The Concept of 'Competency' in Art Education

Diederik Weigardus Schönau

Diederik Schönau art education consultant, The Netherlands

Abstract

In current educational debates the concept of 'competency' plays an important role. Also in the field of art education it has found its way, for instance in the Common European Framework of Reference for Visual Literacy (CEFR-VL) as developed by European network for Visual Literacy. However, what it really refers to is not always clear. It is also seen as a product of neo-liberal thinking that serves economic goals only. In this presentation the concept of competency is redefined as to meet the unique characteristic of learning in the visual and artistic domain.

Keywords

Competence-based learning, Theoretical foundations, art education, Visual Literacy.