

CONCEPTUAL EVOLUTION MAP OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ARTICLES AND REVIEWS (1980-2015)

Haydar YALÇIN
İzmir Katip Çelebi University
TURKEY
haydar.yalcin@gmail.com

Mutlu Tahsin ÜSTÜNDAĞ
Gazi University
TURKEY
mutlutahsin@gmail.com

Talih ÖZTÜRK
İzmir Katip Çelebi University
TURKEY
talihztrk@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This study aims to investigate concepts, evolution and popularity of these concepts, which were studied on, in educational research articles and reviews published between 1980 and 2015 in periods of 5 years and to present a Conceptual Evolution Map regarding them. The dataset of the study consists of articles and reviews (totally 167.277 publications between 1980 and 2015) derived from Web of Science (WOS) database in the subject category of “education & educational research”. In order to reach this dataset, the query *WC= (Education & Educational Research)* was executed on WOS database and results were downloaded for analysis. Keywords in the dataset were analyzed in order to present general tendencies of educational research publications in terms of research topics in a comprehensive manner. Data validation and clean up techniques were conducted in order to make the dataset to be integrated into SQL Server database and to be analyzed easily. In this process, publications without at least two keywords were ignored. After this elimination, totally 86.343 publications were found to be ready for analysis. Afterwards, keywords of each publication which point out the same concepts were combined according to the comments of five experts in the field of educational sciences. Finally, the keywords were processed using SciMAT (Science Mapping Analysis software Tool). The processes of interpreting and reporting results have been being conducted, but have not finished yet. One of the important results reached yet is that the most popular concepts studied on in educational research are *interactive learning environments and applications*.

KEYWORDS: educational research, conceptual evolution, article