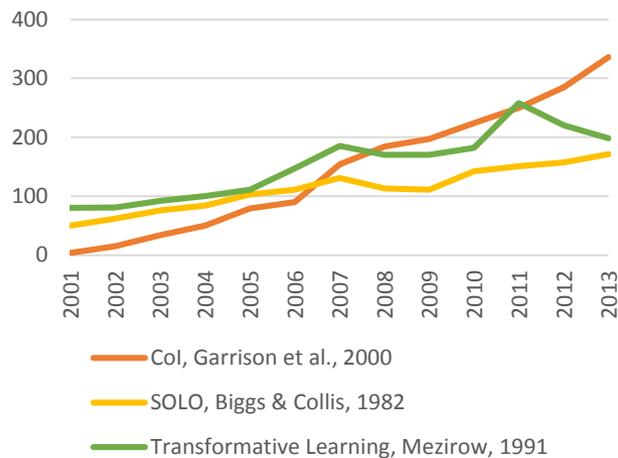


Community of Inquiry: The Phenomenon and the Influence

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Athabasca University

CIDER Presentation
October 1, 2014

Col, SOLO & Transformative
Comparative Chart
Google Scholar Citations by Year



Today's Agenda

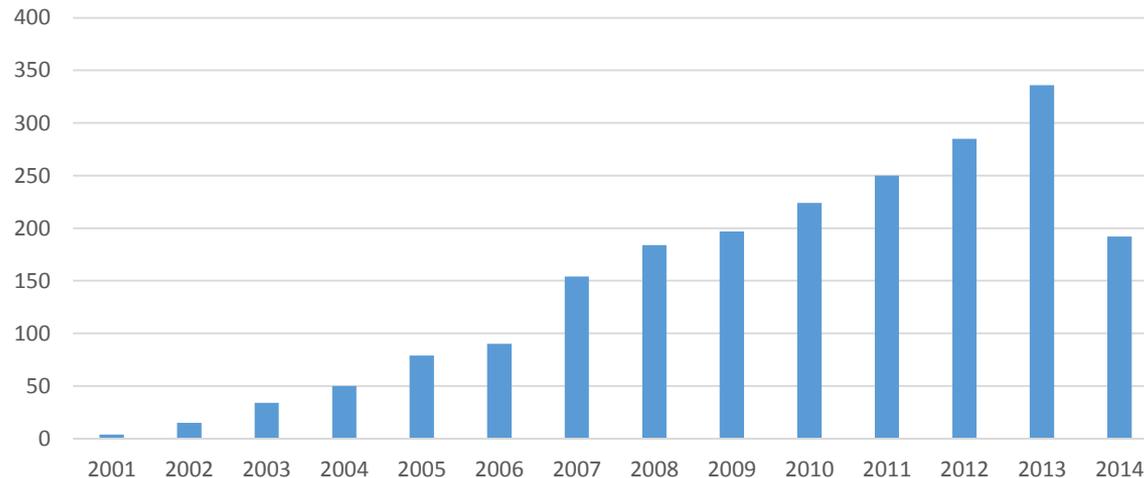
- Define the Problem
- Discuss the Purpose
- Describe the Outcomes
- Work commenced:
 - Phase 1 of the Col Research Alliance Applied Meta-analysis
 - Proposed Doctoral Research
- Discussion



The Problem

The volume and diversity of the body of Col-based research poses a daunting task for researchers and theorists seeking evidence on the veracity of the Col framework.

Garrison, Anderson and Archer, 2000
Google Scholar Citations



The Problem Continued

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar containing the URL `scholar.google.ca/scholar?q=empirical+&btnG=&hl=en&as...`. The search bar contains the word "empirical" and a search button. Below the search bar, the results are displayed. The first result is "Critical inquiry in a text-based environment: Computer conferencing in higher education" with a link to `ed.gov`. The second result is "An Empirical Verification of the Community of Inquiry Framework." with a link to `ed.gov`. The third result is "Cognitive presence in online learning" with a link to `apus.edu`. The search results are sorted by relevance. The browser's address bar and search bar are highlighted with orange boxes. The text "About 795 results (0.07 sec)" is also highlighted with an orange box.

Garrison: Critical inquiry in ... x +

scholar.google.ca/scholar?q=empirical+&btnG=&hl=en&as...

Google

empirical

Scholar About 795 results (0.07 sec) My Citations

All citations **Critical inquiry in a text-based environment: Computer conferencing in higher education**

Articles Search within citing articles

Case law An **Empirical** Verification of the Community of Inquiry Framework. [ed.gov](#) IP

My library [JB Arbaugh](#) - Journal of Asynchronous Learning Networks, 2007 - ERIC

Any time Despite the explosion of **empirical** research on online learning effectiveness over the last decade, development and acceptance of theoretical frameworks unique to the online learning environment are still relatively lacking. While there are several emerging models [...

