

Active Learning Handbook University Of Pittsburgh

The first book to offer an in-depth exploration of the topic of problem-based learning with contributions from international experts The Wiley Handbook of Problem-Based Learning is the first book of its kind to present a collection of original essays that integrate the research and practice of problem-based learning in one comprehensive volume. With contributions from an international panel of leading scholars, researchers, practitioners and educational and training communities, the handbook is an authoritative, definitive, and contemporary volume that clearly demonstrates the impact and scope of research-based practice in problem-based learning (PBL). After many years of its successful implementation in medical education curricula, problem-based learning is now being emphasized and practiced more widely in K-12, higher education, and other professional fields. The handbook provides timely and stimulating advice and reflection on the theory, research, and practice of PBL. Throughout the book the contributors address the skills needed to implement PBL in the classroom and the need for creating learning environments that are active, collaborative, experiential, motivating and engaging. This important resource: Addresses the need for a comprehensive resource to problem-based learning research and implementation Contains contributions from an international panel of experts on the topic Offers a rich collection of scholarly writings that challenge readers to refresh their knowledge and rethink their assumptions Takes an inclusive approach that addresses the theory, design, and practice of problem-based learning Includes guidelines for instructional designers, and implementation and assessment strategies for practitioners Written for academics, students, and practitioners in education, The Wiley Handbook of Problem-Based Learning offers a key resource to the most recent information on the research and practice of problem-based learning.

This exemplary Handbook provides readers with a novel synthesis of international research, evidence-based practice and personal reflections to offer an overview of the current state of knowledge in the field of teaching geography in higher education. Chapters cover the three key transitions – into, through, and out of higher education – to present a thorough analysis of the topic. The field of education is in constant flux as new theories and practices emerge to engage students and improve the learning experience. Research advances help to make these improvements happen and are essential to the continued improvement of education. The Handbook of Research on Applied Learning Theory and Design in Modern Education provides international perspectives from education professors and researchers, cyberneticists, psychologists, and instructional designers on the processes and mechanisms of the global learning environment. Highlighting a compendium of trends, strategies, methodologies, technologies, and models of applied learning theory and design, this publication is well-suited to meet the research and practical needs of academics,

researchers, teachers, and graduate students as well as curriculum and instructional design professionals.

The integration of technology in education has provided tremendous opportunity for learners of all ages. In today's technology-focused society, the traditional classroom setting is being transformed through online learning platforms, collaborative and experimental methods, and digital educational resources that go hand-in-hand with non-digital learning devices. The Handbook of Research on Applied E-Learning in Engineering and Architecture Education reviews the latest research available on the implementation of digital tools and platforms within the framework of technical education, specifically in the subjects of architecture and engineering. Taking a global approach to the topic of online learning environments for technical education at all grade levels, this comprehensive reference work is ideally designed for use by educators, instructional designers, and researchers from around the world. This handbook contains pertinent research on a variety of educational topics including online learning platforms, mobile and blended learning, collaborative learning environments, gaming in education, informal learning, and educational assessment.

ICCoLLIC is an international conference hosted by the English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Universitas Sebelas Maret. This conference is arranged to become an annual conference making room for scholars and practitioners in the area of communication, language, literature, and culture to share their thoughts, knowledge, and recent researches in the field of study. How can we structure class time efficiently? How can we explain and lecture effectively? How can we help students master content? How can we make learning more real and lasting? In this revised and greatly expanded 2nd edition of *Inspiring Active Learning*, educators Merrill Harmin and Melanie Toth provide answers to our fundamental teaching questions and show us how to transform our classrooms into communities of active, responsible learners. The authors present an array of research-based, teacher-tested strategies for managing our everyday responsibilities--from beginning a class to grading homework, from instructing large groups to promoting diligent seatwork, from motivating slackers to handling disrupters. These strategies focus on mutual respect, not bossiness; collaboration, not isolation; commitment to learning, not fear of failure; and the dignity of all, not praise or rewards for a few. Regardless of our level of experience or the grade or subject we teach, the active-learning approach helps us

- * Perform routine teaching tasks more easily.
- * Discover a higher level of teaching success and personal satisfaction.
- * Establish a class climate of full participation and cooperation.
- * Prepare engaging lessons that keep students productively involved.
- * Encourage students to work energetically, willingly, and intelligently each day.
- * Inspire all students, even the most challenging, to strive for excellence.

