

PHI 800-12: Transformative Learning and Adult Education

Kory Cooper

Omega Graduate School

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Professor

Dr. Sara Reichard

**Source One:**

Author: K. Cercone Publication Year: 2018 16(2), 137-159. Characteristics of adult learners with implications for online learning design.

**Comment 1:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:**

Cercone believes that online courses should be designed in a way that follows adult learning principles to make learning more effective and meaningful. This means that educational designers should use theories about how adults learn when creating courses for the internet. The article explains how adult learners have unique characteristics that affect how they do in online courses. Cercone's analysis helps us understand the importance of designing online courses that meet the specific needs of adult learners.

**Essential Element:**

The article explores different aspects of adult education theory as they relate to online learning. Specifically, it discusses how adult learners' self-directedness affects their online learning experiences, the potential of online learning to facilitate transformative learning experiences, the need to cater to varying cognitive levels consistent with Bloom's taxonomy, and the importance of different instructional strategies that address all learners' varied intelligence profiles.

### **Additive/Variant Analysis:**

Cercone's work is valuable and additive because it adds to our understanding of adult learners in online education. It expands on traditional teaching principles for adults and applies them to digital learning, considering the unique characteristics of adult learners.

### **Contextualization:**

This article is important for people who want to make or improve online courses for grown-up learners. Cercone explains how to use adult education ideas in online courses, which is helpful for teachers, designers, and people who make e-learning. It's especially useful now that more and more people are learning online. Adult learners have different needs and likes, so it's important to use the right teaching methods.

### **Source Two:**

Title: Adult Learning: Linking Theory and Practice S. B. Merriam & L. L. Bierema

### **Comment 2:**

### **Quote/Paraphrase:**

The book by Merriam and Bierema is a helpful guide for teachers and trainers who want to use adult learning theories in their teaching. It covers many different theories like andragogy, self-directed learning, transformative learning, and experiential learning. The authors believe that good adult education should use a mix of theories to create a learning environment that considers

the learner's experience. They think that it's important to use both theory and practice when teaching

**Essential Element:**

The book directly addresses andragogy, illustrating the core principles of adult learning and their relevance to educational practice; it explores transformative learning theory by discussing the conditions under which transformative learning can occur in adults.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:**

Merriam and Bierema's work is a valuable addition in the field of adult learning theories. It analyzes a wide range of theories and sheds light on their practical application in educational practice. This book offers an up-to-date synopsis of the latest adult learning theories, highlighting newer ideas that have emerged in recent years.

**Contextualization:**

This book is a great resource for teachers, trainers, and designers of educational programs who want to better understand adult learning theories and how they apply in real life. It explores how modern technology and shifting population demographics impact adult education. The authors, Merriam and Bierema, emphasize the importance of self-reflection for educators, encouraging them to think carefully about both the content and methods of teaching to best serve adult students.

**Source Three:**

Title: Dialogue and Deliberation: New Directions for Adult and Continuing Education Author: J. M. Dirkx & L. R. Jha Publication Year: 2019 Source: New Directions for Adult and Continuing Education, 2019(161), 9-18.

**Comment 3:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:**

Dirkx and Jha's book looks closely at how conversation and discussion can really make a difference in adult education. They argue that these methods do more than just help adults learn new things; they also support personal development and encourage adults to take part in society. The authors believe that talking and discussing are key teaching tools that create the right setting for deep learning and active participation in democracy.

**Essential Element:**

This piece of writing relates to important aspects of adult education theory, especially transformative learning theory. It emphasizes the significance of dialogue as powerful tools that enable adults to question and revise their assumptions and beliefs.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:**

Dirkx and Jha's contribution is additive in its focus. Dirkx and Jha's work highlight the importance of discussing and considering different viewpoints in adult learning. They add to existing literature by emphasizing the significance of teaching methods in this area. Their work expands the scope of adult education theory to include a more active engagement with social and political life.

### **Contextualization:**

This publication is about using conversations and discussions as a central part of adult learning. It gives guidance to teachers and leaders on how to include these types of activities in educational programs. The publication also emphasizes the importance of adult education that focuses on in-depth learning, thinking carefully about different perspectives, and getting involved in civic activities. By doing so, adult learning can help individuals and communities to become stronger and more empowered.

### **Source Four:**

Title: Adults as Learners: Effective Teaching Strategies C. A. Hansman & V. W. Mott

Publication Year: 2020 Source: Adult Learning, 31(3), 104-114.

