

The SoTL Research Roadmap

A Practical Workbook



Ed Crafters Community Connection

Building Educational Excellence Through Scholarly Activity

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Introduction

Purpose of This Workbook

Welcome to the **Ed Crafters Community Connection (EC3) SoTL Research Workbook**. This resource is designed to guide you through the development of your Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) research project. Our goal is to provide a structured approach that helps you identify a research topic, formulate research questions, design and conduct your study, and ultimately share your findings with the broader educational community.

How to Use This Workbook

This workbook is organized into nine stages, each representing an important step in the SoTL research process. Each stage includes:

- **Objectives:** Clear goals for what you should achieve by the end of the stage.
- **Guided Prompts and Questions:** Thought-provoking questions to help you refine your ideas and plans.
- **Activities and Tasks:** Practical exercises to develop your research project further.
- **Reflection and Notes:** Space for you to reflect on your progress and document your thoughts.
- **Resources and Readings:** Recommended materials to deepen your understanding.
- **Action Plan:** Steps to outline your next moves and keep you on track.

Roadmap of Stages



Define Your Research Space



Explore Research Gaps



Formulate Key Questions



Address Ethics & Myths



Design Your Study



Analyze Data Techniques



Write and Review



Collaborate Strategically



Chart Next Steps

Navigation Steps

How to Navigate this Workbook

1

Start with Stage 1: Begin by identifying your research space and goals. Each subsequent stage builds upon the previous one.

2

Complete Activities and Tasks: Engage with the exercises and discussions to refine your research project.

3

Reflect and Document: Use the provided spaces to capture your reflections and evolving ideas.

4

Leverage Resources: Make use of the links and readings to support your learning and project development.

5

Plan Your Actions: Use the action plans to set timelines and milestones, ensuring steady progress through the workbook.

This workbook is meant to evolve with your project. Feel free to revisit stages as needed and continuously refine your research.

1

What drives
my passion in
teaching and
learning?



Begin your journey by defining the educational phenomena that spark your curiosity

STAGE ONE

STAGE 1

Determining Your SoTL Research Space

1

Objectives:

- **Identify** an educational phenomenon you are passionate about.
- **Define** your scholarly goals (e.g., reflect on your teaching, improve student learning, present at conferences, publish findings).

Key Characteristics of SoTL Research:



CELatElon, (2013, September 9). Key Characteristics of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/yvDKHHyx7YY>

Initial Reflection:

What teaching and learning challenges or questions interest you, and how do they align with your goals for improving educational practices in your discipline or beyond?



Guided Prompts and Questions

What educational phenomena captivate your interest?

- *One phenomenon I would like to investigate is_____.*
- *Space to expand on why:*

What is your primary objective in exploring this topic?

- *My main goal in exploring this topic is to_____.*
- *Space to expand on potential impact:*

How do these interests fit into your larger research ambitions?

- *My scholarly goals include_____.*
- *Space to discuss how your exploration connects to your goals:*



Activities and Tasks

Activity	Points	Status
<p>Brainstorm Potential Research Topics <i>Write down 3 potential research topics</i></p>	25	
<p>Discuss Ideas with a Colleague <i>Get feedback on ideas in a scheduled meeting</i></p>	50	
<p>Literature Review <i>Annotate 3-5 articles related to your research topic</i></p>	75	
<p>Developing a Preliminary Research Plan <i>Outline a basic plan for one topic including objectives and potential methods</i></p>	100	
<p>Attend a Workshop on SoTL <i>Participate in a relevant workshop, meeting, or webinar to gain additional insights</i></p>	50	



Reflection and Notes

Why do these topics matter to you?

How do these topics align with your scholarly goals?



Resources and Readings

Videos:



CELatElon. (2013, August 16). Scholarship of Teaching and Learning vs. Scholarly Teaching [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/eedxoi1CPnk>

- TEDx Talks (2022, February 2). Living Educational Theory Research | Jack Whitehead | TEDxUniversityofBoltonSalon [Video]. YouTube. https://youtu.be/MyI_yo-QPAg
 - Applying your passion and values to your educational research space

Online Articles:

- [How to Identify a SoTL Research Topic](#)
 - A web page article on Getting Started with exploring potential research topics in education.
- [SoTL Inquiry Methods](#)
 - A web page article on Insights into strategies for successful SoTL projects.

Recommended Readings:

- Hutchings, P. (2000). [Opening lines: Approaches to the scholarship of teaching and learning](#). Carnegie Publications, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.
 - A collection of 8 case studies, stories of faculty experiences and lessons learned in SoTL research.



Action Plan

Milestone	Target Date	Status
Brainstorm Research Topics	[/ /]	
Discuss Ideas With a Colleague	[/ /]	
Conduct Initial Literature Review	[/ /]	
Finalize Research Focus	[/ /]	

Stage 1 Progress



Total Progress



2

What is really known about this topic? How do I fit in?



Take a deeper dive into your research. Identify gaps in existing literature and explore your research paradigm.

STAGE TWO

STAGE 2

Taking a Deeper Dive into Your SoTL Research Space

2

Objectives:

- **Describe** your research paradigm or philosophical worldview.
- **Identify** gaps in the existing research that your project could address.
- **Draft** the first page of your SoTL research proposal.

What is a Research Paradigm?



