A Quality Matters Event
QM Research Online Conference

Active/Applied Research on Online Learning and Quality Assurance

February 9, 2021

Join the community of people that believes quality matters | qualitymatters.org/events

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QM Research Landing page

Raising questions. Pursuing answers. Curating and categorizing. That's how we support the QM system.

A founding principle that continues to drive Quality Matters is the need for QM Standards to reflect current academic research on effective learning. The initial standards and subsequent modifications have been based on the insights of teams of experienced online instructors and instructional designers and on the best practices standards promulgated by accrediting bodies and national and international organizations. In addition, the QM Standards have been examined for consistency with the conclusions of the educational research literature regarding factors that increase learning and engagement and that improve learner retention rates.

QM Research is focused on curating and supporting research studies related to the impact and use of the Quality Matters model. Literature reviews to inform members of the Rubric Committees in their effort to assure that the Rubrics remains current with the research are also an important component of QM Research activities. If you are looking for guidance on conducting QM-focused research or finding studies to support the use of QM, we recommend starting with the resources listed in this section.

QM RESEARCH LIBRARY
Search our curated selection of literature bearing a relationship to the QM Standards by either keyword or the QM Standard number. References on teaching competencies can be found in the Online Instructor and Teaching Competencies Literature Review.

RESEARCH TOOLKIT
Get guidance on developing a research question that will make for a solid study and facilitate attaining information significant to online learning stakeholders.

QM-RELATED RESEARCH RESOURCES
See a curated list of studies and publications related to the primary categories of QM Research.

Need help with your search? Contact QM Research with your questions.

Research Webinars
Join the QM Research Colleagues and other researchers from the QM Community for presentations of research on the impact of quality assurance in online learning and other related topics. *The webinars are free and open to QM Members as well as non-members.*

February 9, 2021 — 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm Eastern

QM-Focused Research Highlights

QM Digital Accessibility White Paper Series
This white paper series explores QM member institutions' improvements in accessibility policies and processes and course design and development tools over a 10-year period, as well as the professional development that would help them achieve accessibility for all students.

Changing Landscape of Online Learning (CHLOE) Reports
This multi-year study by QM and Eduventures fills an important gap in the research of online learning management trends. Download the latest report — CHLOE 5: The Pivot to Remote Teaching in Spring 2020 and Its Impact.

5 Tips for Moving from Remote Instruction to Quality Online Learning
This article authored by Kay Shattuck, Bethany Simunich and Barbra Burch summarizes guidance — by QM members — for building a bridge to quality learning environments.

QM-Hosted Research Webinar Recordings
A list of the research-related webinars hosted by QM with recording links. Hear from QM Members about the online learning and QM-related research being conducted.

Challenges and Solutions of Research into the Quality of Online Learning Quality Matters Lens
This paper explores the challenges of educational research and reports on the Quality Matters experience, concluding with considerations important in the quest for robust research.

QM Impact Summary
Examples of QM Impact and the variables associated with research into QM.

AJDE
These editions, or individual articles, can be accessed from a subscribing research library.
• 2017 — Vol. 31, Issue 3 of The American Journal of Distance Education (AJDE) is a special issue on Quality Matters.
• 2015 — Vol. 29, Issue 3 of The American Journal of Distance Education (AJDE) is a special issue on Quality Matters.

Research Inputs and Outputs of Quality Matters
The 2015 Update to *What We're Learning from QM-focused Research*. Read what we've learned from more than 15 years of QM.

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The "Big Three"

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Library, Toolkit, Resources

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The Research Library

Welcome to the Quality Matters Research Library!

A search of the research literature that bears a relationship to the QM Standards can be done in on[...]

1. Search by standard by selecting the number of a standard and, if desired, focus the search fur[...]
2. Search by keyword(s). This will result in a list of references from one or more standards.

Enter the publication date range below (optional):

From: _____ To: _____

1. Standard Search: OR   2. Keyword Search:

Select Standard:
Select Standard

Standard Keyword(s):   Search Keywords

Search Standards

- The research that supports the QM Rubric
- Add'l related research
- Search by Standard
- Search by Keyword
- Contribute and help it grow!