With its detailed classroom examples and more than 250 practical strategies, *Inspiring Active Learning* is a comprehensive reference for solving almost any teaching problem.

The Handbook of Technology and Second Language Teaching and Learning presents a comprehensive exploration of the impact of technology on the field of second language learning. The rapidly evolving language-technology interface has propelled dramatic changes in, and increased opportunities for, second language teaching and learning. Its influence has been felt no less keenly in the approaches and methods of assessing learners' language and researching language teaching and learning. Contributions from a team of international scholars make up the Handbook consisting of four parts: language teaching and learning through technology; the technology-pedagogy interface; technology for L2 assessment; and research and development of technology for language learning. It considers how technology assists in all areas of language development, the emergence of pedagogy at the intersection of language and technology, technology in language assessment, and major research issues in research and development of technologies for language learning. It covers all aspects of language including grammar, vocabulary, reading, writing, listening, speaking, pragmatics, and intercultural learning, as well as new pedagogical and assessment approaches, and new ways of conceiving and conducting research and development. The Handbook of Technology and Second Language Teaching and Learning demonstrates the extensive, multifaceted implications of technology for language teachers, learners, materials-developers, and researchers.

Online learning has become a prominent and inseparable component of higher education in recent years. Questions related to course structure, levels of interaction, presence, and participation within online courses persist and invite further inquiry for determining factors that encourage effective teaching and learning in online environments. The Handbook of Research on Strategic Management of Interaction, Presence, and Participation in Online Courses explores models of course development and delivery techniques to improve instruction, learning, and student satisfaction in online courses. Covering topics such as rates of participation, student engagement and retention, and social development, this handbook serves as a resource for educators in online learning environments, as well as for course designers and developers of online courses and researchers whose agenda includes examining interaction, presence, and participation in online courses.

This handbook presents and critiques predominant and emergent traditions of Educational Action Research internationally. Now a prominent methodology, Educational Action Research is well suited to exploring, developing and sustaining change processes both in classrooms and whole organisations such as schools, Departments of Education, and many segments of universities. The handbook contains theoretical and practical based chapters by highly respected scholars whose work has been seminal in building knowledge and expertise in the field. It also contains chapters exemplifying the work of prominent practitioner and community groups working outside universities. The Editors provide an

introduction and conclusion, as well as an opening chapter which charts the historical development of action research and provides an analysis of its underlying theories. The handbook is organized into four sections, each beginning with a short introduction: - Action research methodology: diversity of rationales and practices - Professional: Knowledge production, staff development, and the status of educators - Personal: Self-awareness, development and identity - Political: Popular knowledge, difference, and frameworks for change This is a key resource for scholars and graduate students at doctors and masters levels, as well as school leaders and administrators.

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Action learning is a continued process of learning and reflection with the support of a group of colleagues, working on real issues. The action learning method is increasingly used to bring innovation to many different fields of work. The principles of action learning can achieve improvement and transformation in a wide range of applications and disciplines, including professional training and educational contexts. This book is a comprehensive guide to action learning which maintains an accessible, practical focus throughout. It is packed with useful resources, including case studies and ideas for workshop sessions. Key topics covered include: * action learning in professional and educational settings * setting up, facilitating and evaluating an action learning programme * the roles and skills required to practice successfully * use of action learning in relation to the individual, the group and the organization * the role of reflection; and action learning theory. Newcomers to the area of action learning will find this an essential introduction which can be put to use straight away, while more experienced practitioners seeking a deeper understanding will value the thorough analysis of action learning theory.

Online and blended courses are becoming increasingly prevalent in higher education settings, and the pressures to incorporate these environments highlights the increased demand to serve a generation that prefers learning through experience or through interacting with learning tools. Challenges arise in assisting instructors in facilitating and designing blended learning environments that will provide effective learning for all students. The Handbook of Research on

Blended Learning Pedagogies and Professional Development in Higher Education is a critical research publication that delves into the importance of effective professional development for educators planning and teaching online or blended courses. It also establishes the benefits of technology-mediated learning environments over traditional learning methods. Highlighting a wide array of topics such as online learning environments, active learning model, and educational development, this publication explores technology-based teaching methods in higher education. This book is targeted toward educators, educational administrators, academicians, researchers, and professionals within the realm of higher education.

Innovation in higher education is a process of institutional adaptation to changes in the environment that enables higher education institutions to improve their existing practice and to be innovative at different levels and in different forms. Moreover, innovativeness is also related to internal characteristics of higher education institutions. Innovation in higher education can be observed as a result of the changing contexts in which higher education institutions function.

