

A Multi-Vocal Thematic Synthesis of CoI Research

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The Problem

- The volume and diversity of the body of Col-based research literature poses a daunting task for researchers and theorists seeking evidence of the veracity of the Col framework and its applications.
- A catalogued collection of Col-based research currently does not exist.

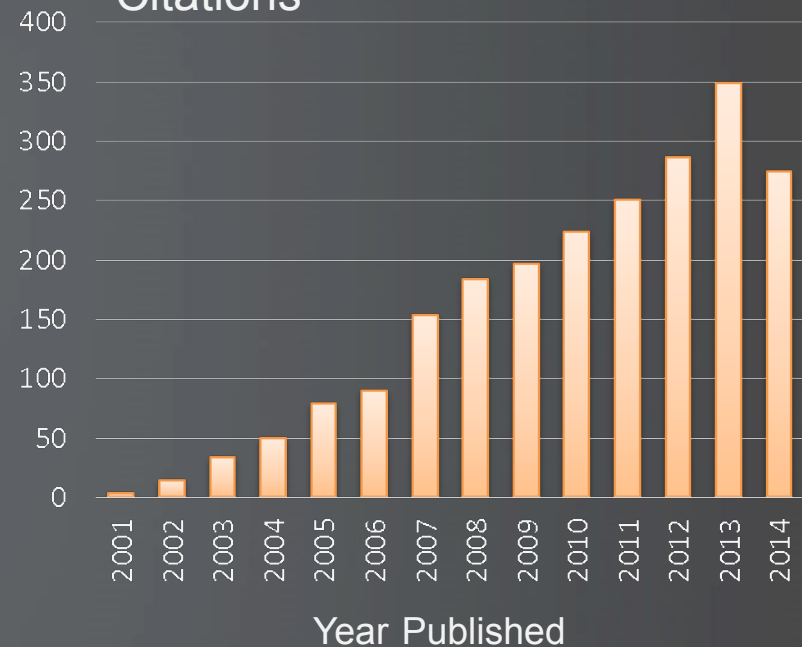
Feasibility

Digitization of academic journals and databases, in concert with the communication and dissemination affordances provided by the Internet, development of scholastic search engines such as Google Scholar, and improvements to research software programs, have increased the feasibility of locating, gathering, and analysing the documents that form the data for this research synthesis.

Scope of the Research

Empirical, peer-reviewed studies, citing the Garrison et al. (2000) keystone article, and published in English.

Garrison et al., 2000, GS Citations



Research Questions

- What is the nature, focus, and context of empirical research that has been undertaken on the Col framework since the publication of the Garrison et al. (2000) seminal paper?
- What factors have contributed to the continuing popularity of the Col framework?

Multi-Vocal Defined

Multi-vocal literature [sets] are comprised of all accessible writings on a common, often contemporary topic. The writings embody the view or voices of diverse sets of authors (academics, practitioners, journalists, policy centers, state offices of education, local school districts, independent research and development firms, and others).

(Ogawa & Malen, 1991, p. 265).

Outcomes

- A thematic synthesis of Col-based empirical research giving meaning to isolated facts, reconciling seemingly diverse results, and interpreting knowledge in such a way that it becomes pragmatic for practitioners and policy makers.
- An open, coded, searchable, and sortable, online database of Col empirical research.

Methodology

A multi-vocal, thematic synthesis research methodology incorporating an overlapping, iterative, inductive approach to data coding and analysis.

Stage

1 Literature Search and Acquisition

Step

- 1 Data location
- 2 Data acquisition

2 Artefact Appraisal

- 3 Data inclusion
- 4 Artefact assessment and quantification
- 5 Study characteristic appraisal

3 Thematic Coding and Analysis

- 6 Data export
- 7 Study characteristic analysis
- 8 Identify basic themes
- 9 Identify organizing themes
- 10 Identify global themes identification

Home > Groups > Community of Inquiry Research Alliance > Library



Library

CoI Meta-Analysis Stabilized Data Set

Trash

Tags

- 3-D Academic Ach... active learn... adjunct facu...
- Asynchronous... asynchronous... Audio feedba...
- Australia authentic le... Blended Lear...
- Blended lear... business Cameras Canada
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Pilot

- 50-item pilot study successfully completed in order to calibrate study methodological approaches and assess feasibility of data acquisition and manipulation.
- Custom artefact retrieval, database cataloguing, and data exporting processes using Google Scholar, Zotero, text, and spreadsheet programs documented.

Time Frame

December 2014 – Proposal defended

January to March – Research conducted

April to May – Dissertation write up, online database published