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Titolo The fabrication of the autonomous learner: ethnographies of

educational practices in Switzerland, France and Germany / / edited by

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Sommario/riassunto

This book provides a thorough and detailed analysis of how the figure of the autonomous learner' shapes educational practices. It unpacks the impact of current educational reform discourse that focuses on the individual pupil as a learner, while neglecting the social dimensions of classroom practices. In view of the yet unknown requirements of the knowledge economy, students are demanded to take more responsibility for their learning and to become self-reliant, independent, lifelong learners. In turn, teachers are asked to tailor education to the individual needs of their students and to foster their individual learning trajectories. Based on in-depth fieldwork and longterm observation of interactions in classrooms and other scholastic settings, scholars from three European countries - France, Germany and Switzerland - show how the translation of the figure of the autonomous learner' into classrooms is shaped by distinct cultural traditions. Chapters analyse teaching routines and conceptions of selfreliance involved in autonomy-oriented settings and discuss how these change the sociality of the classroom. They scrutinize how autonomy is used to differentiate between students and how it contributes to the reproduction of social inequality. The book brings into dialogue two neighbouring research traditions that research autonomous learning from a sociological perspective and which have largely ignored each other until now. In so doing, the contributions engage a critical perspective for a careful empirical analysis in order to better understand what is being done in the name of autonomy. Providing insight into the many facets of developing and nurturing self-standing pupils across various educational contexts, this is ideal reading for scholars in the field of education, as well as teachers and decisionmakers across the educational sector.