### **Comment 4:**

### **Quote/Paraphrase:**

In their article, Hansman and Mott offer valuable insights into adult education by examining various teaching strategies that can effectively engage adult learners. Throughout their discussion, the authors highlight the importance of context, experience, and reflection in the learning process, which emphasizes the differences between adult and traditional youth-focused education.

### **Essential Element:**

The approach emphasized in this statement is consistent with the principles of transformative learning theory, which emphasize the importance of reflective practices in fostering deeper and more meaningful learning experiences. Furthermore, the statement also incorporates concepts from educational taxonomies and multiple intelligence theory, suggesting that differentiated instructional strategies can be employed to accommodate the diverse ways in which adults learn and engage with new information.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:**

Hansman and Mott's work is additive to its approach that provides many ways to teach adults effectively. It focuses on the learner's independence and what they already know and encourages them to reflect on what they're learning. This guide is very useful for teachers who work with adult learners.

**Contextualization:**

The article provides great value to those who work with adult learners in various educational environments, such as classrooms, workshops, and corporate training. Hansman and Mott discuss contemporary theories and practical strategies that can help educators create impactful and engaging learning experiences for adults. By implementing these tools, adult education programs can improve their quality and make a greater impact on learners.

**Source Five:**

Title: The Handbook of Transformative Learning: Theory, Research, and Practice Author: E. W. Taylor & P. Cranton Publication Year: 2021 Source: Wiley

**Comment 5:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:**

Taylor and Cranton's handbook is useful for people who teach or study adult education. It focuses on how adults can learn in a way that changes their thinking and behavior in a deep way. The book brings together lots of different ideas and research from experts in the field and covers everything you need to know about transformative learning theory. In a nutshell, transformative learning is when adults reflect on their opinions and views and change them based on new experiences and information. This can lead to big changes in their lives and society.

**Essential Element:**

This text is important for people to understand transformative learning theory. It talks about the basic concepts and history of the theory and how it is used in different situations today. The theory is about how adults can learn and change in a big way, and this text explains how teachers can help with this by encouraging reflection, discussion, and critical thinking.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:**

Taylor and Cranton's work is additive to the literature on adult education by providing a comprehensive and up-to-date overview of transformative learning theory and practice. It varies from other sources by its contributions from multiple scholars, offering a wide range of perspectives and insights.



### **Contextualization:**

This handbook explains how transformative learning can help adult learners deal with the challenges they face today. It shows how transformative learning can help them think critically, understand themselves better, and take action, leading to more fair and equal education and societies. If you want to learn more about the philosophy and practice of transformative learning in adult education, this book is for you.

### **Source Six:**

Title: Fostering Transformative Learning in Higher Education Settings Author: C. Kasworm & T. A. Bowles Publication Year: 2019 Source: Journal of Transformative Education, 17(4), 311-329.

### **Comment 6:**

### **Quote/Paraphrase:**

The authors believe that colleges and universities play an important role in helping adults learn and grow in a meaningful way. They wrote an article that talks about how schools can create an environment that supports this kind of deep learning. They say that schools have a responsibility to help students become better people and to make the world a better place.

### **Essential Element:**

This piece of writing focuses on transformative learning theory and its significance in adult education. It emphasizes critical reflection and experiential learning as essential components of this theory and stresses the importance of learner-centered approaches in higher

education contexts. Furthermore, it examines the institutional framework that supports transformative learning experiences, bridging the gap between theory and practice.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:**

Kasworm and Bowles' research sheds light on the potential of higher education as a platform for transformative learning, a perspective that distinguishes their work from other scholarly literature. By honing in on the specific conditions and approaches that can facilitate transformative learning for adult learners within universities and colleges, their work offers valuable insights for educators and administrators.

**Contextualization:**

The article talks about how colleges and universities can promote transformative learning, which means changing people's perspectives and beliefs in a significant way. This kind of learning is important for students and society. The article argues that educators need to think differently about how they teach and how their institutions are structured to support adult learners on their transformative journeys. It's a must-read for anyone in higher education who wants to help create citizens who are thoughtful, critical, and engaged with the world around them.

**Source Seven:**

Title: Unsettling Adult and Continuing Education: The Fragmentation of a Field Author: T. S. Rocco & J. West Publication Year: 2020 Source: Stylus Publishing, LLC.

