EDUCATION:

Klaus Konrad: Self-Directed Learning. July 2023. 152 p. 2 images.



This teaching method is becoming more important: Self-directed learning has been developed long ago by progressive educationalists, but it was the pandemic that made it essential. Given the rapid technological and social changes, it has become one of the 21st century skills defined by UNESCO. This volume focuses on teachers: Which skills, which attitude, and which behaviour should they have in order to enable their pupils to learn more independently?

Klaus Konrad teaches educational psychology at the Teaching Academy of Weingarten.

Alexander Mäder: How to Write Like a Journalist. September 2023. 240 p.

»The most important thing a journalist needs is not a talent for writing but an interest in the world.«



In the past, you had to switch on one's radio or TV at the right moment in order to find out about major events. Nowadays, innumerable networks provide us with news every second and are literally fighting for our attention — e.g., on news screens in train stations or on our mobile phones. However, the actual information shown is often not selected because of its relevance but because it will be clicked, liked or shared by many. How can journalists continue to provide reliable information about an event while also arousing their readers' interest and explaining complex situations?

In this comprehensive introduction, Alexander Mäder outlines the basics of journalist writing. By giving many examples, he illustrates how to write a good

text – from research and fact-checking up to the final stylistic revision. He reveals how editorial offices work, provides strategies of text writing and gives an overview over the many types of journalist writing.

Alexander Mäder, born in 1972, teaches online journalism at Media Academy Stuttgart. He used to work as a journalist. His most recent book with Reclam is *Astrophysik*. *100 Seiten*.

Douglas Yacek: How to Generate Enthusiasm. A Guide to Transformative Teaching. September 2023. 120 p.



Do pupils ever feel enthusiasm in the classroom? Of course they do – there are strategies to make them passionate about what they learn. Transformative teaching is a method involving personal experiences and moral values, thereby transforming the personality of the learner. It can be systematically encouraged and reinforced by using the right teaching style. This book includes many helpful examples and explains typical difficulties teachers may encounter.

Douglas Yacek teaches Educational Theory at Technical University Dortmund. He looks back on many years of training future teachers, and he has received his faculty's teaching award in 2021.

HISTORY:

Helge Hesse: Creating a New World. Life in the Age of New Beginnings 1775–1799. March 2021. 431 p.



During the intoxicating years between 1775 and 1799, humanity entered a new era. The American War of Independence and the French Revolution created a new idea of man – suddenly, everyone was supposed to be free and equal! Technology, art, and society achieved incredible progress. The modern Western world began to appear.

Yet how did people like George Washington or Queen Marie Antoinette experience these times of upheaval? What happened to the poets Johann Wolfgang Goethe and Friedrich Schiller? What did the dreams of travellers and pioneers look like? What were the developments that displeased Immanuel Kant or Napoleon Bonaparte? In an enchanting tour d'horizon, this book

follows the trails of famous individuals which often crossed at surprising places. It also tells the stories of friends and foes, of adventures and innovations, of triumph and failure. The many key moments it narrates illustrate how our current social values and traditions were developed all over Germany, England, France, and the emerging United States of America.

Helge Hesse, born in 1963, has written many non-fiction books on cultural, social, and historical topics. He lives in Düsseldorf. In 2021, his book *Creating a New World* received the **Book Award of the Bavarian State**.

Rights sold: Spanish

Helge Hesse: A German Promise. Weimar 1756–1933. October 2023. 300 p.

In 1756, Duchess Anna Amalia began to encourage political and cultural projects in the little town of



Weimar in Eastern Germany. Soon, Germany's most famous poets Goethe and Schiller joined her there in order to create works of universal fame. Other artists and intellectuals followed, such as the composer Franz Liszt, the architects Harry Graf Kessler and Henry van de Velde and many others. Weimar also turned out to be the place where Germany's first democratic constitution was developed. And Walter Gropius founded the Bauhaus Movement there which still has an influence in architecture and design until today.

Helge Hesse tells the stories of the most eminent personalities of the period when Weimar seemed like a promise of a better future — until the National Socialists' rule began in 1933. An enchanting read which not only gives insights into history but also addresses questions of today and tomorrow.

Helge Hesse, born in 1963, has written many non-fiction books on cultural, social and historical topics. He lives in Düsseldorf. In 2021, his book *Creating a New World* received the Book Award of the Bavarian State.

Birte Förster: Queen Elizabeth II. 100 pages. September 2023.



No monarch of our times has achieved similar fame – Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor ruled the United Kingdom for fabulous 70 years. Not only her colourful dresses and hats, but also her character have inspired many people. Both Queen Elizabeth and her family continue to be appreciated and discussed all over the world. Historian Birte Förster tells us what is going on behind the scenes of Buckingham Palace and outlines a possible future for the British monarchy.

Birte Förster, born in 1973, teaches history at the University of Bielefeld. She has recently published *1919*. *Ein Kontinent erfindet sich neu*.

Ulf Brunnbauer / Klaus Buchenau: History of South-Eastern Europe. 2nd edition September 2023. 660 p. 7 maps.



