

THE ADULT LEARNER AND THE EFFICACY OF COMPETENCY BASED EDUCATION

GLENN ANTHONY PALMER & LORENZO BOWMAN

Devry University, One West Court Square, Decatur, USA

ABSTRACT

Competency based learning or Competence based education (CBE) has been around since the 1930s. However, in recent times, school systems, institutions of higher education, corporate training programs, educators and policy makers have embraced and supported this methodology that radically changes the approach to education (Priest, Rudenstine, & Weisstein, 2012). CBE is of particular importance to adult learners, given the inherent philosophical underpinning of this approach. This paper synthesizes the literature on competency based education to unearth some of the salient benefits that CBE offers learners who are engaged by this educational model.

KEYWORDS: *Competency Based Education, Competency Based Learning, Adult Education, Adult Learning, Non-Traditional Learners*

Received: Jan 13, 2016; **Accepted:** Jan 19, 2016; **Published:** Feb 03, 2016; **Paper Id.:** IJESRFEB201612

Original Article