Adjacently, a comprehensive approach to considering innovativeness is needed in order to enable the examination of different elements of innovativeness in higher education, that is, to identify the key factors that (de)stimulate innovations and affect their interactions with other relevant stakeholders at the national level and beyond. The Handbook of Research on Enhancing Innovation in Higher Education Institutions is a critical scholarly book that examines innovativeness in higher education and its complications and diversity. Starting from the view that higher education is currently confronted by global forces that require new research ideas, the publication suggests that comprehensive understanding of innovativeness is imperative for higher education's institutions in the 21st century. Analyzing the recognized trends within the publication and concluding which aspects should be taken to improve innovativeness in higher education, this reference book outlines quality and innovation in teaching, innovative university-business cooperation, institutional framework and governance of higher education institutions, knowledge management, and leadership and organizational culture. It is ideal for curriculum designers, administrators, researchers, policymakers, academicians, professionals, and students.

The movement away from teacher-centered toward student-centered learning and teaching (SCLT) in higher education has intensified in recent decades. Yet in spite of its widespread use in literature and policy documents, SCLT remains somewhat poorly defined, under-researched and often misinterpreted. Against this backdrop, The Routledge International Handbook of Student-Centered Learning and Teaching in Higher Education offers an original, comprehensive and up-to-date overview of the fundamentals of SCLT and its discussion and applications in policy and practice. Bringing together 71 scholars from around the world, the volume offers a most comprehensive and up-to-date overview of the fundamentals of SCLT and its applications in policy and practice; provides

beacons of good practice that display how instructional expertise manifests itself in the quality of classroom learning and teaching and in the institutional environment; and critically discusses challenges, new directions and developments in pedagogy, course and study program design, classroom practice, assessment and institutional policy. An essential resource, this book uniquely offers researchers, educators and students in higher education new insights into the roots, latest thinking, practices and evidence surrounding SCLT in higher education.

While many facets of our lives are rapidly becoming more digital, educational institutions are now faced with the task of finding new and innovative ways to incorporate technology into the classroom. Examining the latest trends in digital tools provides a more effective learning environment for future generations. The Handbook of Research on Digital Content, Mobile Learning, and Technology Integration Models in Teacher Education is a pivotal scholarly reference source that outlines the most efficient ways for educators to employ technology-enhanced lesson plans in their classroom. Featuring pertinent topics that include blended learning environments, student engagement, artificial intelligence, and learner-centered pedagogy, this is an ideal resource for educators, aspiring teachers, and researchers that are interested in discovering recent trends and techniques related to digital learning environments and technology-enhanced classrooms.

The latest Wiley Blackwell Handbook of Organizational Psychology uses a psychological perspective, and a uniquely global focus, to review the latest literature and research in the interconnected fields of training, development, and performance appraisal. Maintains a truly global focus on the field with top international contributors exploring research and practice from around the world Offers researchers and professionals essential information for building a talented organization, a critical and challenging task for organizational success in the 21st century Covers a diverse range of topics, including needs analysis, job design, active learning, self-regulation, simulation approaches, 360-degree feedback, and virtual learning environments

Education in the 21st century is shifting focus from accessing and sharing information to designing active and collaborative learning environments which foster student engagement and critical thinking skills. Active learning features a hands-on, activity-based teaching approach during which students synthesize information and take joy in new discovery. The Handbook of Research on Learner-Centered Pedagogy in Teacher Education and Professional Development presents a comprehensive look into the methodologies and strategies necessary to establish classroom climates in which students feel free to question their preconceptions and express opinions. Featuring chapters from international researchers, this book is ideal for administrators, teachers, policy makers, and students of education.

This second edition of a well-received text, with 20 new chapters, presents a

coherent and unified repository of recommender systems' major concepts, theories, methodologies, trends, and challenges. A variety of real-world applications and detailed case studies are included. In addition to wholesale revision of the existing chapters, this edition includes new topics including: decision making and recommender systems, reciprocal recommender systems, recommender systems in social networks, mobile recommender systems, explanations for recommender systems, music recommender systems, cross-domain recommendations, privacy in recommender systems, and semantic-based recommender systems. This multi-disciplinary handbook involves world-wide experts from diverse fields such as artificial intelligence, human-computer interaction, information retrieval, data mining, mathematics, statistics, adaptive user interfaces, decision support systems, psychology, marketing, and consumer behavior. Theoreticians and practitioners from these fields will find this reference to be an invaluable source of ideas, methods and techniques for developing more efficient, cost-effective and accurate recommender systems.