Proofed. (2022, August 2). What is a Research Paradigm? | Proofed [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/DN4JoVx5EVU>

Initial Reflection:

Do you see reality and knowledge as something objective that can be measured, or do you believe they are shaped by individual experiences? How does this belief affect how you approach your research?



Guided Prompts and Questions

Which research paradigm do you most closely align with (e.g., post-positivist, constructivist, pragmatist, critical, interpretivist)?

- *My research paradigm is _____.*
- *Space to expand on why:*

How does this paradigm influence the types of research questions you ask (e.g., specific, broad, qualitative, quantitative, open-ended)?

- *My paradigm leads me to ask questions that are _____.*
- *Space to expand on why:*

How does your paradigm guide your choice of research methods (e.g., interviews, surveys, experiments, mixed methods)?

- *My paradigm leads to me toward conducting _____.*
- *Space to expand on why:*



Activities and Tasks

Activity	Points	Status
<p>Explore Theoretical Frameworks <i>Identify and analyze frameworks that align with your research topic</i></p>	25	
<p>Discuss Designs with a Colleague <i>Get feedback on the emerging design and conceptual framework of your study</i></p>	50	
<p>Literature Review <i>Annotate 3-5 more articles related to your research topic</i></p>	75	
<p>Write a Positionality Statement <i>Reflect on your background, biases, and perspectives, and how they influence your research in 1-2 paragraphs</i></p>	25	
<p>Draft First Page of Research Proposal <i>Write down the title, introduction, and research problem or purpose statement for your proposal</i></p>	100	



Reflection and Notes

Which research designs are you considering and why?

How has reflection on your research paradigm helped clarify your approach to your SoTL project?



Resources and Readings

Videos:



CELatElon. (2013, September 12). Examples of SoTL Projects [Video].
YouTube. <https://youtu.be/LogmkiN6utk>

- CELatElon (2015, January 12). Arts & Humanities Methodologies for SOTL [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/6gXlliQBe3w>
 - A video on various discipline perspectives serving to inspire SoTL studies.

Online Articles:

- [A Taxonomy of Research Gaps: Identifying and Defining the 7 Research Gaps](#)
 - An article detailing different types of research gaps, which can help you identify where your research can contribute to the existing literature.
- [Organizing Your Social Sciences Research Paper](#)
 - A library guide detailing theoretical frameworks and how they guide your research.

Recommended Readings:

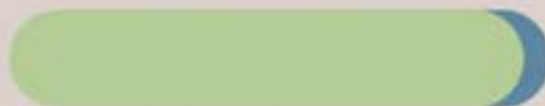
- Bartsch, R. A. (2013). [Designing SoTL studies-part II: Practicality](#). *New Directions for Teaching & Learning*, (136) 35-48.
 - Suggested solutions to common challenges in designing SoTL studies and the pros and cons of various design types.



Action Plan

Milestone	Target Date	Status
Finalize Literature Review	[/ /]	
Finalize Positionality Statement	[/ /]	
Draft First Page of Research Proposal	[/ /]	
Seek Peer Review and Feedback on Draft Proposal Page	[/ /]	

Stage 2 Progress

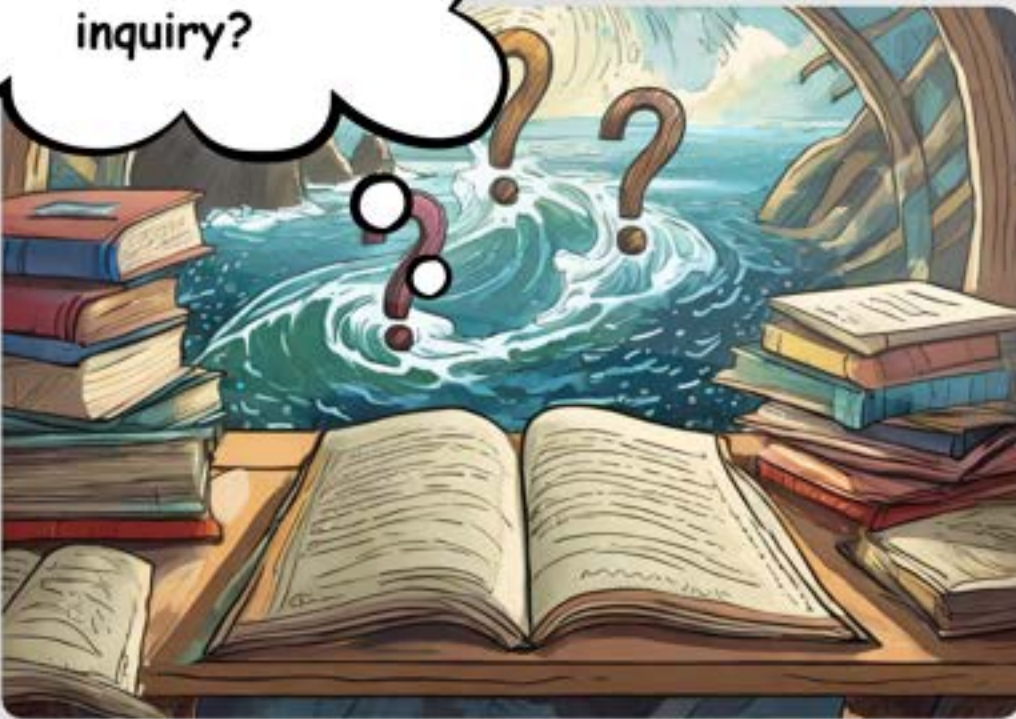


Total Progress



3

How should I
frame my
inquiry?



