

Educational Research & SoTL

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Educational Research

“Education research is the scientific field of study that examines *education* and learning processes and the human attributes, interactions, organizations, and institutions that shape educational outcomes” (American Educational Research Association)

Educational Research: Examples

- “Teens, tweens, and digital texts” (MA thesis)
- “The role of participatory artistic quiltmaking for supporting peacebuilding among grade 4-7 youth” (MA thesis)
- “More than condoms and sandwiches: A feminist investigation of the contradictory promises of harm reduction approaches to prostitution” (PhD dissertation)

SoTL

- Introduced by Ernest Boyer in 1990.
- “Integrates research, teaching, and student learning” (Hubball & Burt, 2006, p. 328).
- Scholarly approaches to teaching and learning are relevant to everyone working in higher ed.
- Focuses on dissemination of pedagogical research in peer-reviewed contexts.

SoTL Definitions

- “Systematic reflection/study on teaching and learning made public”
(Illinois State University)
- “Engagement with the existing knowledge on teaching and learning, self-reflection on teaching and learning in ones discipline, and public sharing of ideas about teaching and learning within the discipline”
(Martin, Benjamin, Prosser, and Trigwell, 1999).

SoTL: Examples (from UBC)

- “Promoting the use of evidence-based teaching strategies via paired teaching”
- “The use of video-recorded answer keys in pharmacy practice education”
- “The differential learning effects of paper vs. digital textbooks”

SoTL Contributions

“SoTL inquiry has the potential to make substantive contributions to institutional-level educational reforms, curriculum renewal, educational leadership practices, and, most importantly, the quality of undergraduate and graduate degree programs” (p. 41-42).