



Zhiwei Chen (Autor)

**Comparative Research on the Motivations, Influential Factors,  
and Current Status of Lifelong Learning in China and Germany**

Zhiwei Chen

---

**Comparative Research on the Motivations,  
Influential Factors, and Current Status of  
Lifelong Learning in China and Germany**



Cuvillier Verlag Göttingen  
Internationaler wissenschaftlicher Fachverlag

<https://cuvillier.de/de/shop/publications/7209>

Copyright:

Cuvillier Verlag, Inhaberin Annette Jentzsch-Cuvillier, Nonnenstieg 8, 37075 Göttingen, Germany  
Telefon: +49 (0)551 54724-0, E-Mail: [info@cuvillier.de](mailto:info@cuvillier.de), Website: <https://cuvillier.de>

## Contents:

<b>1. GENERAL BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE OF RESEARCH.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.1 BACKGROUND OF THIS RESEARCH .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.1.1 The factors affecting and promoting lifelong learning .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1.1.2 The basis for comparative research on lifelong learning between China and Germany.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1.2 THE CURRENT RESEARCHING SITUATION AND RESULTS IN CHINA AND GERMANY .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>1.2.1 The current researching situation in China .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>1.2.2 The generally situation of lifelong learning in Germany .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>1.3 THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS RESEARCH .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>1.3.1 The theoretical significance .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>1.3.2 The practical significance.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>2. LIFELONG LEARNING AS CHALLENGING CONCEPT IN THE MODERN SOCIETY....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>2.1 THE FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE LIFELONG LEARNING CONCEPT .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>2.2 THE DEFINITION OF LIFELONG LEARNING.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>2.3 THE ESSENTIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF LIFELONG LEARNING .....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>2.4 THE SIGNIFICANCE OF LIFELONG LEARNING .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>2.5 THE REASON OF REFERENCING GERMAN LIFELONG LEARNING EXPERIENCE .....</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>3. THE COMPARISON OF LIFELONG AND ADULT EDUCATION SYSTEM BETWEEN CHINA AND GERMANY .....</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>3.1 HISTORY COMPARISON .....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>3.1.1 A brief history of China .....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>3.1.2 A brief history of Germany.....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>3.1.3 Summary.....</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>3.2 LAW COMPARISON .....</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>3.2.1 The Chinese laws and policies on lifelong and adult education .....</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>3.2.2 The German laws and policies on lifelong and adult education.....</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>3.2.3 Summary.....</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>3.3 COMPARISON OF INSTITUTIONS .....</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>3.3.1 Chinese lifelong and adult educational institution system .....</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>3.3.2 German lifelong and adult educational institution system .....</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>3.3.3 Summary.....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>3.4 COMPARISON OF PRACTICES .....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>3.4.1 The Chinese teaching and learning practices .....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>3.4.2 The German teaching and learning practices.....</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>3.4.3 Summary.....</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>3.5 ECONOMY COMPARISON .....</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>3.5.1 The Chinese economy and investment in lifelong education .....</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>3.5.2 The German economy and investment in lifelong education .....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>3.5.3 Summary.....</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>3.6 OVERALL FIGURATION COMPARISON .....</b>	<b>70</b>

