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Sinopsis

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As interest grows in theories of lifelong learning not only across society but also as an area of serious academic study, the need has arisen for a thorough and critical study of the phenomenon. This distillation of the work of renowned writer Peter Jarvis addresses this need, looking at the processes involved in human learning from birth to old age and moving the field on from previous unsystematic and mainly psychological studies. Instead, Jarvis argues that learning is existential, and so its study must be complex and interdisciplinary.

The result is a giant step towards building a complete and integrated theory of how humans learn, taking account of existing theories to see if they can be reconciled with a more complex model. Applying his expert analytical approach to this wide-ranging topic, Jarvis looks in detail at:

learning in the social context
the transformation of experience
the outcomes of learning
learning and action
cognitive theories
emotions and learning
experiential learning.

Contents.

Part 1: An Existential Theory of Learning 1. An Existential Model of Lifelong Learning 2. The Learner 3. Learning in the Social Context 4. Learning and the Nature of Experience 5. Learning through the Lifespan Part 2: Towards an Integrated Theory of Lifelong Learning 6. Action Theories 7. Cognitive Theories 8. Expressive Theories 9. Experiential Theories Part 3: Paradoxes of Learning 10. Learning and Identity 11. Learning Autonomy and Authenticity 12. Lifelong Learning: the paradoxes and problems of individualism