Formulate focused research questions that guide your study and address the gaps you've uncovered.

STAGE THREE

STAGE 3

Crafting Your SoTL Research Questions



Objectives:

- **Develop** research questions that are well-suited to your project.
- **Refine** your questions to be specific, measurable, and achievable.
- **Explore** potential research designs that align with your inquiry.

How Can I Frame My Research Question?



CELatElon. (2013, September 11). Taxonomy of Questions from the Intro to Opening Lines [Video]. YouTube. https://youtu.be/JCxPttq_e_Y

Initial Reflection:

Hutchings describes 'What works?' 'What is?' 'What could be possible?' and 'What broader theories exist?' as potential pathways into conceptualizing a SoTL research question. Which of these four pathways catches your interest and why?



Guided Prompts and Questions

Start by pinpointing the central problem or phenomenon in your teaching and learning context that needs investigation. What underlying issue do you want to understand or improve?

Transform the identified issue into a broad research question. Then, refine it by considering the scope, focus, and alignment with your research paradigm and theoretical framework.

Narrow down your question further by specifying the methods and approaches you'll use to explore it, ensuring it's clear, measurable, and actionable.



Activities and Tasks

Activity	Points	Status
<p>Draft Your Research Questions <i>Write 2-3 questions that align with the gaps and framework identified in previous stages</i></p>	25	
<p>Refine Your Research Questions <i>Use peer feedback or a checklist to refine and focus your questions</i></p>	50	
<p>Analyze Example Research Questions <i>Review examples of SoTL research questions and compare them with your own questions</i></p>	50	
<p>Align Research Questions with Methods <i>Determine the research methods (e.g., surveys, interviews, experiments) and create a brief outline how these methods will be used</i></p>	75	
<p>Seek Peer Review and Feedback <i>Share your refined research questions with a peer and gather feedback on their clarity, focus, and alignment with your study</i></p>	100	



Reflection and Notes

How have your research questions evolved through this process?

How do your research questions shape the methods you plan to use in your study?



Resources and Readings

Videos:



CELatElon. (2013, September 17). Reading Recommendations for New SoTL Scholars [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/7m4aEF96LQs>

- Lynette Pretorius (2018, June 24). Aligning your theoretical framework, methodology and research questions [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/jUKv2NccshQ>
 - A video on conceptualizing the alignment of your research project.

Online Articles:

- [Developing SoTL Research Questions](#)
 - Article on approaches for crafting SoTL research questions.
- [Defining the Question \(Example Checklists\)](#)
 - LibGuide applying checklist criteria (e.g., SPIDER) to research questions.
- [Conceptual Framework for MedEd Research](#)
 - Podcast episode on conceptually framing research to start a project.
- [Enhancing Educational Scholarship Through Conceptual Frameworks](#)
 - Article detailing theory application to medical education research.

Recommended Readings:

- Creswell, J. W. (2003). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches* (2nd ed.). Sage.
 - This book, now in its sixth edition, provides a comprehensive guide on designing research questions and selecting the appropriate methods.



Action Plan

Milestone	Target Date	Status
Complete Initial Draft of Research Questions	[/ /]	
Refine, Focus, and Finalize Research Questions	[/ /]	
Align Research Questions with Research Methods	[/ /]	
Seek Peer Review and Feedback on Questions and Methods	[/ /]	

Stage 3 Progress



Total Progress



4

Are digital immigrants real?



Challenge prevailing educational myths and consider the ethical implications of your research.

STAGE FOUR

STAGE 4

SoTL Myths & Ethics

4

Objectives:

- **Identify** and critically examine common educational myths.
- **Reflect** on how these myths may influence your research project.
- **Integrate** ethical guidelines into your research design.

The Biggest Myth in Education



Veritasium. (2021, July 9). The Biggest Myth in Education [Video]. YouTube.
<https://youtu.be/rhgwlhB58PA>

Initial Reflection:

Think about a widely held belief or assumption about how people learn or succeed in education. Do you think this belief is based on evidence, or could it be a myth? Why do you think it persists?

I Believe
This

Educational Myths

I Don't
Believe This

Learning styles improve learning outcomes.

People are either left-brained or right-brained learners.

Humans only use 10% of their brains.

Digital natives are naturally better with technology.

Multitasking helps you get more done.

IQ is fixed and cannot be changed.

Continued Reflection:

After reflecting on educational myths, consider how research can influence beliefs and practices. If a SoTL study challenges or supports a myth, what ethical responsibilities do researchers have? How can they ensure their work is accurate and ethical?



Guided Prompts and Questions

What key ethical considerations, such as informed consent and confidentiality, must you address in the design and planning phase of your SoTL project?

How will you ensure that ethical practices are maintained throughout your data collection and analysis, including handling any unexpected ethical dilemmas?

What steps will you take to ethically disseminate your research findings, ensuring participant privacy and addressing any ethical challenges encountered?