There is hardly a region in Europe which is as heterogenous as south-eastern Europe. It used to be part of Byzantium, then it was conquered by the Ottoman Empire. Finally, most of it belonged to the Eastern Bloc influenced by the Soviet Union. The fact that Muslims and Christians of all creeds have been sharing this region for centuries and that the economic and social conditions have often been difficult has led to numerous conflicts and bloodsheds. All of the countries are still struggling with poverty and corruption.

This book unearths the roots of many problems and gives insights into the current situation of a whole region – from Albania via Greece, the former Yugoslavian states, and Turkey to Cyprus. It has been thoroughly revised and updated for this 2^{nd} edition.

Ulf Brunnbauer, born in 1970, is the Director of Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies in Regensburg.

Klaus Buchenau, born in 1967, teaches South-Eastern European History at the University of Regensburg.

Michaela Karl: The History of the Women's Movement. 8th edition July 2023. 300 p.



Feminism has become hip again, even pop stars and fashion labels use its claims. Besides, recently, the #MeToo debate has brought sexual abuse and other difficulties women experience out into the open.

However, the fight for gender justice and equal rights has a long history. Michaela Karl starts by telling the story of the suffragists, then moving on to the feminists of the generation of 1968, the post-feminism era, and the gender debates of the 21^{st} century. A concise and well-read overview which has been thoroughly revised and updated — now including the latest on the Iranian women's movement, female experiences in the pandemic and new legislations on transgender rights.

Michaela Karl, born in 1971, is a historian and a writer. Her biographies of Dorothy Parker, Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald, Bonnie & Clyde and Unity Mitford have all been best-sellers.

Kemper, Claudia: Male War, Female Peace? An Essay on Gender and Violence. October 2023. 60 p.

[Was bedeuter das alles?]
Claudia Kemper
Männlicher Krieg und
weiblicher Frieden?
Geschlechterordnungen
der Gewalterfahrung

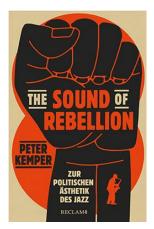


Gender roles in wartimes strike us as especially traditional. Men are (often involuntarily) drafted by the army, women stay behind and are often threatened by sexual violence. But is it really all that simple? Historian Claudia Kemper looks at how gender roles have changed in times of war during the 20th century, but she also addresses current conflicts in the Middle East and in Ukraine.

Claudia Kemper, born in 1973, is a historian at LWL-Institut for Westphalian Regional History in Münster and teaches at University of Hamburg.

MUSIC:

Peter Kemper: The Sound of Rebellion. Politics and Beauty in Jazz. October 2023. 660 p. 50 images.



According to music journalist Peter Kemper, jazz has always been involved with discussions about racism and exclusion. He has now written the first book on the emancipation of Afro-Americans in the past century which follows the lines of a history of jazz.

Besides outlining the most crucial stylistic developments, Kemper also describes the most influential artists and the strategies they chose for their rebellion. Jazz legends such as Louis Armstrong, Charles Mingus und Moor Mother have always felt that their work expressed a life that was shaped by everyday racism as well as institutional discrimination.

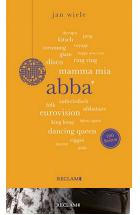
Yet how can we define the subversive core of jazz? Is it the democratic idea of improvisation? The fierce lyrics? Or the language of the music itself?

»It is a mistake to believe that only Blacks can write about Black Music. The discourse on these matters should be as full of variety as possible.« (Archie Shepp)

Peter Kemper, born in 1950, is a renowned music journalist and was one of the organizers of the German Jazz Festival Frankfurt until 2015. Recent publications with Reclam include *John Coltrane*. *Eine Biographie* and *Eric Clapton*. *Ein Leben für den Blues*.

Arnold Jacobshagen: Maria Callas. Her Art and Her Myth. September 2023. 300 p. 25

images.



Maria Callas was the most important primadonna of the 20th century. She revolutionized opera all over the world, and her art was ahead of her times. Her voice still inspires, moves, and enchants people today. At the same time, countless rumours and legends about this unique singer are still circulating.

Musicologist Arnold Jacobshagen narrates the extraordinary story of the primadonna and disentangles the numerous myths that have grown around her image. He describes how sad events in Callas' life shaped her development as an artist, thus creating a new understanding of this complex persona. This book addresses both music and opera lovers as well as readers who enjoy a well-written biography.

»Callas, the moody diva – this image seems to blemish the fairy tale of her unique success. It was mostly created by the press which was looking for saucy scandals to write about. But has Maria Callas produced any scandals at all?«

Arnold Jacobshagen, born in 1965, teaches musicology at the Music and Dance Academy in Cologne. He is an internationally renowned expert on opera history.

Jan Wiele: ABBA. 100 Pages. October 2023.

The fascination of ABBA is unbroken, and the band's history is astonishing. Two Swedish couples spend ten years creating music and conquering the world with it. Then they take a break of forty years – before they finally come back with fabulous success. Who could have imagined that?

