About the Journal

The Journal for Research on Adult Education ZfW is the leading scientific journal for research debates and findings in the field of adult and continuing education science and associated disciplines. It was launched in the 1970s as the first and only German academic journal dedicated exclusively to adult education science.

The journal

- presents high quality research findings regarding adult learning,
- focuses on the academic debate on adult education and learning,
- supports the exchange with all academic disciplines involved in continuing education research,
- contributes to the integration of German adult education research in the international context,
- opens the horizon for future research.

Since 2015, ZfW is published by Springer VS as open access journal. It is published three times per year (April, August, December).

With its editorial office, the DIE provides the central infrastructure. The institute also supports the journal by taking over the APC’s (article processing charges).

Journal Structure

Every issue is dedicated to a key topic which is covered by least three original articles. Usually, the topic is introduced by an article "Im Fokus" (in focus) which provides information on the current state of research. The article guarantees an introduction to the topic for readers who are not familiar with the topic. In addition to the key topic, the journal also provides the columns "Forum" (forum) and "Rezensionen" (reviews). The "Forum" provides peer reviewed research findings for discussion. Relevant academic publications on adult and continuing education are discussed in "Rezensionen".

The journal is published primarily in German. English articles are published regularly. All abstracts to the articles are published both in German and English.

Review Procedure

Since 2006, all original articles undergo a double-blind peer review process, which meets international standards.

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