The latest advances and trends in technology have enabled rapid development in the field of language education. Students and teachers alike now benefit from the assistance of various technological innovations, thus increasing the overall effectiveness of the curriculum. The Handbook of Research on Individual Differences in Computer-Assisted Language Learning addresses the implementation of current research methodologies within EFL and ESL classroom settings and the variety of modifications employed by language experts. Focusing on quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods studies, this book is an essential reference source for applied linguists, CALL researchers, language teachers, and upper-level students within the field of foreign language education.

First Published in 2002. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

A collection of essays by leaders in the field of Jewish education geared to Jewish teachers in supplementary and day schools.

Pattern recognition, image processing and computer vision are closely linked areas which have seen enormous progress in the last fifty years. Their applications in our daily life, commerce and industry are growing even more rapidly than theoretical advances. Hence, the need for a new handbook in pattern recognition and computer vision every five or six years as envisioned in 1990 is fully justified and valid. The book consists of three parts: (1) Pattern recognition methods and applications; (2) Computer vision and image processing; and (3) Systems, architecture and technology. This book is intended to capture the major developments in pattern recognition and computer vision though it is impossible to cover all topics. The chapters are written by experts from many countries, fully reflecting the strong international research interests in the areas. This fifth edition will complement the previous four editions of the book.

"This book addresses the connection between human performance and

instructional technology with teaching and learning, offering innovative ideas for instructional technology applications and elearning"--Provided by publisher. Engaging students in active learning is a predominant theme in today's classrooms. To promote active learning, teachers across the disciplines and in all kinds of colleges are incorporating collaborative learning into their teaching. Collaborative Learning Techniques is a scholarly and well-written handbook that guides teachers through all aspects of group work, providing solid information on what to do, how to do it, and why it is important to student learning. Synthesizing the relevant research and good practice literature, the authors present detailed procedures for thirty collaborative learning techniques (CoLTs) and offer practical suggestions on a wide range of topics, including how to form groups, assign roles, build team spirit, solve problems, and evaluate and grade student participation.

The scholarship of management teaching and learning has established itself as a field in its own right and this benchmark handbook is the first to provide an account of the discipline. Original chapters from leading international academics identify the key issues and map out where the discipline is going. Each chapter provides a comprehensive and critical overview of the given topic area, highlights current debates and reviews the emerging research agenda. Chapters embrace the study of organizations as a whole, the concepts of individual and collective learning, the delivery of formal management education and the facilitation of management development. Through consideration of these themes the Handbook analyzes, promotes and critiques the contribution of management learning, education and development to management understanding. It will be an invaluable point of reference for all students and researchers interested in broadening their understanding of this exciting and dynamic new field.

Tips and techniques to build interactive learning into lecture classes Have you ever looked out across your students only to find them staring at their computers or smartphones rather than listening attentively to you? Have you ever wondered what you could do to encourage students to resist distractions and focus on the information you are presenting? Have you ever wished you could help students become active learners as they listen to you lecture? Interactive Lecturing is designed to help faculty members more effectively lecture. This practical resource addresses such pertinent questions as, "How can lecture presentations be more engaging?" "How can we help students learn actively during lecture instead of just sitting and passively listening the entire time?" Renowned authors Elizabeth F. Barkley and Claire H. Major provide practical tips on creating and delivering engaging lectures as well as concrete techniques to help teachers ensure students are active and fully engaged participants in the learning process before, during, and after lecture presentations. Research shows that most college faculty still rely predominantly on traditional lectures as their preferred teaching technique. However, research also underscores the fact that more students fail lecture-based courses than classes with active learning components. Interactive

Lecturing combines engaging presentation tips with active learning techniques specifically chosen to help students learn as they listen to a lecture. It is a proven teaching and learning strategy that can be readily incorporated into every teacher's methods. In addition to providing a synthesis of relevant, contemporary research and theory on lecturing as it relates to teaching and learning, this book features 53 tips on how to deliver engaging presentations and 32 techniques you can assign students to do to support their learning during your lecture. The tips and techniques can be used across instructional methods and academic disciplines both onsite (including small lectures and large lecture halls) as well as in online courses. This book is a focused, up-to-date resource that draws on collective wisdom from scholarship and practice. It will become a well-used and welcome addition for everyone dedicated to effective teaching in higher education.