Activities and Tasks

Activity	Points	Status
<p style="text-align: center;">Myth Exploration</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Research some common educational myths relevant to your context</i></p>	25	
<p style="text-align: center;">Peer Collaboration</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Discuss educational myths and ethical dilemmas with your peers</i></p>	50	
<p style="text-align: center;">Ethical Reflection</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Write 3 ethics paragraphs detailing plans: before, during, and after your research project</i></p>	50	
<p style="text-align: center;">Drafting Research Proposal</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Building on previous stages, include the following sections on your proposal: Introduction, Literature Review, Positionality Statement/Worldview, Methods, Ethical Considerations</i></p>	75	
<p style="text-align: center;">Seek Peer Review and Feedback</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Share your proposal with a peer and gather feedback on the clarity and alignment of your study</i></p>	100	



Reflection and Notes

How has exploring educational myths and ethical considerations influenced your approach to your SoTL project?

What ethical challenges do you anticipate in your study, and how will you address them?



Resources and Readings

Videos:



Tes Magazine. (2020, July 17). Research review: The myth of the digital native [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/c2voGyTA4IE>

- Center Faculty Innovation (2021, April 22). Navigating IRB for SoTL Research: The IRB Process [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/mkkoJ2iVbGs>
 - Common considerations when preparing for SoTL research IRB submission

Online Articles:

- [Guidelines for Ethical Practice](#)
 - A webpage detailing additional resources in SoTL ethics.
- [Debunking 4 SoTL Myths](#)
 - A blog post providing a German researcher's perspective on acclimating to the SoTL space and demystifying some common challenges, tensions, and potential hurdles to overcome.

Recommended Readings:

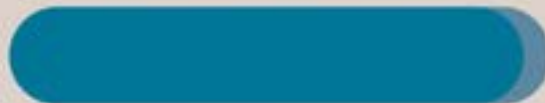
- Healey, R. L., Bass, T., Caulfield, J., Hoffman, A., McGinn, M. K., Miller-Young, J., & Haigh, M. (2013). [Being ethically minded: Practising the scholarship of teaching and learning in an ethical manner](#). *Teaching and Learning Inquiry*, 1(2), 23-32.
 - This article takes a deeper dive into ethical considerations of SoTL research.



Action Plan

Milestone	Target Date	Status
Research Educational Myths	[/ /]	
Reflect on Ethics	[/ /]	
Second Draft of Research Proposal	[/ /]	
Receive Peer Review and Feedback on Proposal	[/ /]	

Stage 4 Progress



Total Progress



5

How can I design and propose my SoTL research project?



Plan your SoTL study with precision. Design a study that aligns your research questions, paradigms, frameworks, methods, and ethics.

STAGE FIVE

STAGE 5

Designing a SoTL Study



Objectives:

- **Develop** a comprehensive SoTL study plan.
- **Write** a detailed research proposal.
- **Explore** potential challenges in study design and how to mitigate them.

Structuring a Research Proposal



Wordvice Editing Service. (2021, March 21). How to Write a Research Proposal for a Dissertation or Thesis [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/jThDHHwVyk>

Initial Reflection:

How does video's content inform the planning and design of your own SoTL study. Which elements have you already integrated into your proposal, and what areas still need further development?



Guided Prompts and Questions

How does your research design align with and effectively address your research questions?

What data collection and analysis methods will best suit your study's objectives?

What potential challenges or ethical considerations might impact your study, and how can you address them?



Activities and Tasks

Activity	Points	Status
<p>Data Collection Plan <i>Draft a plan for data collection, including timelines, instruments, and protocols.</i></p>	75	
<p>Finalize Research Proposal <i>Building on previous stages, include all the sections needed to propose your SoTL study.</i></p>	100	
<p>Seek Peer Review and Feedback <i>Share your proposal with a peer and gather feedback on the clarity and alignment of your study.</i></p>	50	
<p>Attend a Workshop <i>Attend a workshop or seminar on research design and integrate the insights into your proposal.</i></p>	75	
<p>Prepare IRB Submission (if applicable) <i>Use your proposal to fill-out the required elements of the UMCP Systemwide IRB SoTL Research Proposal Amendment</i></p>	100	



Reflection and Notes

How confident are you in your study design, and what potential obstacles do you foresee?

What constructive feedback did you receive from your peers, and how did it refine your proposal?



Resources and Readings

Videos:



Georgia Southern College of Education. (2018, August 29). IRB Training Video 1.2 When is IRB Required? [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/qvRYRCPvOz0>

- Wordvice Editing Service (2018, January 25). How to Write a Research Paper Title [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/F11q-l3bEOc>
 - Extracting the key elements of your research to create a succinct title.

Online Articles:

- [SoTL Proposal Template](#)
 - A PDF file detailing a general outline of a SoTL research proposal—we recommend modeling a similar approach in your own Word document.
- [How to Write a Research Proposal: A Step-by-Step Guide](#)
 - A blog post taking a deeper dive into specific sections of research proposal—proposing a SoTL study should similarly align.

Recommended Readings:

- USM Kirwan Center. (2022, October 27). [Creating a Systemwide IRB for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning \(SoTL\)](#) [Blog post].
 - This press release provides an overview of how centers for teaching and learning across the state of Maryland collaborated at the USM system-level to streamline the IRB submission process for SoTL research projects.



Action Plan

Milestone	Target Date	Status
Plan for Data Collection	[/ /]	
Review and Adjust Methodology	[/ /]	
Complete SoTL Research Proposal	[/ /]	
Prepare IRB Submission	[/ /]	

Stage 5 Progress



Total Progress



6

Should I
analyze text,
numbers, or
both?



