注 [A9]: Verb tense – the past tense is needed here.

批注 [A10]: British English uses –*yse* or –*ise*, rather than American English –*yze* or –*ize*.

删除的内容: by means of a questionnaire... The data ...

删除的内容: . The result of this study ...

批注 [A12]: It is necessary to say who they are as autonomous as.

删除的内容: , which ...his means that in western ...

批注 [A14]: Verb tense.

批注 [A15]: This sounds more academic.

删除的内容: . andIn...this study,...it listed ...

删除的内容: general main factors have been ...

批注 [A16]: This was over-complicated.