**IME Chapter 2 Worksheet 3 Framing A Research Idea**

## Relates to Examining your Research Idea in Light of the Overview Literature, IME p. 45

**Objectives**

* Identify the ways various scholars frame their research
* Refine the frame for your own research

This activity is designed to help identify key scholarly sources based on the information you have gathered through overview sources. (To identify overview sources, see **Skimming Overview Sources** in **IME Chapter 2** or **Chapter 2 Worksheet 1** **Finding Search Terms & Developing a Search Strategy**). Scholarly sources are often original research found in *peer-reviewed* publications. You may consider beginning your search in Google Scholar but should also use library databases and common research indices, such as *Academic Search Complete* or ERIC*.*

**Preliminary Evaluation**

This exercise may be done by an individual or a group of students.

**First…**

**Individual student:** Find a scholarly source of original research that will inform the development of your research idea. Write the full APA reference and at least 3 keywords for the source here:

**Group of students:** Choose a topic of interest. Each person in the group finds a scholarly source of original research that informs your shared interest. Each student writes the full APA reference and at least 3 keywords for the source they identify:

**A reminder…**

The process of “framing” includes these four elements:

* Mode of Inquiry – What mode of inquiry did the researcher have in mind for this topic?
* Perspective –What was the researcher’s point of view regarding the phenomenon being observed (i.e., up-close, distanced, in-between, or a combination)?
* Focus – Was the researcher looking primarily at teachers, learners, music, or some combination?
* Engagement with Literature – How did previous research inform this study?

**Next…**

For each of the sources used in this exercise, identify how the researcher(s) framed their study. Use the table below; copy the table if needed for more sources.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **APA Citation:** | |
| **Mode of Inquiry** |  |
| **Perspective** |  |
| **Focus** |  |
| **Literature** |  |

**Concluding Questions**

**Which of these sources interests you the most? Why do you think that is?**

**What combination of scholarly terms comes closest to your research idea?**

**What questions remain after preliminary reading?**

**How have your questions changed following this exercise?**