

Profession, Professionalization, Professionalism

Rolf Sandahl

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the slide, creating a modern, layered effect.

Learning to Think Like an Evaluator

(Fetterman 2013:304)

Profession?

“In brief, evaluation is not a “profession”, at least in terms of the formal criteria that sociologists generally use to characterize such groups. Rather, it can be described as individuals sharing a common label who form a loose aggregate, who are not formally organized, and who may have little in common with one another in terms of the range of tasks they undertake or their competencies, work sites, and outlooks.”

(Rossi et al 2004:294)

Profession

- Theoretical knowledge
- The knowledge is assimilated through academic studies
- Competence is secured through a formal examination system
- Code of Ethics
- A professional culture

(e.g., Forslund 1993:7ff; Strömberg 1994:10 ff och Brante et al 2014:18 ff)

Professionalization

Currently, there is no official licensing body for evaluators. Therefore, some people in the evaluation field might not necessarily have the appropriate training and experience. Organizations are encouraged to always check the credentials of the evaluators they are planning to engage to assure that they have the appropriate methodological skills, cultural competence, specialized knowledge, and professional training to competently and credibly conduct the evaluation in accordance with the standards and principles of the evaluation profession (www.eval.org)

The Credentialed Evaluation Designation (Canadian Evaluation Society)

- Evidence of graduate-level degree or certificate (or recognized equivalency)
- Evidence of two years (full-time equivalent) evaluation-related work experience within the last ten years, and
- Education and/or experience related to 70 percent of the descriptors in each of the five competencies (Canadian Evaluation Society 2014)

Adrien & Hellrung 2019:208)

Competence?

If Professionalization (via identification of competencies) is the solution, what is the problem?

(Schwandt 2019:327)

Evaluation is more art than sciences

(Cronbach 1982)

In real estate , it's *location, location, location*. The evaluation counterpart is *context, context, context*

(Alkin 2013:290)

Professionalism

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