Since 2014 Cited by 107 Related articles All 3 versions Cite Save

Since 2013

Since 2010 Cognitive presence in online learning [apus.edu](#) IP

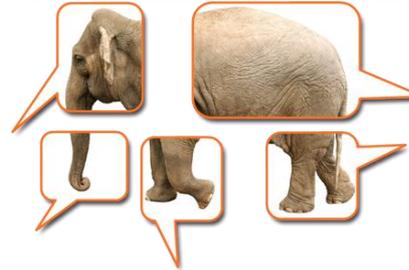
Custom range... [H Kanuka](#), DR Garrison - Journal of Computing in Higher Education, 2004 - Springer

Sort by relevance ... than face-to-face. To date there have been few **empirical** studies on the use of asynchronous text-based Internet communication technologies and their ability and/or effectiveness to facilitate higher levels of learning. Even if it ...

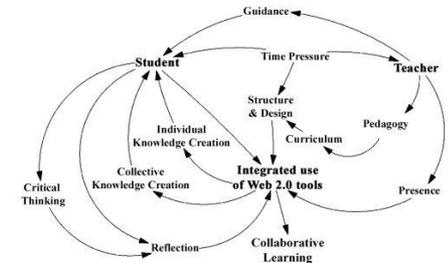
Sort by date Cited by 113 Related articles All 7 versions Cite Save



