

**Abstract**

With a superior status of English in Hong Kong, the present study aimed at finding how students' academic self-concept in English was affected under such context. The relationship between students' general self-concept and academic self-concept in English, the effect of gender difference, age and the participation in private tuition on academic self-concept in English were examined. As result, a modest correlation ( $r = .40$ ) between general self-concept and academic self-concept in English was found.

Better academic self-concept in English might contribute to a higher general self-concept when English was associated with future success in Hong Kong. Nevertheless, no significant results were found to indicate the effect of gender difference and age. It was suggested the social context of Hong Kong and the premature development might take place to override such differences in students' academic self-concept in English. In addition, no effect was found with the receipt of private tuition on students' academic self-concept in English. In contrast, a main effect was found in the length of time in studying English. The insignificance of private tuition might be an insight for reviewing the current education system in Hong Kong.

*Keywords:* academic self-concept in English, general self-concept, gender difference, age, private tuition