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## Learner Biographies and Learning Cultures: Identity and Apprenticeship in England and Germany

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By Michaela Brockmann

Tufnell Press, United Kingdom, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Learner biographies and learning cultures constitutes an important contribution to the under-researched field of vocational education and the school-to-work transition. Drawing on Butler's concept of discursive agency and Alheit's biographical approach, the book offers a new conceptual and methodological framework for exploring young people's construction of identity over time as well as in the specific learning sites of apprenticeship - the workplace and the college. The particular approach, concerned with young people's situated subjectivities, sets it apart from existing research, much of which focuses on social reproduction and portrays young people in vocational education as non-academic with enduring identities. The comparative, multi-method ethnography is an in-depth study of sixteen apprentices in England and Germany, on two contrasting apprenticeship programmes-retail and motor vehicle maintenance. Bringing together a wealth of rich material, including young people's life stories and data from observations in workplaces and colleges, it paints a compelling picture of the individual young people as they negotiate learner identities over time, in multiple life domains and in the learning cultures of the workplace and the college. The...



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