

Katsutoshi Mizuhara / Professor / Graduate School of Education



Profile

<Education> 1974: MA, Tohoku University; 1989: PhD, Tohoku University, (*Establishment process of the modern Japanese teacher training*).

<Professional Experience> 1977: Researcher, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science; 1978: Assistant Professor, School of Education (Educational Content Course), Tohoku University; 1983: Lecturer, School of Education (Educational Content Course), Tohoku University; 1985: Associate Professor, School of Education (Educational Content Course), Tohoku University; 1992: Visiting Scholar, Beijing University and the Beijing Normal University; 1994: Professor, School of Education (Educational Content Course), Tohoku University; 2000: Professor, Graduate School of Education (Instruction and Learning Course), Tohoku University; 2006: Special Advisor to the President, Tohoku University; 2007: Vice-Dean, Graduate School of Education; 2008: Professor, Graduate School of Education (Curriculum Design and Assessment Course), Tohoku University.

<Awards> 2004: "Presidential Prize for Educational Excellence"; 2007: "Tohoku University Prize for the Encouragement of Gender Equality".

<Professional Societies> Japan Society for the Study of Education, Director; The Japanese Society for Curriculum Studies, Chief Director; The Japanese Society for the Study on Teacher Education, Director; Tohoku Society for the Study of Education, Chairman; National Association for the Study of Educational Methods, Director.

Research Activities

I published the following three books: *Identify myself – I create myself* (2001), *Identify myself – I cultivate myself* (2003), and *Identify myself III – expand my relationships* (2004). These works are the reports of my class by which I've received the "Presidential Prize for Educational Excellence" in 2004. This class was broadcasted by "Close-up Miyagi" of NHK (2002), and appeared in an academic journal of The Japan Society for the Study of Education (2006). More recently, I have challenged further to create a large class where students participate actively with teaching assistants. The challenge has been described in the book "*Thinking about the school is interesting*" (2006).

The purposes of my research are to find out effective methods to train excellent teachers, and to organize a school curriculum. To realize the purpose, I analyze the curriculum of elementary schools, junior high schools and high schools, and the teacher training university. As the result, I have published the following four books. *History of modern Japanese teacher training* (Kazama bookstore 1990), *Curriculum reform of present age in Japan* (1992 and Chinese 2005), *History of modern Japanese curriculum policy* (Kazama bookstore 1997), and, as a coauthor, *Curriculum in new age* (Yuhikaku 2005).



(1) The Class of "Identify Myself"



(2) The main publication books

Message

There are a lot of failures and frustrations in my younger days, for example about love and study. During my college days, I failed in the university examination and in love, therefore, I was driven in doing study and running marathons. Those years were also when I was absorbed in research and when I established my ability as a researcher.

My process of becoming a professor didn't go well. I couldn't find the meaning of life. So, I read a lot of books, and participated in the training camp of several groups. Although these were risky experiences (e.g. female relations), these enabled me to understand what human beings are.

It was when I was 29 years old that I could finally get out of such a dark tunnel, when my paper appeared in an academic journal. However, this was also the time when my anxiety as a researcher started. I was 40 years old when I finished writing my PhD thesis.

Anxiety in youth can only be overcome when you fight against yourself. I would like to recommend you to make full use of the experience and enjoy your valuable lives.