

**‘Specialization in ICTs and Special Education: Psychopedagogy of Integration’  
Postgraduate Program Studies  
DEMOKRITUS UNIVERSITY OF THRACE Department of Hellenic Philology  
in collaboration with  
NCSR DEMOKRITOS Informatics and Telecommunications Institute**

**INVESTIGATING THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL  
TEACHERS TO ADDRESS SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTIES**

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THESIS**

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# Abstract

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This study aims to explore the educational needs of secondary teachers in order to respond effectively to the needs of students experiencing Specific Learning Difficulties (SLD). The sample consisted of 103 secondary education teachers in General and Special Education, while the survey was conducted through a research questionnaire. The investigation process was carried out in the context of measuring teachers' self-efficacy in terms of knowledge and ability to address SLD and finding the reasons that make necessary their professional development (PD) in SLD, the ideal content and timing of their training, the ideal training methods and background of trainers' PD, as well as the desired duration of training in SLD. In addition, statistical differences in the demographic characteristics of the sample were examined for the aforementioned factors. The purpose of this investigation is to capture the causal relationships linking the educational needs and beliefs of secondary school teachers about SLD, using the onion model of Korthagen & Vasalos (2005) for their professional development .

*Keywords: specific learning difficulties, SLD, educational needs, self-efficacy, teacher, secondary education, onion model, professional development, PD*

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