

TOWARD AN UNDERSTANDING OF ANDRAGOGY'S ROLE IN THE ONLINE CURRICULUM OF THE US HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

Gail D. CARUTH (Corresponding Author)
Department of Educational Leadership
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Commerce, Texas USA

Donald L. CARUTH
Independent Management Consultant
Texas USA

ABSTRACT

With adults constituting almost half of today's student body it would seem appropriate to consider the impact of andragogy in the online curriculum if higher education is to continue to meet the needs of the society it serves. To date Knowles' theory of andragogy is the most accepted model of adult learning. It is anticipated that the debate over andragogy and pedagogy will continue.

In spite of its limitations andragogy provides a starting point in both research and practice. It is predicted that over time andragogical assumptions will be in a more definitive place in the online curriculum in higher education.

Keywords: Andragogy, adult learning, training and development, pedagogy
Curriculum, online learning, blended learning.