

Information Provided by Dr. Curt Olson



Research versus evaluation

	Research	Evaluation
Starting point	Gaps in scholarly literature	Needs of stakeholders
Output	New knowledge/ theory/practices	Information for decision making
Primary audiences	Research community	Local decision-makers
Epistemological standards	Reliability, validity, trustworthiness	Credibility, usefulness
Dissemination	Published in peer reviewed forum	Report to stakeholders; often not published



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Opportunities

- Research opportunities already at hand
- “Making things count more than once” – Alan B. Knox, EdD
- “This is a good project; we should write it up” is seldom a successful strategy
- The research question should be determined at the beginning to:
 - Avoid regrets about data you could have collected
 - Address potential conflicts of interest (Olson, 2013)
 - Avoid post-hoc analysis problems



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Literature

- Where are the gaps in educational knowledge/practice?
- What questions are being investigated by others in relation to my area of interest?
- Methodologies used to investigate those questions

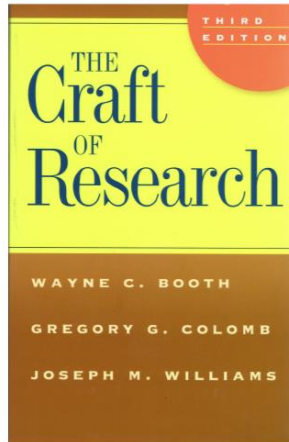


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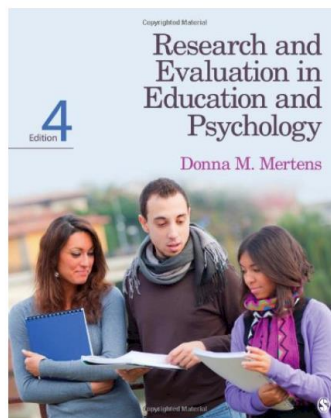
For further reading:



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Developing research questions



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