

Fostering
SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING



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Dr. Erdoğan DOĞRU

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About the author: Dr. Erdoğan Doğru (dogru_e@ibu.edu.tr) was born in İskenderun in 1969. He graduated from the doctorate program in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Bolu Abant İzzet Baysal University in 2020. His interest areas are learners' individual characteristics, distance education, self-directed learning and guided imagery activities. He still teaches English at the same university.

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AUTHOR'S PREFACE

The book “Fostering Self-Directed Learning” aims to explain the concept of self-directed learning (SDL) and to give clues for helping its development in learners. The concept of SDL refers to the learning model in which the individual is the unique decision maker about every phases of his/her own learning. Fostering refers to the development of self-directed learning in learners with the help of the teacher. This book has been based on the premise that individuals are both in need and also capable of SDL especially in today’s world. As contemporary persons, we are in need of SDL because universal knowledge expands so rapid that we constantly have to learn about new developments to be able to maintain our professions. In addition, we are capable of SDL because developing technology provides us with every kinds of opportunities to learn individually. Thanks to the internet, we can access all kinds of information instantly.

Distance education as a widespreading delivery mode of instruction, on the other hand, forces the individuals to learn alone. It means that learners in distance education are especially obliged to SDL. It is apparent that distance education has almost become the unique delivery mode of instruction all over the world mainly due to COVID-19 pandemic. It seems likely that it will keep this dominance in the near future even though we desire to get over this great trouble as soon as possible.

I can express that it was my strong belief about the importance of SDL which played a role in determining the subject of this book. As I explained above, I think my belief is in harmony with the requirements and opportunities of the present age. I wish this book will contribute to various educational shareholders, such as learners, pre-service teachers, and in-service teachers.

Erdoğan DOĞRU

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