

Primary and Secondary Education

Croatian transcript:

Nisko obrazovanje se odnosi na osnovnu školu, koja traje od djetetove šeste do četrnaeste godine. Srednje obrazovanje obuhvaća srednju školu, ona traje četiri godine, od petnaeste do devetnaeste, i dalje je visoko obrazovanje. U Hrvatskoj su i osnovno, a od prije tri-četiri godine i srednje obrazovanje obavezni. Osnovna škola uglavnom nudi ono nekakvo temeljno znanje, nema nikakvih podjela među učenicima. Tek kad se upisuju u srednje škole, učenici biraju zapravo u kojem će smjeru usmjeriti svoju budućnost, tako da postoji cijeli niz strukovnih škola i gimnazije. Gimnazije su uglavnom škole u kojima se, koje pohađaju učenici od kojih se očekuje da će jednog dana studirati. Gimnazije zasad funkcioniraju po principu da se učeniku pruži što je moguće šire nekakvo opće znanje i kultura, tako da većina programa uključuje čak sedamnaest predmeta i svi su obavezni. [To su] naprimjer, hrvatski jezik, naravno, zatim skoro sve prirodne znanosti; to su kemija, matematika, fizika, biologija itd. Obavezan je jedan, a ponekad su obavezna i dva jezika, likovna umjetnost, glazbena umjetnost, religijski odgoj – to mogu biti vjeronauka ili etika... Što još? Tjelesna i zdravstvena kultura, naravno, itd. Ima masu ovih... Ima puno predmeta koji dolaze tek kasnije tijekom školovanja, kao što su filozofija, psihologija, sociologija, logika i tako; područja koja znači nisu toliko raširena nit su smatrana da su potrebna učenicima tijekom cijele četiri godine.

English translation:

Primary education consists of primary school, which lasts from six to fourteen years of age. Secondary education consists of high school which lasts for four years, from fifteen to nineteen, and it is followed by higher education. In Croatia, both primary and, since three or four years ago, secondary education is obligatory. Primary school mostly teaches very basic knowledge, and there is no division of pupils. Students choose in which direction they will point their future only when they enroll in high schools, so there are a number of vocational schools and gymnasiums. Gymnasiums are mostly schools which are attended by students who are expected to go on and study [at a college or a university] in the future. Gymnasiums currently operate on the principle of offering their students the widest possible general knowledge and culture, so most programs include as many as seventeen courses, and they are all obligatory. [The courses are] for example, Croatian language, of course, all natural sciences – chemistry, mathematics, physics, biology, etc. At least one foreign language is obligatory, sometimes two. Fine arts, music, religious studies – either catechism or ethics... What else? Physical and health education, of course, etc. There are a lot of... There are a number of subjects which come only later during one's education, such as philosophy, psychology, sociology, logic, etc.; those areas which are not popular or considered as necessary for students to take during the entire four year period.

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