



## **Effect of dissertation on Self-efficacy of agricultural graduates (Case study: Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zanjan)**

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To achieve knowledge based economy and national development, considering the role of intellectual capital is vital. Publication and graduates are two important of university outputs among which graduates are playing an important role in the upgrading intellectual capital of the society. The purpose of this descriptive-correlational study was to assess the impact of dissertation course on research self-efficacy of agricultural MSc. Graduates. Reliability of Research tool 'questionnaire' was obtained by calculating Cronbach alpha coefficient for before and after the dissertation writing indicators equal with 0.92 and 0.87 respectively. By using higher education expert's views, validity of research tool was verified. The population consisted of all 326 graduates of the year 2011 and 2012 from faculty of agriculture, university of Zanjan. 202 graduates were selected based on Krejcie and Morgan table and by using stratified random sampling method. The finding revealed that research self-efficacy of graduates have been significantly increased after dissertation writing and attending in MSc. courses have increased their ability in research area.

**Key Words:** Research self-efficacy, Agricultural MSc. graduates, University of Zanjan.