**Comment 7:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:**

Rocco and West argue that adult and continuing education is at a crossroads. There are many different focuses and methods in the field, which can make it hard to know where to focus. At the same time, there are external pressures that are making it even harder to navigate. If the field is to move forward effectively, it needs to take a unified approach that considers all its different parts. This means reflecting on what adult and continuing education is for and how it can best serve society. Only by doing this can we hope to overcome the challenges and complexities that the field currently faces.

**Essential Element:**

This book delves into the complex issues that adult education theory faces, specifically in terms of coherence and identity. Through Rocco and West's analysis, the book challenges fundamental theories of adult learning, such as andragogy and transformative learning theory, by questioning their effective integration and application in a field that is marked by diversity and fragmentation. As a result, this book offers a deeper understanding of the broader issues in adult education theory.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:**

The book "Unsettling Adult and Continuing Education" takes a stance in the discussion of adult education by tackling the problem of fragmentation head-on. Rather than following conventional methods, it offers a variant approach that urges professionals to critically evaluate the principles and practices of adult education.

**Contextualization:**

Rocco and West's research on adult education is significant for scholars, practitioners, and policymakers. Their analysis shows that a more integrated and effective approach is needed to address the challenges faced by adult learners. They emphasize the importance of adaptability, inclusivity, and coherence in meeting the diverse needs of adult learners in the 21st century.

**Source Eight:**

Title: Transformative Learning in Practice: Insights from Community, Workplace, and Higher Education Author: Jack Mezirow, Edward W. Taylor, and Associates Publication Year: 2019

**Comment 8:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:**

"Transformative Learning in Practice" is a book that explores how people can change their beliefs and assumptions through critical thinking. This book contains different perspectives and case studies on transformative learning in various settings. The 2019 edition is updated by Edward W. Taylor, who builds on previous work by Jack Mezirow. This book shows how transformative learning can be applied in practical ways, and how it can have a big impact on individuals and society. It is not just limited to classrooms but can happen in many different environments.

**Essential Element:**

This book offers important insights into transformative learning theory, showing how it can be applied not just in schools but in various real-world settings. It expands the concept of andragogy by demonstrating how adults grow and change through reflection in different aspects

of life and work. The details it provides on how to support transformative learning and improve these experiences are extremely useful for educators and practitioners.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:**

This work is additive as valuable real-world examples and research findings that support the practical use of transformative learning theory. It goes beyond Mezirow's original ideas by focusing on how these principles can be applied across different situations, showing how widely the theory can be used and its ability to bring about change.

**Contextualization:**

This book talks about how people can learn and change their ideas about the world through reflection and different learning experiences. It focuses on a theory called transformative learning, which means that people can transform the way they think and understand things. The book gives examples of how this theory can be used in different places, like communities, workplaces, and colleges. It also shows how it can help adults learn better in different situations. The book provides useful information for teachers and trainers who want to help people grow and change through education

**Source Nine:**

Title: Adult Education and Lifelong Learning: Theory and Practice Author: Peter Jarvis

Publication Year: 2020 Source: 5th Edition, Routledge

**Comment 9:**

**Quote/Paraphrase:**

Peter Jarvis is a well-known author who writes about adult education and lifelong learning. His latest book, the 5th edition, explores these topics with a fresh perspective that considers recent developments in the field. The book covers the foundational theories and practices of adult learning and new insights and challenges that have surfaced in this rapidly evolving landscape. Jarvis emphasizes that learning is a continuous process beyond formal education and plays an important role in human development, social participation, and personal fulfillment.

**Essential Element:**

Jarvis' book is essential as it provides a thorough examination of adult learning theories, such as andragogy, self-directed learning, and transformative learning. It delves into the relationships between individual learners, society, and education systems, providing a perspective of the factors that shape adult education and lifelong learning.

**Additive/Variant Analysis:**

This edition adds to the discourse on adult education but has new discussions about how technology affects learning, the global reach of education, and the social and political issues facing adult education today. It differs from earlier editions by updating the content to keep up with changes in the field, including new case studies.

**Contextualization:**

Jarvis's book is about how grown-ups can keep learning throughout their lives, and how that's important in today's world. The book talks about how technology and other big global issues affect our ability to learn, and how teachers, leaders, and researchers can help us keep

getting better at new things. The book is full of ideas for how to make learning work for different kinds of people and situations. It also shows why lifelong learning is so important for making a better society where everyone can participate.

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