

The Discipline “Theory and Practice of Critical Thinking” as a Component of the Elective Module “Soft Skills”: Experience of Realization and Teaching Prospects

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Abstract: The paper considers the experience of realization of students’ individual educational trajectories in the structure of basic professional educational programs at Tambov State Technical University through the example of approbation of the discipline “Theory and practice of critical thinking” as part of the educational process. The analysis of existing concepts of the term “individual educational trajectory” on the basis of Article 34 of the Federal Law No. 273-FL “On education in the Russian Federation” is given. The model of the structure of basic professional educational programs of the university is presented. The approaches to the meaning of the term “Soft Skills” in the contemporary literature are revealed. The thematic content of the discipline “Theory and practice of critical thinking” allied with the key meta-subject skills formed by the elective module “Soft Skills” is shown. Such instruments of critical thinking as counterfactual and counterintuitive thinking are defined and outlined as promising directions for further teaching of the course.