

Knowledge Area Module 7
Learning Agreement

Case Study Method: Transcultural Education

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Walden University

Ph.D. in Education Program
Specialization: Transcultural Distance Learning

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Overview

This Learning Agreement applies to my self-designed doctoral program, with a particular emphasis on transcultural issues in education. This KAM will help fortify my understanding of assessing, developing, and implementing case study research methods within an educational setting. The KAM work will especially relate to my dissertation research investigating tactics for improving cross-cultural engagement in international educational settings.

For the Breadth section, I will define, compare and contrast various types of case study methodologies, and employ a selected bibliography to write an evaluation of the methods. The Breadth demonstration will include consideration of how the methodologies might be applied to my Application section and my dissertation research.

For the Depth section, I will further refine the research methodology to be employed in the Application case study (a pilot study of a survey instrument measuring participant reaction to possibly transcultural themes and images). For a demonstration, I will prepare an annotated literature review including specifically relevant texts and dissertations, and an assessment of how the research methods covered in the literature may apply to my case study and dissertation.

For the Application section, I will develop and execute a pilot study measuring the reliability of a survey instrument to be employed for my dissertation research. For a demonstration, I will prepare a written assessment of the methodology, including an assessment of the study's validity and consideration of any necessary modifications.

Breadth

Breadth Preliminaries

EDUC 8710: Case Study Method

Breadth Objectives and Demonstration

The objectives for Breadth are to define and assess various research methodologies, and then analyze the methodologies in how they relate to the use of case studies. I will also detail and chart the various disciplinary approaches to case study research design. For a demonstration, I will prepare a bibliography covering case study research methodologies, and write an evaluation of the selected methods with particular consideration of the research methodologies that might be applied to the Application case study and my dissertation research.

Preliminary Breadth Reference List

Babbie, E. (2001). *The practice of social research*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Creswell, J. (1998). *Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five traditions*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Denzin, N., & Lincoln, Y. (Eds.). (2000). *Handbook of qualitative research*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Glesne, C. (1998). *Becoming qualitative researchers*. New York: Addison Wesley.

Leedy, P., & Ormrod, J. (2001). *Practical research: Planning and design*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

Merriam, S. (1998). *Qualitative research and case study applications in education*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Miles, M., & Huberman, A. (1994). *An expanded sourcebook: Qualitative data analysis*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Depth

Depth Preliminaries

EDUC 8720: Current Research and Analysis of Transcultural Education

Depth Objectives and Demonstration

The objectives for Depth are to define and refine the research methodology to be employed in the Application case study and my dissertation (a pilot study of a survey instrument measuring participant reaction to possibly transcultural themes and images), specifically considering the advantages and limitations of the methods. For a demonstration, I will prepare an annotated literature review including texts, studies, and dissertations that assess and/or apply similar research methodologies, or that relate to the subject matter of the Application case study. I will also prepare a written assessment of how the research methods covered in the literature may fortify my Application case study as well as my dissertation research design.

Preliminary Depth Reference List

- Berrell, M., Gloet, M., & Wright, P. (2002). Organizational learning in international joint ventures. *The Journal of Management Development*. 21 (2), 83-100.
- Block, L. (2002). *The relationship between leadership and organizational culture: An exploratory investigation*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Walden University.
- Denzin, N., & Lincoln, Y. (Eds.). (1998). *Collecting and interpreting qualitative materials*. Thousand Oaks CA, Sage.
- Elashmawi, F. (1998). Overcoming multicultural clashes in global joint ventures. *European Business Review*. 98 (4), 211-216.
- Fernandez, D., Carlson, D., Stepina, L., & Nicholson, J. (1997, February 1). Hofstede's country classification 25 years later. *The Journal of Social Psychology*.
- Glaser, G., & Strauss, A. (1967). *The discovery of grounded theory: Strategies for qualitative research*. New York: Aldine De Gruyter.

- Hatch, J. (2002). *Doing qualitative research in education settings*. New York: SUNY Press.
- Hofstede, G. (1980). *Culture's consequences: International differences in work-related values*. Newbury Park CA: SAGE Publications.
- Macia, J. J. (1999). *Transcultural experiences: A literature bridge to English for ESOL students from Cuba*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Florida International University. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED446445)
- Merriam, S. (1998). *Qualitative research and case study applications in education*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- Mueller, S. & Clarke, L. (1998). Political-economic context and sensitivity to equity: Differences between the United States and the transition economies of Central and Eastern Europe. *Academy of Management Journal*. 41, pp. 319-330.
- Patton, M. (1990). *Qualitative evaluation and research methods*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage.
- Pershing, J.L. (2004). *Beliefs about the appropriate degree of directiveness in the management relationship, as related to demographic characteristics, educational background, and organizational position*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Walden University.
- Rubin, H., & Rubin, I. (1995). *Qualitative interviewing: The art of hearing data*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Singhapakdi, A., Rawwas, M., Marta, J., & Ahmed, M. (1999). A cross-cultural study of consumer perceptions about marketing ethics. *Journal of Consumer Marketing*. 16 (3), 275-272.
- Udoh, B. O. (2000). *Cultural adjustment of foreign students in an institution of higher education*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Louisiana State University. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED464560)
- Ward, C., & Kennedy, A. (1999, August). The measurement of sociocultural adaptation. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*. 23 (4), 659-677.
- Ward, C., Okura, Y., Kennedy, A., & Kojima, T. (1998, August 1). The U-Curve on trial: a longitudinal study of psychological and sociocultural adjustment during Cross-Cultural transition. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*. 22 (3), 277-291.
- Woodbridge, J. (2003). *Technology integration as a teaching strategy*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation, Walden University.
- Zakaria, N., & Keda, J. (2000). The effects of cross-cultural training on the acculturation process of the global workforce. *International Journal of Manpower*. 21 (6), 492-510.

Application

Application Preliminaries

EDUC 8730: Transcultural Learning: Case Study Report & Evaluation

Application Objectives and Demonstration

The objectives for Application are to consider the research and findings from the Breadth and Depth sections, as well as additional relevant materials, toward the development and execution of a pilot study measuring the reliability of a survey instrument to be employed for my dissertation research. The survey instrument will be a 7-point Likert-type scale measuring participant reaction to assess the degree of potentially transcultural themes and images. For demonstration, I will conduct the study and prepare a written assessment of the methodology, including an assessment of the study's validity and any modifications that may be necessary before applying the methodology and survey instrument to my dissertation work.

Preliminary Application Reference Materials

Bauer, M., & Gaskell, G. (Eds.). (2002). *Qualitative researching with text, image, and sound*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Likert, R. (1932, June). A technique for the measurement of attitudes. *Archives of Psychology*, 140.

Munshi, J. (1990). *A method for constructing Likert scales*. Sonoma State University. Retrieved September 30, 2004 from <http://www.munshi.4t.com/papers/likert.html>

Patton, M. (1990). *Qualitative evaluation and research methods*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage.

Pemberton, E. (1933). A technique for measuring the optimum rating scale for opinion measures. *Sociology and Social Research*, 17, pp. 470-472.