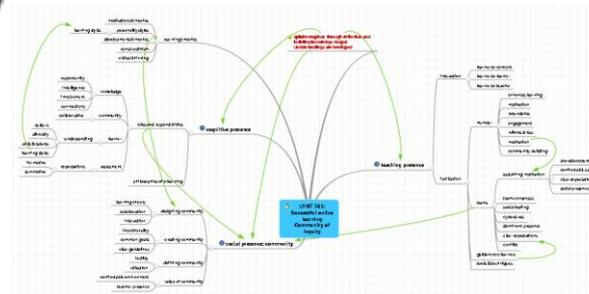
The Problem Continued



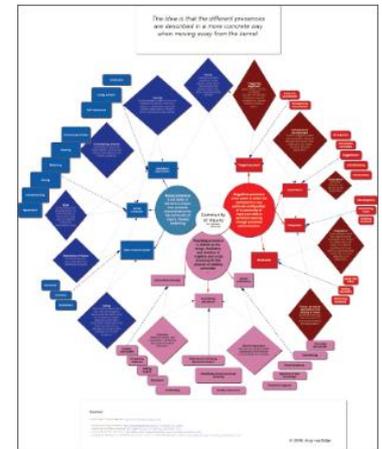
www.cooper.com/olliophant.png



den Exter et al., 2012



Wanless, J., LRNT 505: Successful Online Learning, Community of Inquiry, 2009



© 2008; Joop van Schie



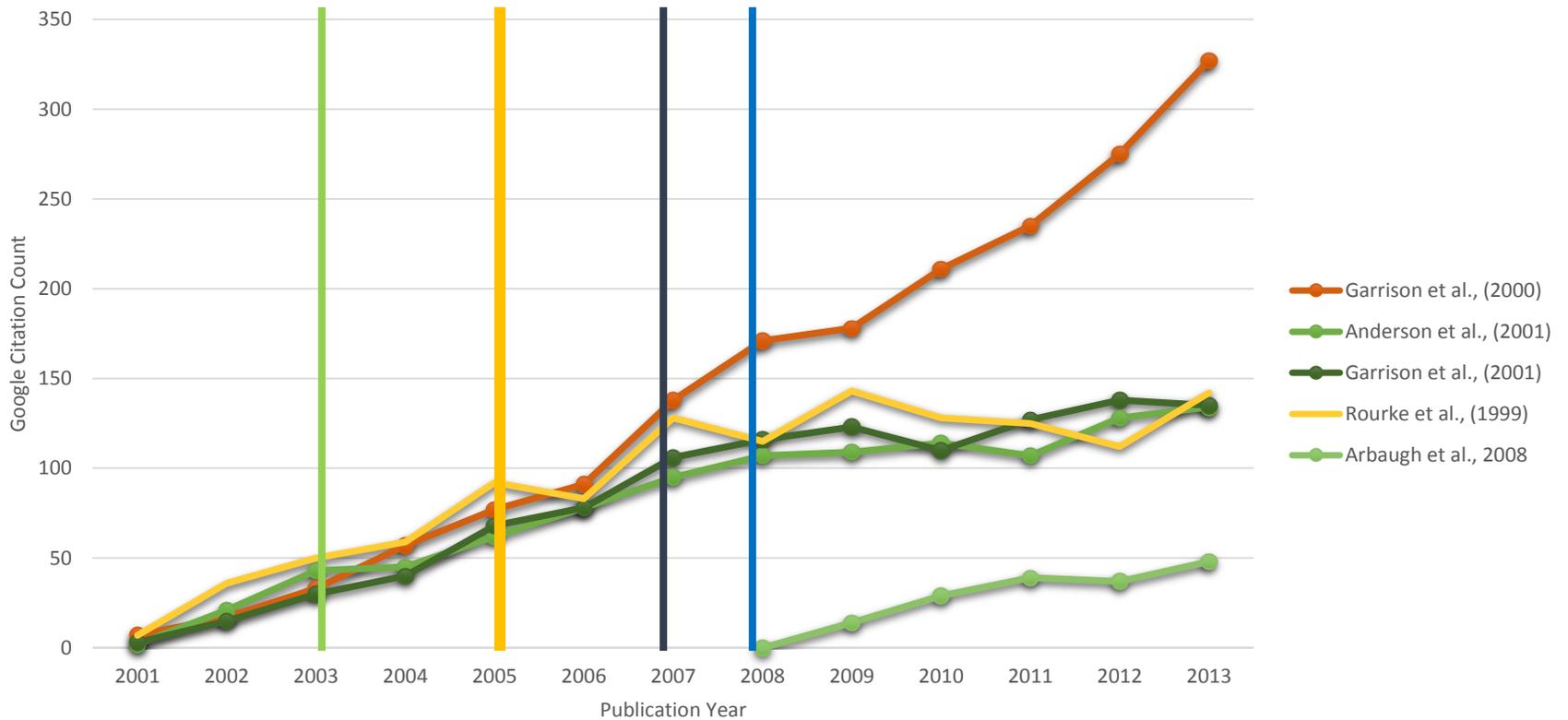
The Purpose

1. Examine, analyze and report thematic characteristics of the corpus of Col-based empirical research.
2. Provide a coded, searchable and sortable, open, online database of Col empirical research.



Col Citation History

Community of Inquiry Google Scholar Article Citation History



Col Applied Meta-Analysis

Athabasca Mission Critical Project

- Purpose: To gain a better understanding of the state of empirical Community of Inquiry research
- Research Team: Madelaine Befus, MA, Dr. Martha Cleveland-Innes, Dr. D. Randy Garrison, Dr. Marguerite Koole, Dr. Norm Vaughan
- Time Frame: August 2013 to April 2014
- Data: Peer-reviewed, empirical studies citing Garrison et al. (2000) and Arbaugh et al., (2008)
- Method:
 - Google Scholar search
 - Acquisition of full-text articles
 - Compilation of study data sample characteristics
 - Applied meta-analysis of data study sample characteristics
 - Phase 2: applied meta-analysis of results and conclusions



Col Applied Meta-Analysis

