Blended Learning Environments for Adults: Evaluations and Frameworks
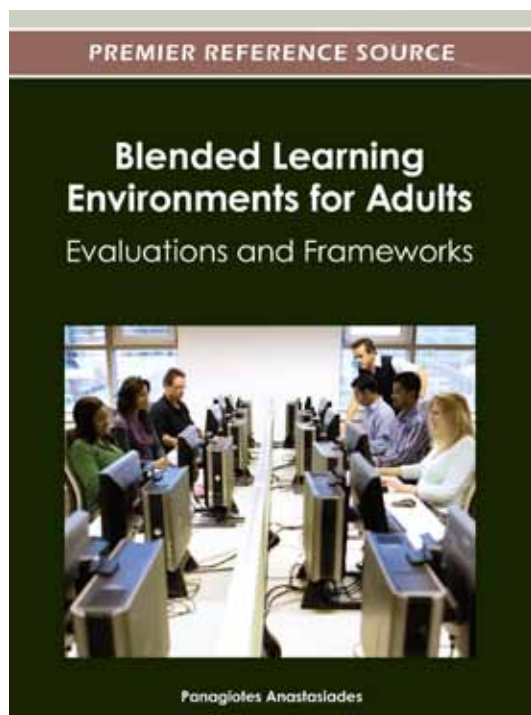
Panagiotes S. Anastasiades (University of Crete, Greece)

There is a general notion that adult education literature generally supports the idea that teaching adults should be approached in a different way than teaching children. Adult learners include working adults with family responsibilities, older workers who may not feel confident about returning to school and people who are currently in the workforce and who need to upgrade skills and knowledge. The combination of synchronous and asynchronous transmission with face to face instruction allow for the implementation of a new Blended Collaborative Learning Environment, which is flexible in terms of location, time, and pace of adult learners.

Blended Learning Environments for Adults: Evaluations and Frameworks demonstrates the view that Information and Communication Technologies should not be considered as a neutral teaching medium, but instead be implemented under pedagogical conditions; aiming at the development of critical thinking through their creative integration into the social and cultural context. This comprehensive collection brings a group of scholars in order to build up a pedagogical approach and analytical implementation steps and directions for designing and implementing Blended Learning Collaborative Environments for adults.

Topics Covered:

- Assessing Blended Learning
- Blended Learning Pedagogy and Curriculum Design
- Blended Learning: Theoretical Framework
- Future Trends for Blended Learning
- Social Aspects of Blended Learning

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Panagiotes Anastasiades is an Associate Professor of Lifelong and Distance Learning in the Department of Education at the University of Crete, Greece. He is also Tutor Counsellor at the Hellenic Open University (Postgraduate Level, Master in Education, Module: EKP65 Open and Distance Learning). His current research emphasis focuses on Lifelong and Distance Learning via Advanced Learning Internet Technologies and Interactive Videoconferencing, Social & Educational Informatics & Information Society Theories. He is the author of the Interactive Videoconferencing and Collaborative Distance Learning for ?-12 Students and Teachers: Theory and Practice (2009). NY: Nova Science Publishers, Inc ISBN: 978-1-60692-185-2, and editor of Advanced Learning Synchronous Technologies for Blended Learning Environments (2008). GR: Guttenberg. ISBN: 978-960-01-1263-4. He is member of the editorial board of Computers and Education, Elsevier and International Journal of Mobile and Blended Learning (IJMBL). At the time, Panagiotes Anastasiades is vice-president of the Pedagogical Institute of Greece and has the scientific responsibility of the "National Teachers Training Project"

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