Analyze your data with a critical eye, ensuring that your findings are robust and meaningful.

STAGE SIX

STAGE 6

SoTL Data Analysis



Objectives:

- **Explore** foundational principles of data analysis in SoTL research.
- **Develop** skills to apply data analysis techniques to specific methodologies.
- **Interpret** and present your findings effectively within your study context.

How to Analyze Qualitative vs. Quantitative Data?



Delve. (2022, May 25). Qualitative Data Explained | Comparison to Quantitative Data | Data Examples | How to Analyze [Video]. YouTube. https://youtu.be/zXdDp5h2j_M

Initial Reflection:

*Which data analysis techniques are most relevant to your SoTL study, and why?
What challenges do you anticipate in applying these techniques?*



Guided Prompts and Questions

Which data analysis techniques best align with your research design and questions?

How will you ensure the validity and reliability of your data analysis?

What strategies will you use to present your data findings in a clear and meaningful way?



Activities and Tasks

Activity	Points	Status
<p>Mini Data Analysis <i>Conduct a small-scale analysis of a relevant dataset and reflect on the process</i></p>	50	
<p>Peer Data Interpretation Session <i>Present your initial findings to peers for feedback on your interpretation and analysis</i></p>	50	
<p>Data Visualization Exercise <i>Create visual representations (charts, codes) of your data to aid in interpretation</i></p>	75	
<p>Case Study Review <i>Analyze a published SoTL study, focusing on its data analysis section, and discuss its strengths and weaknesses</i></p>	75	
<p>Data Analysis Plan <i>Develop a plan for analyzing your data, including specific techniques and tools you will use</i></p>	100	



Reflection and Notes

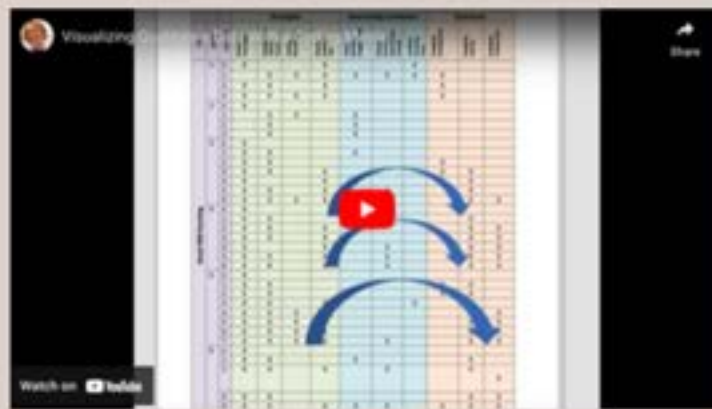
How did the data analysis process align with your expectations, and what insights did you gain?

What feedback from peers or case study reviews has influenced your approach to data analysis?



Resources and Readings

Videos:



Elizabeth G. Creamer. (2022, December 8). Visualizing Qualitative Data With a Coding Matrix [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/nqY7ImPxRxo>

- Global Health with Greg Martin (2022, March 30). Data Visualization [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/7eSgGWq6o3I>
 - How to tell the story of quantitative data analysis or statistical inference.

Online Articles:

- [Datasets for Teaching and Learning](#)
 - A webpage with listing various datasets for use in teaching, learning, and research.
- [How to Do Thematic Analysis](#)
 - A blog post and video guide detailing a step-by-step process of conducting a thematic analysis of qualitative data.

Recommended Readings:

- Miles, M. B., Huberman, A. M., & Saldaña, J. (2014). *Qualitative Data Analysis: A Methods Sourcebook*. Sage.
 - This book provides a comprehensive guide on analyzing and coding qualitative data.



Action Plan

Milestone	Target Date	Status
Conduct Mini Data Analysis	[/ /]	
Review and Interpret Data	[/ /]	
Create Data Visualization	[/ /]	
Develop Data Analysis Plan	[/ /]	

Stage 6 Progress



Total Progress



7

How do I write up my findings and results?



Refine your research findings through writing and seek feedback from peers to strengthen your work.

STAGE SEVEN

STAGE 7

SoTL Writing and Peer Review



Objectives:

- **Recognize** the components of a SoTL research manuscript.
- **Explore** how to effectively incorporate peer review and feedback.
- **Develop** a plan for writing your SoTL study once data collection is complete.

How Should I Structure My manuscript?



Academic English Now. (2024, June 26). Write a Research Paper in Weeks: Proven Blueprint for Scopus Journals [Video]. YouTube. https://youtu.be/Szm3rLZf_vU

Initial Reflection:

Proposals and manuscripts are different but similar. What challenges do you foresee in drafting the manuscript or final report of the findings or results of your research paper, and how might peer feedback help overcome these challenges?





Guided Prompts and Questions

How will your manuscript outline help ensure that your study's key components are clearly communicated?

What steps will you take to incorporate peer feedback into your research proposal and future writing?

How will your writing plan and checklist support you in completing your SoTL manuscript effectively?