Phase 1 Procedure

Google Scholar

Initial search result of 649 items; resulting shortlist of 53 deemed too diverse for meta-analysis

Revised search parameters included:

- Garrison, Anderson and Archer (2000) citation
- Arbaugh, et al., (2008) citation
- Documented use of the Col survey tool(Arbaugh, et al., 2008)
- Empirical, quantitative or mixed-method research
- Peer-reviewed, full-text copy available

Resulted in 147 items

Final meta-Analysis dataset included 73 articles



Col Applied Meta-Analysis

Phase 1 Procedure Continued

Dataset items examined to identify

- Level of Evidence
- Study Focus
- Col Element(s)
- Educational Setting
- Study Location
- Study Population
- Sample size
- Research Method
- Analysis Method



Col Applied Meta-Analysis

Level of Evidence

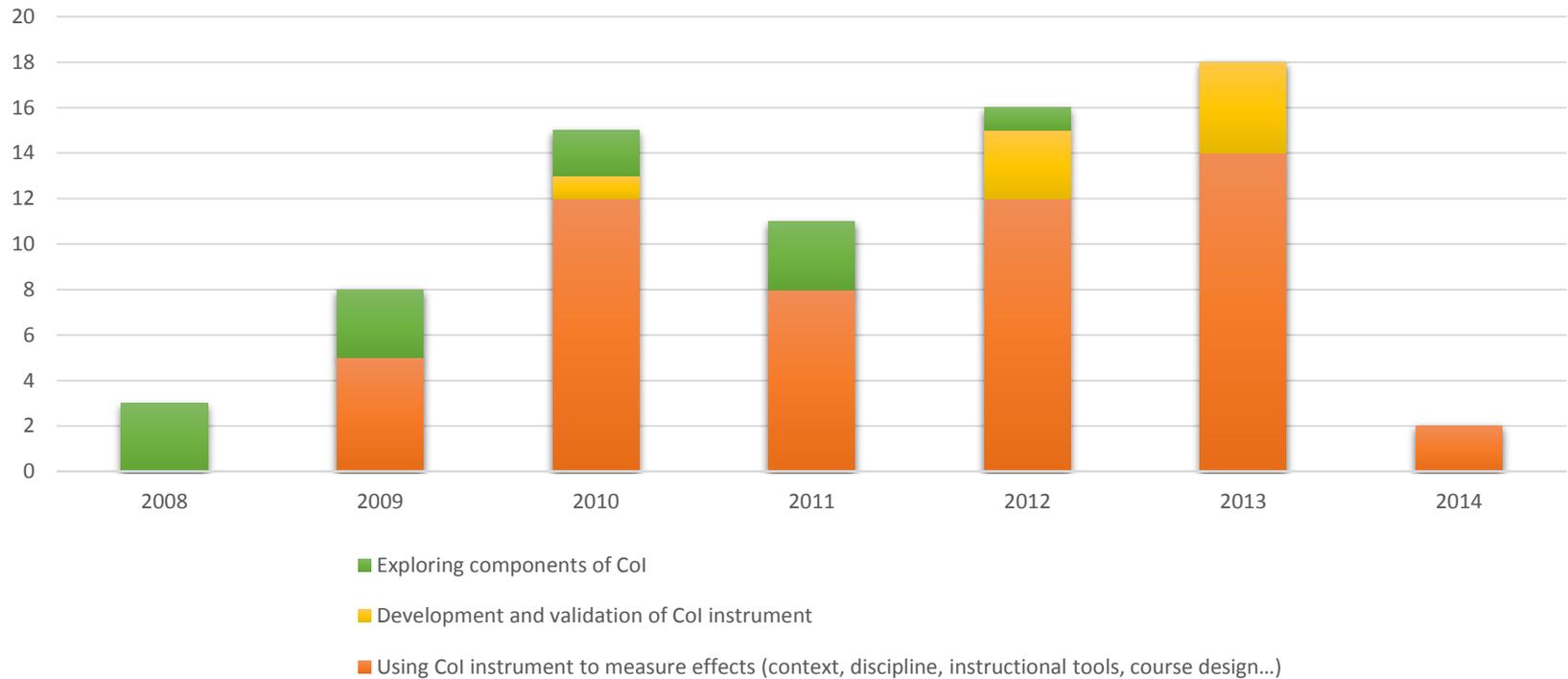
		Studies	Total Participants
1	Randomized experimental trials or meta-analyses	1	43,932
2	A high-quality synthesis containing recommendations	0	
3	Comparative, multicourse case studies or large-sample quantitative or mixed studies	36	80,510
4	Small-sample, single-site quantitative or mixed studies.	36	1,693
5	Descriptive studies and/or self-report stories.	0	
6	The opinion of respected authorities or expert communities without additional data.	0	
	Total	73	126,135



