Austrian Open Access Journal on Adult Education

Information for Authors
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Here, authors of the Austrian Open-Access Journal on Adult Education (Magazin erwachsenenbildung.at in German) find information on the journal, its form of publication, the review process, the criteria of selection of articles, numbers of readers and funding information.

Journal for Adult Education

Magazin erwachsenenbildung.at is an Austrian open access journal that discusses topics of Adult Education with a special focus on lifelong learning. Past issues have addressed education offers, demand and needs, professionalization, and educational policy in learning. The journal is published online three times a year, and may also be downloaded as a PDF. In addition, print versions are available at cost price. The journal is published under a Creative Commons license and may be shared and re-distributed upon indication of source.

Every issue comprises about 140 pages and 15 articles dedicated to a topical theme, spanning a continuum from theoretical analyses to practice-related reports, and from portraits to reviews. The aim of the journal is to facilitate and professionalize information exchange and debate between researchers and adult education practitioners as well as decision makers throughout the German-speaking world. However, there has also been input from other European countries, the United States, South Africa and Australia.

Open Access

Magazin erwachsenenbildung.at is available as an open access journal. It is published three times a year both online on http://www.erwachsenenbildung.at/magazin and in print. Abstracts (German/English) as well as information on the authors are accessible online and offer a first overview. The articles can be downloaded as PDF documents for free. All contributions are published under a Creative Commons license (CC BY 4.0 International). Users may copy, distribute and use the content publicly on the following conditions:

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Review Process

The journal’s call for papers are published three times a year and are distributed widely via strong networks. Each paper is reviewed by a
six-person committee consisting of experts from research, practice and journalism. All authors are given detailed feedback in order to ensure high quality standards with regards to form, content and readability. The independent committee also decides which papers to publish and strives to achieve a balance between theoretical and practical approaches.

The selection criteria are:

- The manuscript fits the call for papers in scope and aim
- The article relates thematically to Adult Education
- The article relates to Austria or its findings are transferable to the Austrian situation
- Topicality and currentness
- Appeal to target groups (readers)
- Formal and quantitative criteria (length according to section, formal standards, adherence to deadlines of submission/press date) are respected
- The author is willing to cooperate with the editorial team

Further criteria:

- The balance of articles on theoretical and on practical issues
- The balance of articles in the different sections
- The balance of articles from a gender perspective (authors, contents)
- A maximum of 15 articles/issue

The reviewing process is an open and cooperative one. All submissions are read by both the committee and the editors of the issue, who then discuss the submissions in a meeting. In the course of the reviewing process, authors might receive requests of revision. On the basis of feedback given by the editors, the authors will then revise their articles before they enter the stage of formal editing for the journal. Thus, the willingness to cooperate and revise is a condition for publication.

Readers’ choice

A readers’ survey conducted in 2011 has shown that Magazin erwachsenenbildung.at lives up to its ambition. The readers awarded a 1.87 overall grade to the journal (on a scale from 1 to 6), thus demonstrating their satisfaction. The journal achieved equally high grades in more specialised areas such as design, content and focus, and almost 80 per cent of the readers were satisfied with the average length of articles. The overall amount of more than 140,000 downloads in 2016 speaks for itself.

The survey has also shown that the journal manages to reach its target readership: researchers, students and practitioners.

Publishers and Funding

The journal is published by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education – Bundesministerium für Bildung (BMB) and the Federal Institute for Adult Education (bifeb). It is funded by the Federal Ministry of Education (BMB).

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