Activities and Tasks

Activity	Points	Status
<p>Outline Your Future Manuscript <i>Identify key sections and the content that will go into each</i></p>	25	
<p>Develop a Writing Plan <i>Draft a timeline for writing your manuscript after your study is conducted</i></p>	100	
<p>Review Peer Feedback on Research Proposal <i>Focus on the clarity and feasibility of your planned study</i></p>	50	
<p>Learn the Publishing and Peer Review Process <i>Attend a workshop on academic publishing and peer review</i></p>	75	
<p>Create a Revision Checklist <i>Create a checklist from proposal feedback and anticipated challenges to guide your manuscript writing</i></p>	75	



Reflection and Notes

How did outlining your manuscript and creating a writing plan help you feel more prepared for the writing process?

What valuable insights did you gain from peer feedback on your research proposal, and how will you incorporate them into your study?



Resources and Readings

Videos:



Academic English Now. (2023, March 22). SECRET To Publish Research Papers In Top Journals (They Don't Want You To Know) [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/E697IIRLg8k>

- Educational Studies. (2023, May 29). Writing for Publications [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/Th7ZqSZPWDM>
 - An in-depth overview of the educational research publishing landscape.

Online Articles:

- [Writing Stylishly in SoTL](#)
 - A blog post and pseudo-book review on stylish academic writing featuring broad advice and a tool to help test the “fitness” of your writing.
- [Legitimizing Reflective Writing in SoTL](#)
 - A blog post and additional resources on reflective writing practices relevant to crafting and disseminating relevant findings of SoTL studies.

Recommended Readings:

- Sullivan, G. M. (2012). [Writing education studies for publication](#). *Journal of Graduate Medical Education*, 4(2), 133-137.
 - An editorial article from the editor-in-chief of this academic journal describing how to structure and write educational research studies for publication in an academic journal.



Action Plan

Milestone	Target Date	Status
Finalize Manuscript Outline	[/ /]	
Seek Peer Feedback on Proposal	[/ /]	
Develop a Writing Timeline	[/ /]	
Prepare for Peer Review	[/ /]	

Stage 7 Progress



Total Progress



8

Should I
stay in this
silo?



Collaborate with others in the field to enhance your research, share ideas, and gain new insights.

STAGE EIGHT

STAGE 8

SoTL Collaboration Strategies



Objectives:

- **Analyze** the benefits and challenges of collaboration in SoTL research.
- **Identify** potential collaborators within your institution and beyond.
- **Create** strategies to leverage team strengths.

Integrating Student Voices in SoTL



CELatElon. (2013, September 12). Why Integrate Student Voices in SoTL? [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/4LbKSkarO6Y>

Initial Reflection:

Considering your current SoTL project, who could you collaborate with to enhance your study's impact, and what unique perspectives or skills could they bring?



Guided Prompts and Questions

Which colleagues or experts within your institution could contribute valuable insights or resources to your SoTL project?

How can you engage faculty from other disciplines to broaden the scope and applicability of your research?

What roles can instructional designers, students, or teaching assistants play in your SoTL research, and how could you integrate their contributions?



Activities and Tasks

Activity	Points	Status
<p>Mapping Collaborations <i>Create a map of potential collaborators, including faculty, instructional designers, and students</i></p>	25	
<p>Collaboration Strategies <i>Specify the roles and responsibilities of each team member on your map with growth</i></p>	50	
<p>Interdisciplinary Meeting <i>Attend a meeting with faculty from different disciplines to discuss potential collaborative opportunities in SoTL research</i></p>	50	
<p>Engage with CTLs <i>Partner with the UMB FCTL to explore resources and support for collaborative SoTL projects</i></p>	75	
<p>Student Involvement Plan <i>Develop a plan for incorporating students or graduate assistants into your SoTL project</i></p>	100	



Reflection and Notes

How did mapping out potential collaborators help you identify new opportunities or challenges in your SoTL research?

What insights or opportunities emerged from your interdisciplinary meeting, and how will they influence your project?



Resources and Readings

Videos:



CELatElon. (2020, October 1). Collaborative Writing as Partnership [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/MQ-wVdYhu3Q>

- VCU SOM Office of Faculty Affairs (2020, March 10). Educational Scholarship in Medicine, Dr. Marieka Helou [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/rtP2QPQRYvo>
 - Podcast episode on networking for successful educational scholarship.

Online Articles:

- [Examples of SoTL Research Collaborations in Health Professions](#)
 - A webpage detailing SoTL projects and publications among health professions scholars at Thomas Jefferson University.
- [Using Infographics to Go Public with SoTL](#)
 - Blog post on the collaboration of a group of interdisciplinary healthcare scholars.

Recommended Readings:

- Neill, L. J., Brilla-Swenson, H., & Haigh, N. (2024). [Starting and sustaining an international teacher collaboration: Insights and recommendations from a SoTL project](#). *International Journal for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*, 18(1), 1-9.
 - Distant educators collaborate on curriculum and teaching impact.



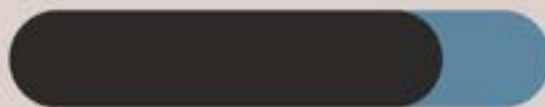
Action Plan

Milestone	Target Date	Status
Identify and Engage Collaborators	[/ /]	
Draft Collaboration Strategy	[/ /]	
Host Interdisciplinary Discussion	[/ /]	
Incorporate Feedback	[/ /]	

Stage 8 Progress



Total Progress



9

How can I
keep moving
forward?



Plan for the future of your research. Seek funding opportunities and consider the next steps in disseminating your findings.

