

FINER WORKSHEET

Am I wasting my time with this scholarly line of inquiry?

1. Feasible: *Can you pull this scholarship off?*

- Does the author have institutional support to pull it off, such as protected time or mentoring/coaching?
- Will the plan need financial support and does the author have access to such resources?
- Are the questions of “appropriate size” so one can realistically do them in the intended time frame and required setting(s)?
- Will changes to program policies or processes be needed for the inquiry to succeed? And if so, are these changes possible/supported by the institution?

NOTES:

2. Interesting: *Will anyone else care?*

Will this be Interesting to others outside or inside my institution (colleagues, supervisor, etc.)?

NOTES:

3. Novel: *Is this new to someone?*

- Teaching scholarship usually is new to you and, so YES; *For other types scholarship*, is there a literature gap suggesting something else could be learned with this line of inquiry?

NOTES:

4. Ethical: *Is it Ethical (Are there any ethical issues that need addressed and is institutional review needed)?*

You need to submit for an IRB determination if using student data or engaging students outside of typical classroom activities. Email your designated Human Subject Office if unsure

5. Relevant: *Is it Relevant?*

- Will users of the resultant scholarship find it useful (outside or inside your institution)?
- Will the scholarship provide a foundation upon which you or others can build?

NOTES:

PRODUCT TEST

Take your scholarship idea and apply it the following questions:

DOES THE PRODUCT THAT WILL COME FROM THE IDEA MEET THE PHENOMENOLOGICAL TEST?

- Does it propose a new model, framework, or theory for education?
- Does it describe (scope or nature), establish new relationships (predictions) or establish cause and effect for a particular educational phenomenon?
- Does it suggest a new assessment strategy or formula?
- Does it consolidate and summarize prior literature?
- Does it attempt to understand why events occur?

IF YES, THEN THE IDEA WILL LIKELY YIELD EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH

DOES THE PRODUCT THAT WILL COME FROM THE IDEA MEET THE TEACHING BEST PRACTICE TEST?

- Does it suggest itself as an inquiry to improve your (or your team's) teaching methods or practices?
- Does it suggest engaging an innovative teaching resource by using existing best design practices?
- Does it provide a new application (e.g., new curriculum, new group of learners) for assessments using standard practices or methods?
- Does it suggest that the results will be an evaluation or judgment on the success of a particular class, course, or educational program?
- Is it a reflection of your own teaching practices or the state of teaching practices?
- Does it suggest better ways to help the your own or other's career goals (e.g., mentoring or advising)?

IF YES, THEN THE IDEA WILL LIKELY YIELD TEACHING SCHOLARSHIP