Col Applied Meta-Analysis

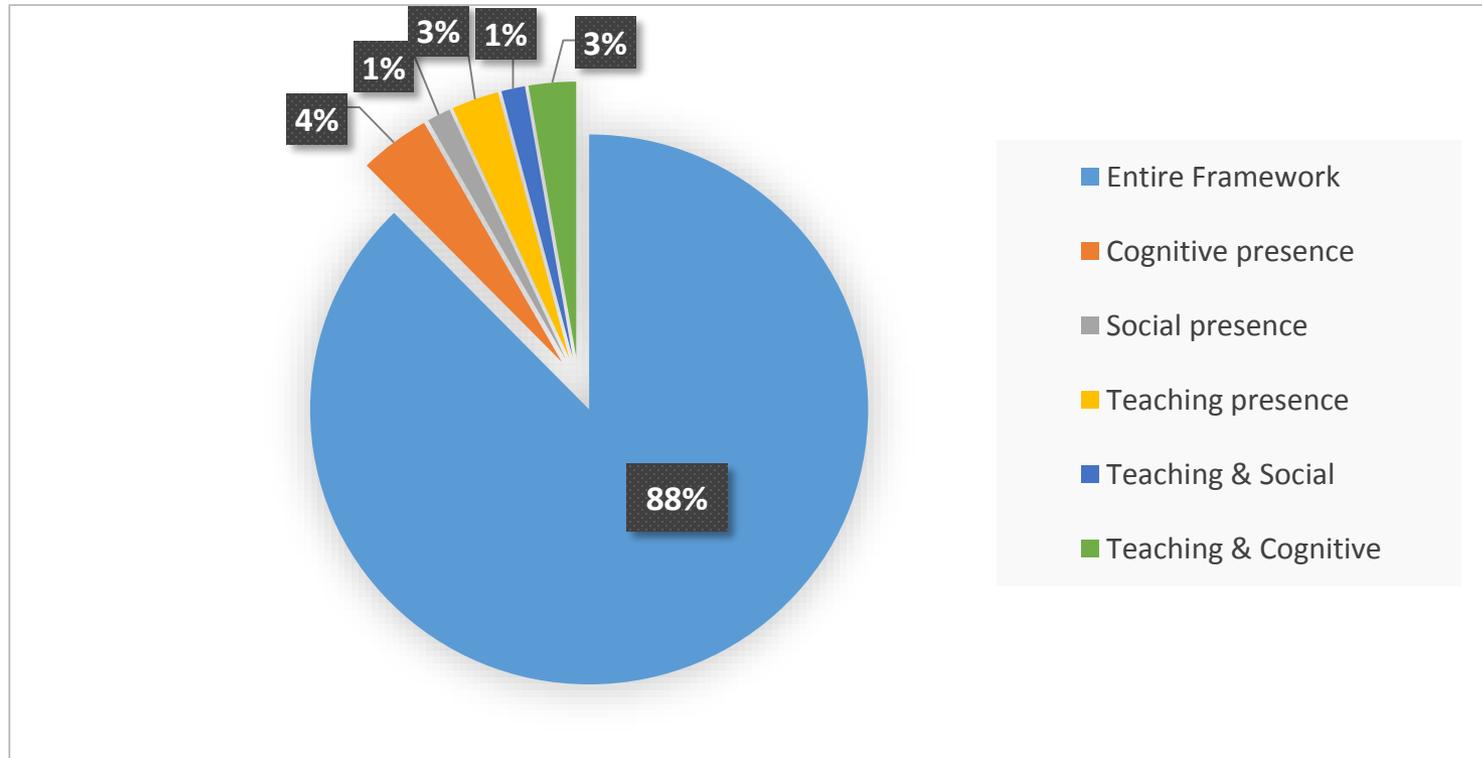
Analysis of Study Focus

Study Focus by Year



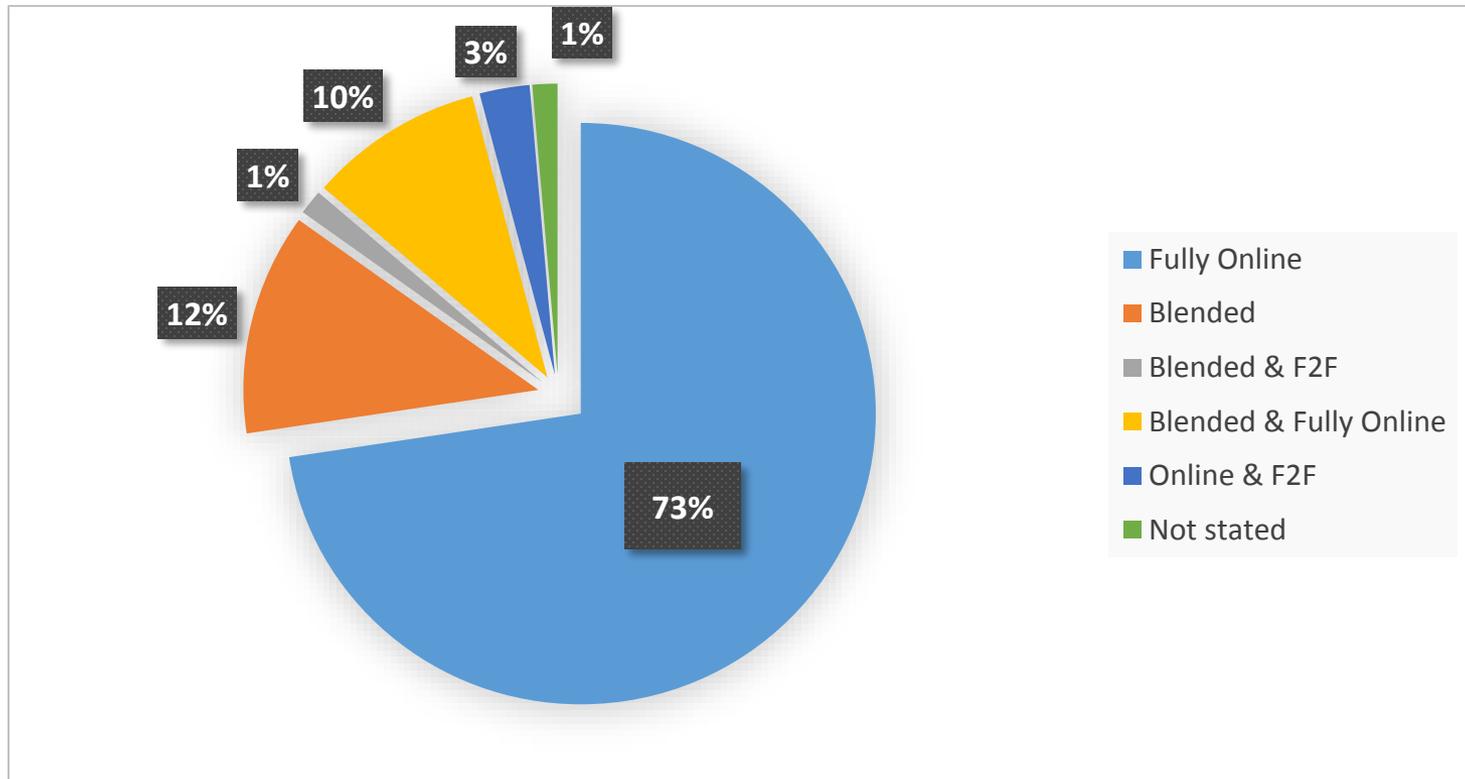
Col Applied Meta-Analysis

Study Emphasis



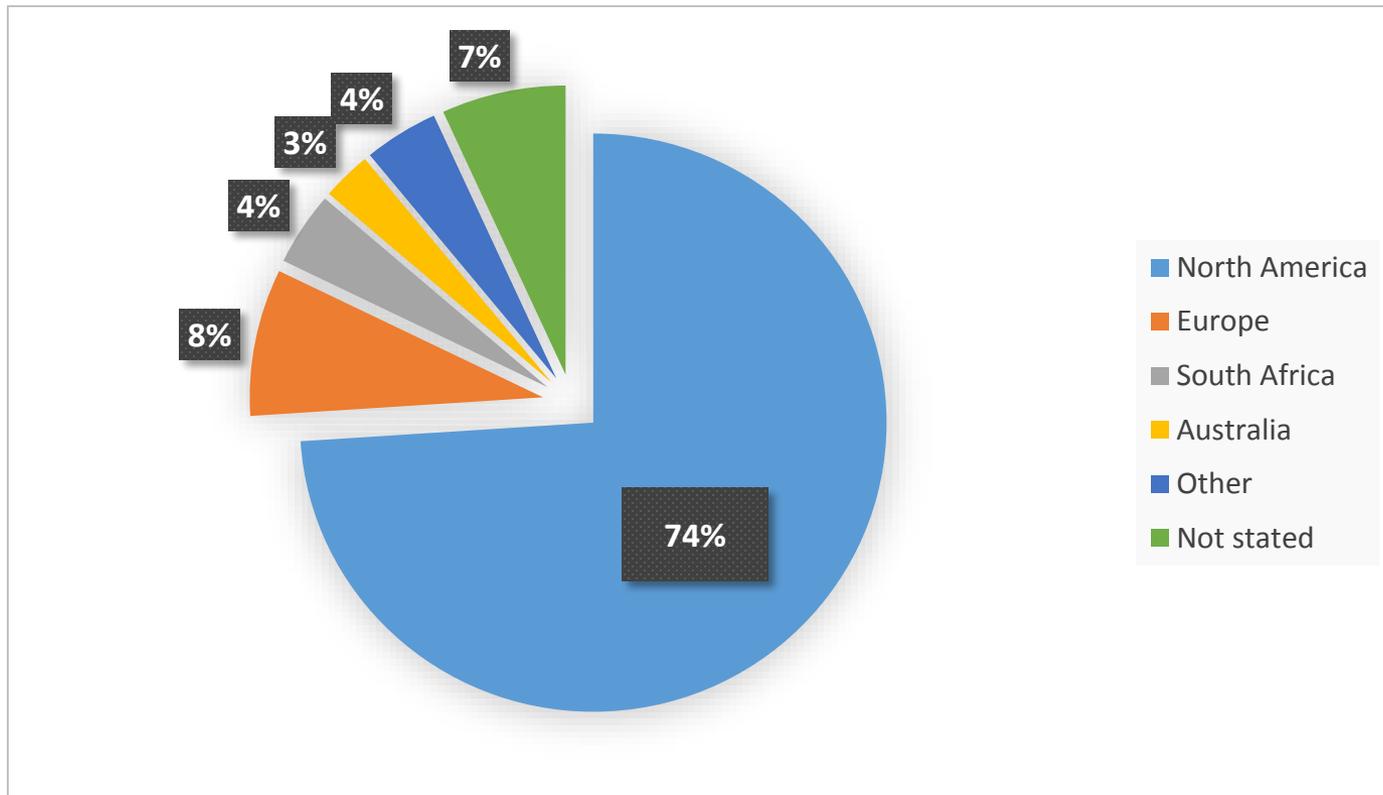
Col Applied Meta-Analysis

Study Settings



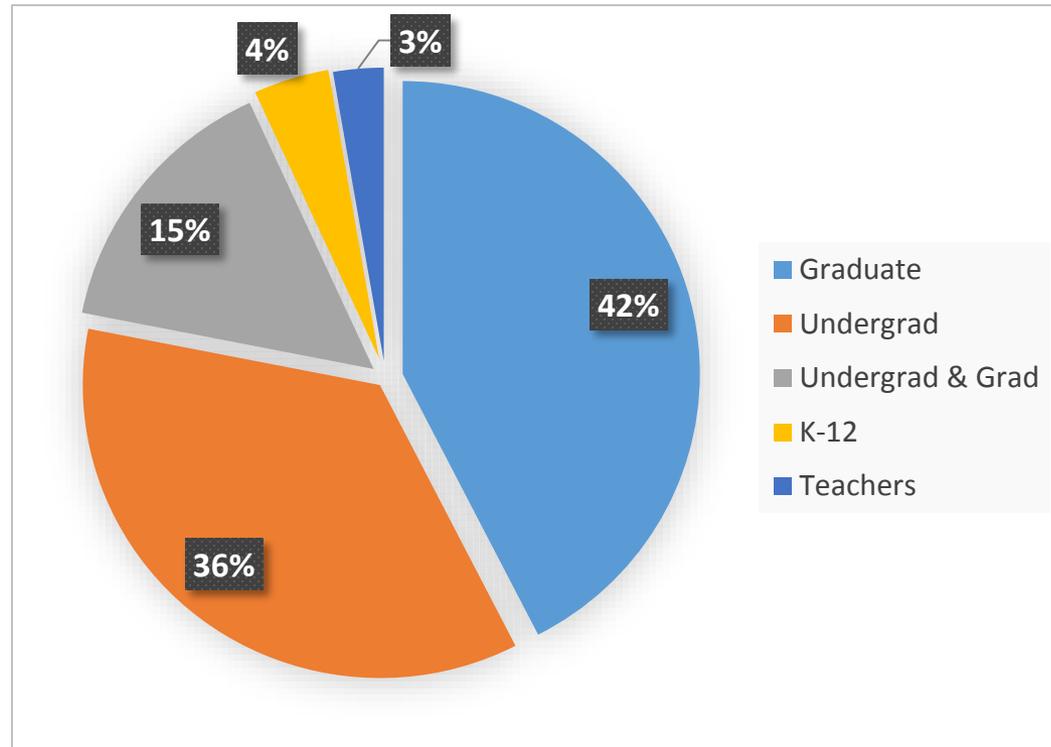
Col Applied Meta-Analysis

Geographic Setting



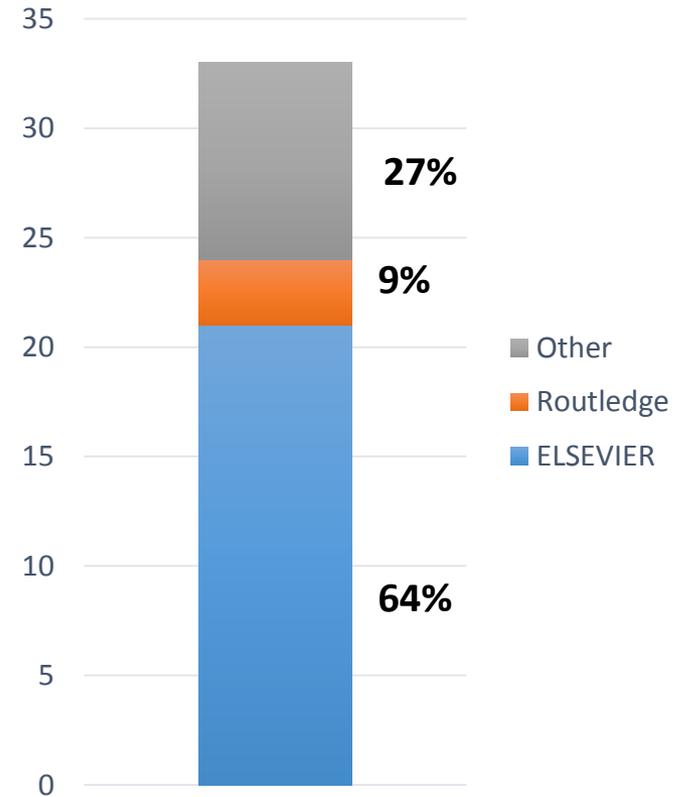
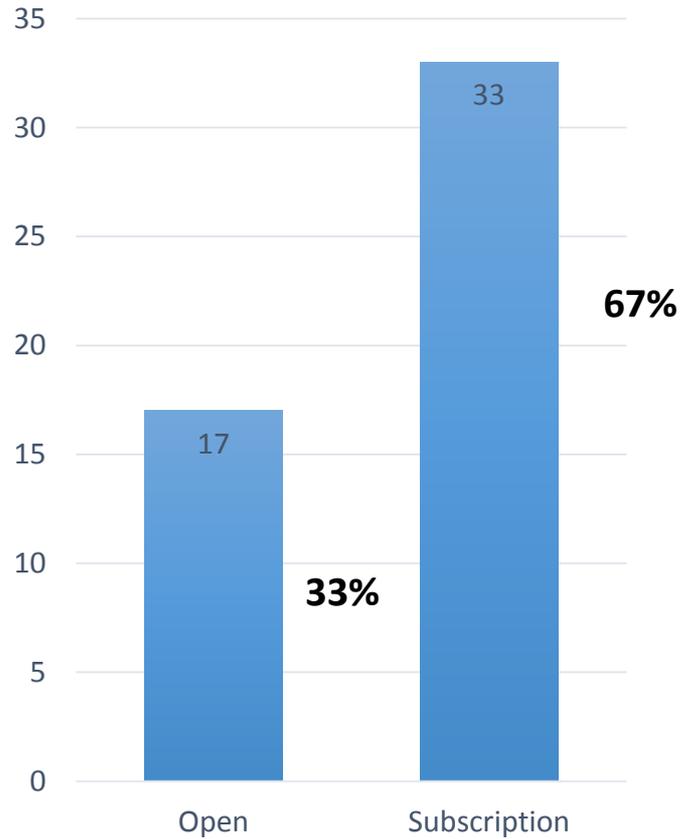
Col Applied Meta-Analysis

Study Populations



Col Applied Meta-Analysis

Publications Statistics



Col Applied Meta-Analysis

Summary of Preliminary Findings

Results so far reveal a preponderance of Col empirical studies conducted in North America (74%), based on research conducted using undergraduate and graduate student participants in formal higher education online settings (96%), and a scarcity of studies involving elementary and secondary students or non-traditional educational settings (4%).

Of the 73 studies included in this applied meta-analysis, 73% were found to have used the Col instrument to measure effects of educational interventions or change (context, discipline, instructional tools, or course design), 16% focused on studying the development or validation of the Arbaugh et al. (2008) Col instrument, and only 11% focused on examining the Col framework itself.