STAGE NINE

STAGE 9

SoTL Funding and Future Planning



Objectives:

- **Develop** a strategic plan for the next steps in your SoTL research.
- **Identify** and pursue funding opportunities to support your research.
- **Explore** various methods of disseminating your SoTL findings.

Making a Case for SoTL



CELatElon. (2013, September 18). Making a Case for SoTL [Video]. YouTube.
<https://youtu.be/JIWM4K2WL3Q>

Initial Reflection:

Reflecting on the current state of your SoTL research project, what are the most logical next steps, and how will you ensure the continuity and expansion of your work?



Guided Prompts and Questions

What potential future research projects can build on your current SoTL study, and how will you prioritize them?

Which funding opportunities align with your research focus, and what steps will you take to apply?

How will you disseminate your findings to reach your intended audience effectively, including academic publications, conferences, and other platforms?



Activities and Tasks

Activity	Points	Status
<p>Future Research Planning <i>Outline potential future research projects that could extend or build on your current study</i></p>	25	
<p>Identify Funding Sources <i>Compile a list of funding opportunities relevant to your SoTL research, including grants, fellowships, and institutional funding</i></p>	50	
<p>Dissemination Strategy <i>Detailed a plan for disseminating your research findings, including potential journals, conferences, and other outlets</i></p>	75	
<p>Create Long-Term Research Vision <i>Draft a vision statement for your future research, including your long-term goals, key milestones, and how you plan to achieve them</i></p>	75	
<p>Peer Discussion on Next Steps <i>Engage in a discussion with colleagues about your future research plans, seeking feedback and advice on how to proceed</i></p>	100	



Reflection and Notes

What are the key takeaways from your planning and funding research, and how will they shape your next steps?

How do you envision your research impacting the broader educational community, and what dissemination strategies will best support this vision?



Resources and Readings

Videos:



CELatElon. (2014, January 14). The Evolution of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/yDaOhCLic4k>

- CELatElon (2023, October 14). Margy MacMillan on the SoTL Information Landscape [Video]. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/eKtBkPDy1hE>
 - Touchstones and advice for new SoTL scholars.

Online Articles:

- [SoTL Dissemination](#)
 - A quick guide detailing SoTL dissemination in terms of micro, meso, macro, or mega categorizations.
- [Disseminating Your SoTL Research](#)
 - A blog post discussing the process of writing and disseminating SoTL research projects from an opinion essay to empirical research papers.

Recommended Readings:

- Kennedy, D. R., Beckett, R. D., & O'donnell, L. A. (2020). [Strategies, ideas, and lessons learned while engaging in SoTL without formal training](#). *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education*, 84(1), 7702.
 - A commentary on engaging in SoTL by exploring educational research, small projects, course redesign, and assessment without formal training.



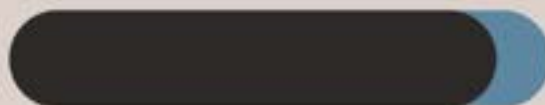
Action Plan

Milestone	Target Date	Status
Finalize Future Research Projects	[/ /]	
Draft and Submit Funding Applications	[/ /]	
Implement Dissemination Strategy	[/ /]	
Review and Revise Long-Term Vision	[/ /]	

Stage 9 Progress



Total Progress



Conclusion

Congratulations on completing *The SoTL Research Roadmap: A Practical Workbook*. You have now traveled through the essential stages of developing a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) research project, from identifying your research space to preparing for the next steps in your research journey.

Recap of Key Points

Throughout this workbook, you have worked on:

- **Identifying Your Research Space:** Aligning your research topic with your passions and goals.
- **Crafting Research Questions:** Formulating clear, actionable questions.
- **Designing Your Study:** Planning your research with ethical considerations.
- **Preparing for Data Analysis:** Outlining how you will collect and analyze data once your study is underway.
- **Writing and Planning:** Drafting key sections of your research proposal and preparing for future peer review.

Encouragement

Your commitment to advancing SoTL research is a vital contribution to the field of education. Remember, this roadmap is just the beginning. The work you have done so far has laid a strong foundation for impactful research, and has the potential to inspire others, inform teaching practices, and improve student outcomes.

Next Steps

How to Keep Going

1

Finalize Your Research Plan: Ensure your study design is complete and ready for implementation.

2

Conduct Your Study: Begin gathering data and carrying out your research according to your plan.

3

Engage in Peer Review: Share your preliminary findings or proposal with peers to receive feedback.

4

Plan for Dissemination: Identify appropriate venues and formats for sharing your research results.

5

Reflect and Revise: Continuously refine your approach based on feedback and emerging insights.

Your research project does not end here. Use this workbook as a living document, returning to each stage as your project progresses.

Additional Resources

Foundational Books on SoTL

["Scholarship Reconsidered: Priorities of the Professoriate"](#) by Ernest L. Boyer

A seminal work that broadens the definition of scholarship to include the integration, application, and teaching of knowledge, laying the groundwork for the SoTL movement.

["Opening Lines: Approaches to the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning"](#) by Pat Hutchings

A practical guide to engaging in SoTL, offering frameworks, strategies, and examples for educators looking to investigate and improve teaching and learning.

Highly Cited Books on Educational Research Design

["Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches"](#) by John W. Creswell

A comprehensive guide to designing research studies across qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods. Creswell's book is a go-to resource for practical advice on creating robust and methodologically sound research.