Skills lie at the heart of all actions of a social worker, and inform all aspects of practice – from drawing on vital theoretical and ethical frameworks to applying the law and research findings to particular situations. This user-friendly and logically organised book brings together the key skills needed for practice in one place. It reflects current practice frameworks and addresses a wide range of skills including communication and relationship building, professional writing, ethical practice, assessment and reflection. Each chapter incorporates a number of features to help with learning and practical application, including:

- Case studies to demonstrate how particular concepts apply to social work practice
- Reflective exercises to help readers relate concepts and situations to their own experiences on placement and in the classroom
- Progress checks to help students make connections between the Professional Capability Framework, the Standards of Proficiency and the wider skills they need to acquire
- Chapter summaries to draw out key themes

This engaging and practical book is essential for students studying social work or health and social care. It is also a critical tool for practitioners looking to enhance their skills in social work practice.

This handbook, which serves as a follow-up text to *The Palgrave Handbook of Experiential Learning In International Business*, reviews theoretical and empirical approaches of experiential learning pedagogy, and its role in increasing the effectiveness in teaching and learning of international business, and also, in the incorporation of international business-related concepts and competences in business and non-business programs. This edition offers a broader and updated perspective on experiential learning pedagogy for international business and management, and beyond. The first part provides an updated overview of the theories of experiential learning and effectiveness of teaching and learning in international business through the use of experiential learning projects. Part two provides a collection of specific applications of experiential learning in International Business and related fields. This handbook is a one-stop source for international managers, business educators, and trainers seeking to either select and use an existing experiential learning project or develop new projects and

exercises of this kind.

This text focuses upon an array of key concepts historically associated with the activities of the 'helping professions' but including thematic explorations of poverty, inequality, user perspectives; and of the essential components of the helping relationship, such as empathy, compassion and conviction.

The Handbook offers models of teaching and learning that go beyond the typical lecture-laboratory format and provides rationales for new practices in the college classroom. It is ideal for graduate teaching assistants, senior faculty and graduate coordinators, and mid-career professors in search of reinvigoration.

The notion of a flipped classroom draws on such concepts as active learning, student engagement, hybrid course design, and course podcasting. The value of a flipped class is in the repurposing of class time into a workshop where students can inquire about lecture content, test their skills in applying knowledge, and interact with one another in hands-on activities. The Handbook of Research on Active Learning and the Flipped Classroom Model in the Digital Age highlights current research on the latest trends in education with an emphasis on the technologies being used to meet learning objectives. Focusing on teaching strategies, learner engagement, student interaction, and digital tools for learning, this handbook of research is an essential resource for current and future educators, instructional designers, IT specialists, school administrators, and researchers in the field of education.

Action leadership is a creative, innovative, collaborative and self-developed way to lead. It eschews the hierarchical structure usually associated with leadership and is based instead on the democratic values of freedom, equality, inclusion and self-realization. It take responsibility for, not control over, people through networking and orchestrating human energy towards a holistic outcome that benefits the common interest. Action leaders are passionate people who abide by the motto that "Learning does not mean to fill a barrel but rather to ignite a flame" in others. And in this time of rapid economic, political, technological, social and ecological changes, action leadership and action leaders are precisely what's needed to improve how people and organizations engage constructively to address the myriad complex issues challenging society at all levels. Action Leadership: Towards a Participatory Paradigm explains and illustrates how action leadership can be developed through participatory action learning and action research (PALAR). It addresses real-life issues by people who choose to work collaboratively towards shared goals while developing their learning, insights, knowledge, people skills and personal relationships through involvement in a PALAR project. The book provides a conceptual framework for action leadership and for the integrative, practical theory of PALAR; and examples of applications in higher education, management education for organization development, and community development. Readers are encouraged to adopt, adapt and further develop the evolving concepts of action leadership and PALAR in a participatory paradigm of learning, research and development.

The Value Base Of Social Work And Social CareAn Active Learning HandbookMcGraw-Hill Education (UK)

As today's teachers prepare to instruct a new generation of students, the question is no longer whether technology should be integrated into the classroom, but only "how?" Forced to combat shorter attention spans and an excess of stimuli, teachers sometimes

see technology as a threat rather than a potential enhancement to traditional teaching methods. The Handbook of Research on Educational Technology Integration and Active Learning explores the need for new professional development opportunities for teachers and educators as they utilize emerging technologies to enhance the learning experience. Highlighting the advancements of ubiquitous computing, authentic learning, and student-centered instruction, this book is an essential reference source for educators, academics, students, researchers, and librarians.

