

The Adult Learner: The Definitive Classic in Adult Education and Human Resource Development, 8th

By Malcolm S. Knowles, Elwood F. Holton III, & Richard A. Swanson. (2015), 402 pages, ISBN:978-0-415-73901-6. \$195

Subject: How to be a better teacher

Useful for: Useful for teachers who have already had some exposure to pedagogical theories and want a deeper understanding on concepts like self-directed learning and cognitive differences.

Format: Chapters with introductions, end-of-chapter summaries, and review questions.

Reviewer's Comments:

Roughly 70% of my family is/was employed by one educational institution or another. I grew up watching my mother grade papers and hearing my aunt talk about implementing Individualized Learning Plans. Since becoming a law librarian and shifting my sights to teaching legal research, I've dug into books like Teaching Law By Design and Tools for Teaching. However, neither of those books were quite as initially intimidating as The Adult Learner and its initial sentences, including "alternative to the methodology-centered instructional design perspective" (p.3). I gritted my teeth and prepared to slog through.

By chapter 3, the fear fell away. Simply put, andragogy is the study of adult learning. This contrasts with pedagogy, the study of how children learn, which often relies upon memorization and the student having a very dependent self-concept. The instructor is on a pedestal handing out knowledge, and the student must figure out "what the teacher wants."

Once I got through chapter 5, I couldn't stop talking with my coworkers about how we could try to inspire our students to be more self-directed learners. Self-directing is the core of andragogy, as adults tend to "resent and resist situations in which they feel others are imposing their will on them" (p. 44). In my experience, this can be particularly frustrating for law students, who are often also struggling because the pedagogical model with which they grew up with is likely failing them for the first time. Memorization and outlining is not enough; law school requires students to take initiative to understand the larger concepts and all their moving parts, with minimal to moderate direction from the professor.

The core concepts of andragogy are introduced in Part 1 of the book. Parts 2 and 3 are geared towards academics studying andragogy, and they trace andragogy's rise from other theories and thinkers of learning and teaching that you may remember from an intro psychology course—Skinner, Maslow, and John Dewey for example. If you are just looking for a practical introduction, I would skim the end-of-chapter summaries for these parts. Part 4 picks back up with more practical tools, including guidelines for using learning contracts mentioned earlier in the book and core competency diagnostics and planning guides. Part 5 shifts back to international and future theories of andragogy, which again, may be more useful for those seeking a master's degree in education. All in all, parts 1 and 4 are easy for the casual reader to focus on while skimming the rest of the book. Apparently, the book was heavily reorganized for this edition, and I wonder if it was precisely for this purpose.

Reviewed by: Savanna Nolan, Georgetown University, in 2018.

As leading authorities on adult education and training, Elwood Holton and Richard Swanson have revised this edition building on the work of the late Malcolm Knowles. Keeping to the practical format of the last edition, *The Adult Learner*, Sixth Edition is divided into three parts. Elwood F. "Ed" Holton holds an impressive record of accomplishments in adult and continuing education and human resource development. He is the founding editor of *Human Resource Development Review*, a past president of the Academy of Human Resource Development and author of over 200 publications, including academic and professional articles in HRD, performance improvement and psychology journals. Buy domain. The.adult. \$150,000. VAT 0% Learn more. \$0. Total. \$150,000. Buy now. "I love the human aspect involved in connecting buyers & sellers." Covered by our Buyer Protection Program. Learn more. Get this domain in less than 24 hours. Learn more. Safe payments by our payment processor Adyen. Learn more. ADULT LEARNER The Definitive Classic in Adult Education and Human Resource Development. Malcolm s. knowles - elwood f. holton III richard a. swanson. Amsterdam - Boston - Heidelberg - London - New York - Oxford - Paris - San Diego - San Francisco - Singapore - Sydney - Tokyo. Elsevier 30 Corporate Drive, 4th Floor Burlington, MA 01803, USA 525 B Street, Suite 1900, San Diego, California 92101-4495, USA 84 Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8RR, UK. - This book is printed on acid-free paper. We hope you will agree that we have only improved upon the very successful 5th edition. Each of the three parts of *The Adult Learner* have their own style. While the voices are varied, the messages are harmonious. The. xi. *The adult learner: The definitive classic in adult education and human resource development* (6th ed.). Burlington, MA: Elsevier Press. has been cited by the following article: TITLE: Validating a Research-Based Monograph for Teaching Post-Secondary EFL Reading Teachers the Meta-Cognitive Aspects of How to Teach Summarizing Strategies for Expository Text: Phase II of a Harvard Business School Type Case Study. AUTHORS: Wei Xu, James Carifio, Lorraine Dagostino. KEYWORDS: Instructional Materials Development Models; Metacognition; Metacognitive Knowledge; Bilingual and Bi-Cultural Instructional Con The adult learner : the definitive classic in adult education and human resource development. Item Preview. remove-circle. The adult learner : the definitive classic in adult education and human resource development. by. Knowles, Malcolm Shepherd, 1913