["Naturalistic Inquiry"](#) by Yvonna S. Lincoln and Egon G. Guba

This foundational text is a cornerstone of qualitative research, providing in-depth exploration of naturalistic inquiry. It is particularly noted for its discussion of the trustworthiness of qualitative research and its influence on the field of qualitative methodology.

Research Tools

[NVivo](#)

NVivo is a qualitative data analysis software that helps researchers organize, code, and analyze complex qualitative data.

[Zotero](#)

Zotero is a free reference management tool that allows researchers to collect, organize, cite, and share research sources.

Additional Resources

Professional Organizations

[International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning \(ISSOTL\)](#)

Join a global community of scholars dedicated to SoTL, with access to conferences, publications, and networking opportunities.

[American Educational Research Association \(AERA\)](#)

AERA provides resources, professional development, and a platform for sharing SoTL research through conferences and publications.

[Association for Educational Communications and Technology \(AECT\)](#)

AECT focuses on improving instruction through technology and educational communications, providing a foundation for those interested in the intersection of technology and pedagogy.

[The POD Network \(POD\)](#)

The POD Network is dedicated to improving teaching and learning in higher education. It offers resources, conferences, and a collaborative community for faculty and educational developers engaged in SoTL.

Journals

["Teaching and Learning Inquiry"](#)

The journal of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, featuring peer-reviewed articles on SoTL research across disciplines.

["Educational Researcher"](#)

Published by AERA, *Educational Researcher* publishes scholarly articles that are of general significance to the educational research community, covering a wide range of topics in education.

["TechTrends"](#)

Published by AECT, *TechTrends* focuses on the practical application of educational technology in teaching and learning, making it a key resource for SoTL researchers interested in technology integration.

["To Improve the Academy"](#)

The flagship journal of the POD Network, focusing on research and practice related to faculty development, instructional development, and organizational development in higher education

Glossary

Annotated Bibliography: A collection of citations with brief descriptions and evaluations of each source, highlighting relevance and quality for your research.

Data Collection: The systematic gathering of information to address research questions.

Dissemination: Sharing research findings with a broader audience through publications, presentations, or other media.

Ethical Considerations: Guidelines that ensure research is conducted with integrity and respect for participants, including consent, confidentiality, and potential impacts.

Literature Review: A critical summary of research on a specific topic, identifying gaps and providing context for your study.

Methodology: The principles and methods used to conduct research and analyze data.

Paradigm: A researcher's underlying belief system that shapes their approach to inquiry, such as positivism, constructivism, or pragmatism.

Peer Review: A process where colleagues evaluate your research to provide feedback, ensuring rigor and quality before publication or presentation.

Positionality Statement: A reflective account of how your background and beliefs influence your research, enhancing transparency and credibility.

Research Design: The strategy that integrates all components of a study in a coherent way, ensuring that the research question is effectively addressed.

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL): Research focused on understanding and improving teaching and learning in higher education.

Theoretical Framework: The foundational theory that supports and guides the design and interpretation of your research.

Visual Mapping: The use of diagrams or visual representations to illustrate relationships between research concepts, gaps, or data analysis strategies.



Appendices

Appendix A: Research Proposal Template

- A detailed template to guide you through writing your SoTL research proposal. This includes sections for your research questions, literature review, methodology, and ethical considerations.
- **Download Link:** [Educational Research Proposal Template \(Word\)](#)

Appendix B: Literature Review Matrix

- Use this matrix to organize and synthesize your literature review. The matrix helps you track key themes, research gaps, and theoretical frameworks relevant to your study.
- **Download Link:** [Literature Review Matrix \(Excel\)](#)

Appendix C: Ethical Considerations Checklist

- A comprehensive checklist to ensure all ethical aspects of your SoTL study are addressed before, during, and after your research.
- **Download Link:** [Ethical Considerations Checklist \(Word\)](#)

Appendix D: Data Analysis Plan Template

- A structured template to help you outline your data collection and analysis procedures, ensuring alignment with your research questions and methodology.
- **Download Link:** [Data Analysis Plan Template \(Word\)](#)



Appendices

Appendix E: Peer Review Feedback Form

- A form designed to facilitate constructive peer review of your SoTL research. This template guides reviewers to provide focused feedback on key aspects of your study.
- **Download Link:** [Peer Review Feedback Form \(Word\)](#)

Appendix F: Action Plan Worksheet

- A worksheet to help you map out the steps and timeline for completing your SoTL project. This tool is especially useful for staying on track as you progress through each stage.
- **Download Link:** [Action Plan Worksheet \(Word\)](#)

Appendix G: Sample Consent Form

- Examples of a consent form that can be adapted for your SoTL research involving human subjects. This sample includes language to address ethical concerns and institutional requirements.
- **Download Link:** [Sample Consent Form \(Word\)](#)

Appendix H: Annotated Bibliography Example

- A sample annotated bibliography to illustrate how to summarize and critique sources relevant to your research topic. This example can serve as a model for your literature review.
- **Download Link:** [Annotated Bibliography Example \(Word\)](#)



WORKBOOK

Developing SoTL Research Projects



Ed Crafters Community Connection

Building Educational Excellence Through Scholarly Activity

Eric Belt, EdD | Scott Riley II, PhD