

Study Guides  
in Adult Education

Paul Bélanger

## Theories in Adult Learning and Education

Barbara Budrich Publishers



**Paul Bélanger**

### **Theories in Adult Learning and Education**

Study Guides in Adult Education, vol. 2

2011. 106 pp. Pb. 12,90 € (D), 13,30 € (A), 19,90 SFr,

US\$19.95, GBP 12,95

ISBN 978-3-86649-362-9

**The graduate student guide in adult education explores theories of adult learning and adult education participation. It provides a frame of reference for understanding the development of a rapidly evolving field and for enhancing knowledge and competencies in this professional domain. The publication is divided into two sections: a section on adult learning theories and a section on adult education participation theories.**

If Adult Learning and Education (ALE) is now a recognized professional field, the theoretical perspectives, underlying practices and policies draw on a variety of academic disciplines. Various theories of learning and of adult education participation shape the practice and the “engineering” of adult learning. In the first

section, this study guide provides a review of the most important learning theories, including behaviourist, cognitive, and constructivist approaches, their modern development, as well as specific developments in adult education theory. The second section examines the psychological and sociological theoretical backgrounds of adult education participation in order to understand the factors at work in participation patterns along the adult life course and between different social contexts. Observing the relativity of social reproduction allows to identify the conditions and variables that need to be addressed in order to alter prevailing trends.

#### **From the Contents:**

##### **Part One: Adult Learning Theories**

2. Introduction to Adult Learning Theories
3. Three Main Learning Theories
4. Adult Learning-related Learning Theories
5. Learning Theories: Discussion

##### **Part Two: Theories of Adult Learning and Education Participation**

6. Introduction to Theories of Adult Learning and Education Participation
7. An Empirical Portrait of Adult Participation in Organised Adult Learning and Education (ALE) Activities
8. Analysis of ALE Participation
9. Conclusion on Participation Theories
10. General Conclusion

#### **The author:**

**Prof. Paul Bélanger,**

Education Faculty, director of the Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Lifelong Learning,  
Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada

Verlag **Barbara Budrich** – Stauffenbergstr. 7 – D-51379 Leverkusen-Opladen – Germany  
ph +49.2171.344.594 – fx +49.2171.344.693 – [info@budrich-verlag.de](mailto:info@budrich-verlag.de) – [www.budrich-verlag.de](http://www.budrich-verlag.de)

**Barbara Budrich Publishers** – Uschi Golden – 28347 Ridgebrook – Farmington Hills – MI 48334,  
U.S.A. ph +1 (0)248.488.9153 – [info@barbarabudrich.net](mailto:info@barbarabudrich.net) – [www.barbara-budrich.net](http://www.barbara-budrich.net)