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The Research Toolkit

How to Conduct QM Research

The QM Research toolkit is designed to guide anyone interested in doing research on the impact of Quality Matters. The steps move through the process of conducting a research project, giving an explanation for each step along with examples. The toolkit begins with information on developing a QM-focused research question that will be the basis of the project.

Who should be conducting research related to QM?

This research toolkit is designed for new researchers, as well as experienced researchers who are unfamiliar with the Quality Matters working principles, processes, and procedures.

Set yourself up for success

Designing a research study on the impact of Quality Matters requires awareness, comprehension, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of a scholarly online/distance education knowledge base, as well as a background in the principles and application of the QM process within a system of quality assurance. These reflective processes will better prepare the researcher in making judgments for the development of a study that can inform and continuously improve the QM knowledge base, which, in turn, will improve online/distance education through research and practice.

Interested in learning more about QM-focused research?

Contact Barbra Burch, Manager of Research and Development, or Bethany Simunich, Director of Research and Innovation.

Have an Idea for a Research Topic?

Get help with selecting measurable outcomes and framing your study in The ABCs of Online Learning Research workshop.

Learn More >>

| Step 1 | Step 2 | Step 3 | Step 4 | Step 5 | |

Step One: [Develop your research question] What do you want to know?

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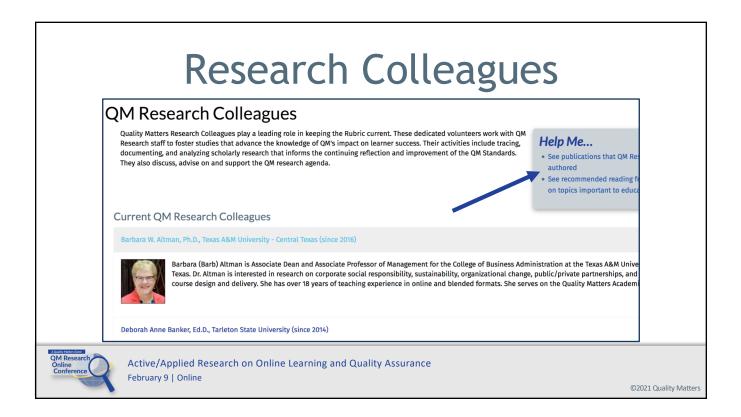February 9 | Online

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Online Research Workshop

The ABCs of Online Learning Research

Learn how to get started doing research on online learning in this active, applied three-week online workshop. Using QM and the reference, this workshop covers the steps necessary for developing a quality research study related to online learning.

Course Length: Three weeks
Delivery Mode: Online (Asynchronous)
Instruction: Facilitated
Fee with Membership: $200.00
Fee: $300.00

In this workshop, participants are asked to come with a general idea/topic that they'd like to research. Through the course of the workshop, they will grow and refine that id Whether you're new to researching online learning or are an experienced researcher, the learning activities in this workshop, along with the feedback and guidance of your avoid some of the pitfalls in online learning research and develop a quality research project to meet stakeholder needs.

Recommended For
Faculty, teachers, librarians, instructional designers, administrators, adjunct instructors, or anyone interested in conducting research to improve online education.

Learning Objectives
1. Describe the foundational concepts of Quality Matters and the information and resources for QM-focused research.
2. Create an appropriate research question based on current interests/needs, and refine your question based on a brief literature review.
3. Identify and define the variables in your study, and account for the unique barriers and considerations in online learning research by addressing confounding variables.
4. Draft a research study design with a doable methodology for data collection and analysis.
5. Contribute articles, finding, and ideas to online learning research.

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Curated QM-focused Resources

Curated Resources

The term "QM Research" relates to several different types of research. There is research that *supports* the QM Rubric and process, research that discusses its *use*, and research that focuses on its *impact*.

