

Teachers and Trainers in Adult Education and Lifelong Learning

Professional Development in Asia and Europe

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Workshop VI: Challenges Towards the Professionalism of Teachers and Trainers in Adult Education Professionalism in Adult and Lifelong Learning (Multicultural Environment)

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The paper identifies the application of professionalism in adult learning in a multicultural environment. This highly depends on the background of the trainer and trainees and their exposure in the international atmosphere. The trainees are being more exposed to the world as well as their area of expertise via different sources. This applies pressure on the teacher and trainer not only to expand their subject knowledge and experience but also pushes them to strive harder to incorporate professionalism in their profession. Professionalism in multicultural environment requires sufficient skills and understanding of difference culture.

Concept of professionalization: Which criteria should be focused upon to professionalize teaching and training in lifelong learning contexts?

Professionalism is one of the key elements in teaching and training in the 21st century. The job of a teacher and trainer profession has undergone tremendous evolution and massive transition and there is a huge demand and pressure on them to clearly understand and practice professionalism at work. The requirement of students and trainees has increased as well with more exposure to the world via internet and emergence of the cyber world.

Based on my experience, aspects of professionalism that a teacher and trainer should possess includes commitment and dedication in their profession, creative approach and teaching methodology in their daily work being tactful in managing students and trainees and deliver messages in a simplified methods.

One of the biggest challenges in applying professionalism in their profession is to practice the multicultural differences in teaching depending on the background and the local culture since these differences play a major role in teaching and training.

In order to be formally qualified as a teacher and trainer, obtaining a professional certification offered by some renowned body such as ASTD, CuX and CIPD would be an added advantage to formalize professionalism and to be combined with effective cross cultural communication between the Asia and Europe.