Music expert Jan Wiele tells the fairy tale of Agnetha, Björn, Benny und Anni-Frid. He takes us on their musical journey from the folk tradition to modern disco, explains how they reconciled being accessible with creating perfect illusions and explains ABBA's art of song-writing.

Jan Wiele is a critic at *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*. He writes about literature and pop music. In 2023, he interviewed Björn Ulvaeus. He is co-editor of the collection *Drop It Like It's Hot. 33 (fast)* perfekte *Popsongs*.

PHILOSOPHY:

Claudia Blöser: Immanuel Kant. 100 Pages. November 2023.



Kant's philosophical method of choice is critique – and he uses it even on rationality itself. He vigorously defends the freedom of men as well as our idea of ourselves as morally responsible individuals.

It only takes 100 pages to show how attractive his ideas still are to us today, just like his hopeful vision of the future of humanity. This is a great read for everyone who is interested in philosophy and would like to find out more about this extraordinary intellectual and his times.

Claudia Blöser, born in 1980, teaches philosophy at the University of Frankfurt am Main.

Bettina Fröhlich: Plato. An Introduction. September 2023. 260 p.



No philosopher has been a greater enigma to his readers than Plato. The debates about how to interpret his work began right after his death – and they are still ongoing.

Fröhlich gives an introduction to the life and ideas of Plato and explains the most eminent traditions of interpretation. She explains his own work with an emphasis on the following topics: The Cave Analogy and men's attempts to be good, Plato's ideas of goodness in humans (that is, in their souls), in a community and in cosmos. She also discusses Plato's critique of the Pre-Socratics by looking at certain questions: Is existence material or ideal? Is cognition perception or thinking? Is language a convention or nature? Is the good life lust or knowledge?

This book includes a chapter on Plato today, a commented bibliography, a glossary, and a chronology. It is ideal for students of all ages.

Bettina Fröhlich, born in 1974, teaches philosophy at Humboldt University Berlin.

Frieder Vogelmann: The Science Controversy – between Idealization and Contempt. October 2023. 80 p.



rieder Vogelmann

Umkämpfte Wissenschaften – Science is currently a controversial topic – there are debates about its results, its methods, and its practices. This reflects its social relevance, but it also simplifies our idea of science in a misleading way: There is more than just one science, after all. Still, on the one hand, people are denying the findings of "science", and on the other hand its defenders are trying to protect it from any criticisms and challenges. By doing so, they are covering up its diversity and creating an illusionary ideal that is easily overthrown by science deniers. Instead, what we need is a realistic understanding of the sciences and their various practices.

Frieder Vogelmann, born in 1981, teaches epistemology & theory of science at University College Freiburg.

CULTURE & SOCIETY

Reisinger, Jovana: Menstruation. 100 Pages. October 2023.



One half of the world's population bleeds every month, often this comes with considerable pain – nevertheless we still hardly ever talk about the period. This book describes menstruation the way it really is: painful, annoying, but also sometimes making us laugh involuntarily. Jovana Reisinger addresses her subject fearlessly and in a light spirit. She also talks about current debates such as the growing social awareness of the period and new political ideas such as giving workers leave when they suffer from their period.

Jovana Reisinger is an author, a filmmaker, and an artist. Her novel *Spitzenreiterinnen* was shortlisted for the Bavarian State Book Award 2021. She is a columnist at *Vogue* magazine.

Misselhorn, Catrin: Artificial Intelligence – the End of Art? March 2021.





Artificial Intelligence is rapidly conquering the arts – upon request, apps are creating paintings in different styles and from different periods, AI is composing symphonies, and chatbots are writing poems.

How does all this affect the theory and actual creation of art? Do we need a new definition of art? Who or what can be identified as its creator? How can original and copy be distinguished?

Catrin Misselhorn discusses all these urgent questions in her essay. Are we witnessing the end of art, or are we simply beginning an entirely new chapter in its history?

Catrin Misselhorn is head of the Philosophy Department at the University of Göttingen. Her books with Reclam include *Grundfragen der Maschinenethik* and *Künstliche Intelligenz und Empathie. Vom Leben mit Emotionserkennung, Sexrobotern & Co.*

Jahraus, Oliver: Franz Kafka. 100 Pages. November 2023.



People who can never find their way, humans who turn into bugs or who fruitlessly try to gain access to the law, to an institution, to a village are typical protagonists of Franz Kafka's works. Their world seems dismal and mysterious, their author strikes readers as strange and complicated. This is what Kafka's myth is made of.

Literary scholar Oliver Jahraus points out, however, that Kafka is most of all a modern author and a magnificent narrator: His work offers a critical description of modern times in family and society as well as a profound analysis of gender roles, power and the author's own Jewishness – an impressive body of writing which has no equal in world literature.

This is a book for literature enthusiasts who love Franz Kafka's work and would like to know more about this unique author's life and ideas.

Oliver Jahraus, born in 1964, teaches Literature at the University of Munich.