Recent Literature Reviews

K-12

- 2019 K-12 Dissertation Literature Review Summary
- 2019 K-12 Article Literature Review Summary
- 2018 Literature Review for revising the National Standards for Quality Online Courses
- 2018 Literature Review for revising the National Standards for Quality Online Teaching
- 2018 Literature Review for revising the National Standards for Quality Online Programs
- Review of K-12 Online and Blended Education Research Literature

Higher Education

- 2019 Higher Education Literature Review Summary
- 2017 Literature Review Summary Report in preparation for the Higher Education Rubric, Sixth Edition
- 2013 Literature Review Summary Report in preparation for the Higher Education Rubric, Fifth Edition
- Searchable QM Research Library incorporating references prepared for all editions of the Higher Education Rubric that support and inform it

Teaching

- Online Instructor and Teaching Competencies Literature Review
- Online Instructor and Teaching Competencies: Further Analysis of the 2016 Literature Review for Quality Matters

QM Research Grant Projects

Since 2005, QM has funded small research grants on the impact of QM. We are currently taking a hiatus from accepting proposals. Here is a list of Research Projects by year:

2016

- The Impact of Quality Matters Professional Development on Teaching Across Delivery Formats

2014

- A Study of the Relationship Between Quality Matters General Standard 5, Level of Interaction, and Academic Performance Online

2013

- Analyzing Predictors of Faculty Behavior to Engage in Peer Review
- Effect of Student Readiness on Student Success in Online Courses
- Measuring Online Course Design: A Comparative Analysis
- Measuring the Impact of Student Engagement in the Application of Quality Matters Standards on Blended Course Design

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CHLOE Report

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6

Research Colleagues

QM Research Colleagues

Quality Matters Research Colleagues play a leading role in keeping the Rubric current. These dedicated volunteers work with QM Research staff to foster studies that advance the knowledge of QM's impact on learner success. Their activities include tracing, documenting, and analyzing scholarly research that informs the continuing reflection and improvement of the QM Standards. They also discuss, advise on and support the QM research agenda.

Help Me...
- See publications that QM Res authored
- See recommended reading f on topics important to educa

Current QM Research Colleagues

Barbara W. Altman, Ph.D., Texas A&M University - Central Texas (since 2016)

Barbara (Barb) Altman is Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Management for the College of Business Administration at the Texas A&M Unive Texas. Dr. Altman is interested in research on corporate social responsibility, sustainability, organizational change, public/private partnerships, and course design and delivery. She has over 18 years of teaching experience in online and blended formats. She serves on the Quality Matters Academ

Deborah Anne Banker, Ed.D., Tarleton State University (since 2014)

Rounding out the Research pg.

Frequently Requested Resources

Accessibility Policy Creation Guidelines ▼

How to Reference & Use QM in Research ▼

Streamlining Accreditation Preparation with Program Review ▼

Recent Articles

Evaluating Online Course Quality: A Study on Implementation of Course Quality Standards ▼

Student Perceptions of the Impact of Quality Matters–Certified Online Courses on Their Learning and Engagement ▼

Class Size in Online Courses: What the Research Says ▼

Video Length in Online Courses: What the Research Says ▼

Share QM Research

Printable PDF

FAQs for All Your Questions

ROC Landing Page

2021 QM Research Online Conference

Active/Applied Research on Online Learning and Quality Assurance

This conference is focused on research-supported best practices and takeaways that attendees can
number of experts from the QM community present on Active/Applied Research on Online Learning
single afternoon. Each session will provide attendees with one or more application-based takeaway

Concurrent Sessions

Attendees can choose one session from each time slot. Secure Zoom links will be emailed to registra
session name below to see presenter and description information.

1:40 - 2:30 p.m. Eastern

1. Developing a Framework for Quality Online Course Videos: What Does the Research Say?

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February 9, 2021
1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Eastern (convert time zone)
Free — open to QM members and non-members

Registration for this event has filled! Please email us with your full name and institution if you would like to receive recording links.

Agenda At-a-Glance
1:00 - 1:30 pm: Welcome & Orientation
1:40 - 2:30 pm: Concurrent Sessions
2:40 - 3:30 pm: Concurrent Sessions
3:40 - 4:30 pm: Concurrent Sessions

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