Quasi-experimental...What?!

Increasing Your Research Literacy

Introduction

Katie Linder, PhD
Research Director
Oregon State University
Extended Campus
kathryn.linder@oregonstate.edu
@Katie__Linder

Andrea Gregg, PhD
Online Learning Research
Penn State University
World Campus
axg251@psu.edu

Ice Breaker

What does research look like
in your day-to-day work?

What questions do you have about research?

How to design research?

1. What question(s) are you trying to answer?

2. What evidence or data do you need to address the question(s)?

3. How will you gather that evidence or data and from where/whom?

4. What's the best way to analyze that evidence/data?

Research Example: Adaptive Learning

"To address the urgent need to improve student outcomes in developmental and general education courses, higher education institutions are turning to new learning technologies. Prominent among these is adaptive learning courseware that uses computer algorithms to parse learning analytic data collected as students interact with online learning environments. These adaptive algorithms then determine the student's next learning activity and can be used to generate personalized feedback, study reminders, content recommendations, and real-time progress dashboards that both students and instructors may review" (Yarnall, Means, & Wetzel, 2016).

Adaptive Case Study

Given all that is going on with Adaptive Learning, what are questions that research could help address?

Qualitative	Mixed Methods	Quantitative

Adaptive Case Study?

1. Pick a question about Adaptive to explore.

2. What evidence or data do you need to address the question(s)?

3. How will you gather that evidence or data and from where/whom?

4. What's the best way to analyze that evidence/data?

How to evaluate research

1. What questions does the study claim/suggest are addressed?

2. How was the study done in order to answer those questions?

3. Does the study match the questions?

4. If not, what questions does the study answer?

Quantitative or Qualitative or Mixed?

Quantitative and Qualitative or Mixed are equally valid methodologies that address different types of questions.

"Research in Action" podcast

ecampus.oregonstate.edu/podcast

Thank you!

Questions? Comments?

Katie Linder, PhD
Research Director
Oregon State University
Extended Campus
kathryn.linder@oregonstate.edu

Andrea Gregg, PhD
Online Learning Research
Penn State University
World Campus
axg251@psu.edu