



6.1 Advice from a Self-Study Scholar

Create a Concept Map

I recommend to peers that if you insert your research question in your header notes of your literature review, it will remind you to stay focused and not get too far off track in the wonderful field of literature treasures you may discover. Also helpful is to explore the references in articles that connect to your research. Creating a concept map of the big ideas and topics allows you to reflect on the bodies of literature that inform your work and how you employ those bodies of literature to conceptually map your research.

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6.2 Advice From a Self-Study Scholar

Be Practical

The friction between personal involvement in the research theme, on the one hand, and the need to study this theme objectively, on the other hand, can be a complex one. Finding a balance between a perfect solution of this friction on the one hand and your possibilities (such as time, knowledge, and experience) on the other hand asks for a practical approach. Start your self-study by thinking about using data that are already available or easy to collect. Student portfolios and student evaluations are interesting data sources. Lessons can be videotaped. Do you use concept mapping or instruments like "The Wall" or "Pedagogical Analysis Schemes" in your lessons to structure students' thinking and experiences? These pedagogical instruments can also function as rich data sources.

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