With the ever-changing climate of education around the globe, it is essential that educators stay abreast of the most updated teaching methods and applications. To do this, fostering teacher education programs that include innovative practices and initiatives within the field is imperative. The Handbook of Research on Teacher Education and Professional Development investigates current initiatives and approaches in educational programs. Focusing on research studies and theoretical concepts on innovative projects related to teacher education and professional development programs, this book is a pivotal reference source for academics, professionals, students, practitioners, and researchers.

Keeping students involved, motivated, and actively learning is challenging educators across the country, yet good advice on how to accomplish this has not been readily available. Student Engagement Techniques is a comprehensive resource that offers college teachers a dynamic model for engaging students and includes over one hundred tips, strategies, and techniques that have been proven to help teachers from a wide variety of disciplines and institutions motivate and connect with their students. The ready-to-use format shows how to apply each of the book's techniques in the classroom and includes purpose, preparation, procedures, examples, online implementation, variations and extensions, observations and advice, and key resources. "Given the current and welcome surge of interest in improving student learning and success, this guide is a timely and important tool, sharply focused on practical strategies that can really matter." ?Kay McClenney, director, Center for Community College Student Engagement, Community College Leadership Program, the University of Texas at Austin "This book is a 'must' for every new faculty orientation program; it not only emphasizes the importance of concentrating on what students learn but provides clear steps to prepare and execute an engagement technique. Faculty looking for ideas to heighten student engagement in their courses will find useful techniques that can be adopted, adapted, extended, or modified." ?Bob Smallwood, cocreator of CLASSE (Classroom Survey of Student Engagement) and assistant to the provost for assessment, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, University of Alabama "Elizabeth Barkley's encyclopedia of active learning techniques (here called SETs) combines both a solid discussion of the research on learning that supports the concept of engagement and real-life examples of these approaches to teaching in action." ?James Rhem, executive editor, The National Teaching & Learning Forum

Advancements in technology in modern societies have resulted in an abundance of new educational tools and aids. Analyzing the effects of different mobile educational applications can provide insight into how technology can promote or discourage purposeful learning among students and educators alike. The Handbook of Research on Mobile Technology, Constructivism, and Meaningful Learning is a crucial scholarly resource that examines the use of newly-developed technology on classroom

education. Featuring pertinent topics that include collaborative learning, social media integration, virtual reality, and critical thinking dispositions, this publication is ideal for educators, academicians, students, and researchers that are interested in expanding their knowledge on recent trends and technologies that are enhancing the educational field.

The integration of technology has become so deeply rooted into modern society that the upcoming generation of students has never known a world without such innovations. This defining trait calls for an examination of effective methods in which to support and motivate these learners. The Handbook of Research on Engaging Digital Natives in Higher Education Settings focuses on the importance of educational institutions implementing technology into the learning and teaching process in order to prepare for students born into a digital world. Highlighting relevant issues on teaching strategies and virtual education, this book is a pivotal reference source for academicians, upper-level students, practitioners, and researchers actively involved in higher education.

Education and learning opportunities bring about the potential for individual and national advancement. As learners move away from traditional scholarly media and toward technology-based education, students gain an advantage with technology in learning about their world and how to interact with modern society. The Handbook of Research on Learning Outcomes and Opportunities in the Digital Age provides expert research relating to recent technological advancements, technology and learning assessments, and the effects of technology on learning environments, making it a crucial reference source for researchers, scholars, and professors in various fields. The Self-Directed Learning Handbook offers teachers and principals an innovative program for customizing schooling to the learning needs of individual students-- and for motivating them to take increasing responsibility for deciding what and how they should learn. Whether the students are struggling or proficient, the program is designed to nurture their natural passion for learning and mastery, challenging them to go beyond the easy and familiar so they can truly excel. The program can be introduced in stages in any middle or high school classroom and enables students of diverse abilities to design and pursue independent course work, special projects, or even artistic presentations, community field work or apprenticeships. Using this approach, the students take on an increasingly autonomous, self-directed role as they progress. The heart of the program is the action contract (or learning agreement) whereby the student sets challenging yet attainable goals, commits to a path for achieving them, and evaluates the results. Special emphasis is placed on developing skills and competencies that can serve the student well in his or her academic and career endeavors.

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Provides an authoritative reference collection on leading international insights into the integration of technology tools and applications with adult and vocational instruction.

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