The Community of Inquiry: An Examination of the Phenomenon and Influence

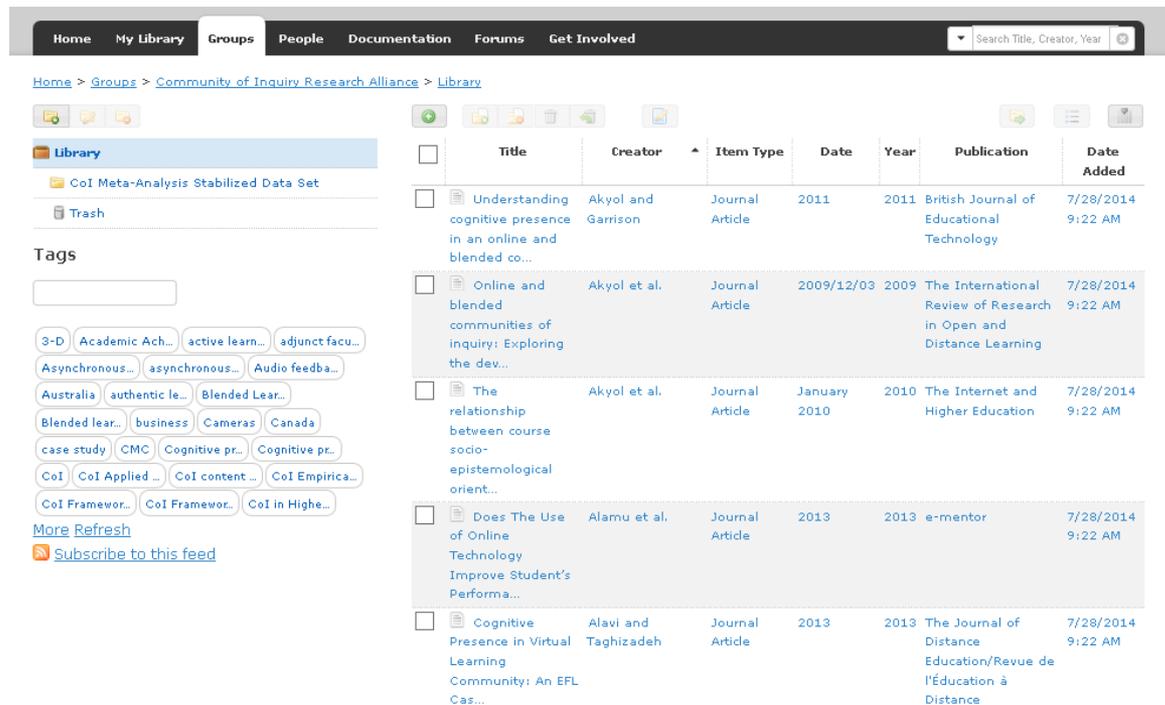
M. Befus, Athabasca University, Ed.D. Program
Proposed Doctoral Research Study

- Purpose: Define and analyze comprehensive characteristics of the corpus of existing empirical Col research in order to better understand the far-reaching phenomena of the Col framework and its implementation in distance education.
- Researcher: Madelaine Befus, MA, Ed.D. student supported by dissertation committee: Dr. Susan Moisey, Dr. D. Randy Garrison, and Dr. Peter Arthur, UBC
- Time Frame: completion by April 2015
- Method:
 - Thematic Synthesis (Thomas & Harden, 2008)



Proposed Doctoral Research Study Outcomes

1. Published thematic synthesis of CoI-based empirical research studies from 2000-2014
2. Online, open database of CoI-based empirical research attached to the CoI website.



The screenshot displays a web-based library interface for the Community of Inquiry Research Alliance. The navigation bar includes links for Home, My Library, Groups, People, Documentation, Forums, and Get Involved. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area is titled 'Library' and contains a list of research articles. The left sidebar features a 'Tags' section with various keywords and a 'Subscribe to this feed' button.

Title	Creator	Item Type	Date	Year	Publication	Date Added
<input type="checkbox"/> Understanding cognitive presence in an online and blended co...	Akyol and Garrison	Journal Article	2011	2011	British Journal of Educational Technology	7/28/2014 9:22 AM
<input type="checkbox"/> Online and blended communities of inquiry: Exploring the dev...	Akyol et al.	Journal Article	2009/12/03	2009	The International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning	7/28/2014 9:22 AM
<input type="checkbox"/> The relationship between course socio-epistemological orient...	Akyol et al.	Journal Article	January 2010	2010	The Internet and Higher Education	7/28/2014 9:22 AM
<input type="checkbox"/> Does The Use of Online Technology Improve Student's Performa...	Alamu et al.	Journal Article	2013	2013	e-mentor	7/28/2014 9:22 AM
<input type="checkbox"/> Cognitive Presence in Virtual Learning Community: An EFL Cas...	Alavi and Taghizadeh	Journal Article	2013	2013	The Journal of Distance Education/Revue de l'Éducation à l'Éducation à Distance	7/28/2014 9:22 AM

Community of Inquiry

Influence

Moore, M. (2013) states the Col is one of “the four main theories that have evolved during that history” (p.1)

Halverson et al., (2013), in a thematic analysis of blended learning research published from 2000 to 2011 concludes “the community of inquiry framework seems to be one of the most utilized theories for blended learning at this time” (p. 24).

“The Community of Inquiry model is likely to continue to be popular. Although technologies, research forms and educational practices are also likely to change, questions of student social and cognitive engagement are sure to remain central” (Remesal & Friesen, 2014, p. 3).



Future Directions

- Conduct Phase 2 of Athabasca Col Alliance applied meta-analysis
- Complete doctoral research
- Publish online database of Col research
- Publish reviews of Col research
- Support Col researchers and practitioners through Col website



Join the Conversation

Discussion Options

- Adobe Connect audio
- Adobe Connect text chat
- Col Website Membership and Discussion Forums: <https://coi.athabascau.ca/>
- Email: coi@Athabascau.ca or madelaine.befus@gmail.com
- Twitter: #coimodel



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