3.6.1	<i>The Chinese concrete lifelong and adult learning activities and programs</i> ...	70
3.6.2	<i>The German concrete lifelong and adult learning activities and programs</i> ...	74
3.6.3	<i>The summary</i> .....	78
3.7	THE COMPARISONS OF LIFELONG AND ADULT EDUCATION SYSTEMS .....	79
3.7.1	<i>The system similarities between China and Germany</i> .....	79
3.7.2	<i>The differences of the systems in China and Germany</i> .....	82
4.	THE “GROUNDED THEORY” METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK.....	86
4.1	THE ORIGIN, DEFINITION AND SCOPE OF GROUNDED THEORY .....	86
4.2	THE FUNDAMENTAL IDEA FOR GROUNDED THEORY .....	88
4.3	THE FEATURES OF GROUNDED THEORY .....	90
4.4	THE ANALYTICAL PROCESS OF GROUNDED THEORY .....	91
4.5	ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES AND EXAMPLES OF GROUNDED THEORY .....	94
4.5.1	<i>The open coding</i> .....	94
4.5.2	<i>The axial coding</i> .....	96
4.5.3	<i>The selective coding</i> .....	97
4.6	THE SUMMARIZATION OF THE GROUNDED THEORY RESEARCH METHOD .....	99
5	RESEARCH METHOD .....	102
5.1	BIOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH METHOD .....	102
5.1.1	<i>The theoretical introduction of the biographical research method</i> .....	102
5.1.2	<i>The reason of using narration contents in biographical research</i> .....	106
5.1.3	<i>The practical use of biographical research</i> .....	110
5.2	OTHER RESEARCH METHODS .....	121
6	THE MOTIVATIONS AND INFLUENTIAL FACTORS FOR LEARNING ACTIVITIES .....	124
6.1	THE INFLUENTIAL FACTORS ON LEARNING ACTIVITIES ACCORDING TO CHINESE INTERVIEWEES .....	124
6.1.1	<i>Family factors</i> .....	125
6.1.2	<i>School factors</i> .....	138
6.1.3	<i>Social factors</i> .....	155
6.1.4	<i>Individual factors</i> .....	166
6.2	THE INFLUENTIAL FACTORS ON LEARNING ACTIVITIES ACCORDING TO GERMAN INTERVIEWEES .....	178
6.2.1	<i>Family factors</i> .....	180
6.2.2	<i>School and peer factors</i> .....	191
6.2.3	<i>Social factors</i> .....	203
6.2.4	<i>Individual factors</i> .....	217
6.3	CONCLUSIONS AND COMPARISONS OF THE INFLUENTIAL FACTORS.....	236
7	THE ANALYSIS OF INFLUENTIAL FACTORS ON LIFELONG LEARNING IN CHINA AND GERMANY.....	247
7.1	THE REASONS AND BACKGROUNDS OF FAMILY INFLUENTIAL FACTORS.....	247
7.1.1	<i>The reasons and backgrounds of family influential factors in China</i> .....	247
7.1.2	<i>The reasons and backgrounds for family influential factors in Germany</i> ....	251

7.1.3 <i>The comparison of family influential factors between China and Germany</i>	254
7.2 THE REASONS AND BACKGROUNDS OF SCHOOL, TEACHER, AND PEER INFLUENTIAL FACTORS .....	258
7.2.1 <i>The reasons and backgrounds of school, teacher, and peer influential factors in China</i> .....	258
7.2.2 <i>The reasons and backgrounds of school, teacher, and peer influential factors in Germany</i> .....	262
7.2.3 <i>The comparison of school, teacher, and peer influential factors between China and Germany</i> .....	267
7.3 THE REASONS AND BACKGROUNDS OF SOCIAL INFLUENTIAL FACTORS .....	271
7.3.1 <i>The reasons and backgrounds of social influential factors in China</i> .....	271
7.3.2 <i>The reasons and backgrounds of social influential factors in Germany</i> .....	274
7.3.3 <i>The comparison of social influential factors between China and Germany</i> .....	278
7.4 THE REASONS AND BACKGROUNDS FOR INDIVIDUAL INFLUENTIAL FACTORS .....	283
7.4.1 <i>The reasons and backgrounds for individual influential factors in China</i> ...	283
7.4.2 <i>The reasons and backgrounds of individual influential factors in Germany</i>	286
7.4.3 <i>The comparison of individual influential factors between China and Germany</i> .....	290
7.5 THE DIFFERENCES IN NARRATION FORMS AND STYLES BY CHINESE AND GERMANS NARRATORS .....	294
7.5.1 <i>The background and basic preconditions of narrations</i> .....	294
7.5.2 <i>Details and contents during narrations</i> .....	295
7.5.3 <i>The style of narrating</i> .....	296
8. THE INSPIRATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR CHINA AND GERMANY .....	298
8.1 CHINESE INSPIRATION FROM GERMAN EXPERIENCES .....	299
8.2 GERMAN INSPIRATION FROM CHINESE EXPERIENCES .....	306
8.3 CONCLUSIONS .....	310
REFERENCE.....	312
SUMMARY .....	331
ABOUT THE AUTHOR .....	333