

# **Research Brief: Quality Matters in the Research**

PURPOSE: Present a pre-release, overview of *Quality Matters in the Research: A Systematic Literature Review (2015-2021)* 

# Conducted a systematic review of the literature to document & assess the increasing body of QM-focused literature

- Set search criteria/purposeful selection
- Reviewed/evaluated/extracted/documented data from 101 published articles/dissertations (included dissertations as measure of what's being explored in grad schools on topic of QM)
  - 74 articles; 27 dissertations/theses
  - 55 QM-focused, 46 QM-informed;
  - Methodologies: 15 used quantitative; 17 surveys; 14 qualitative; 8 mixed methodologies; and 47 fit the case study category



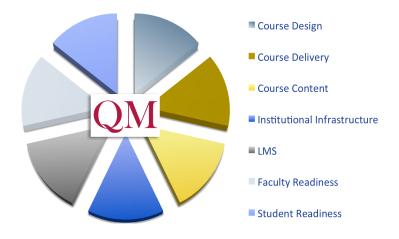
- Student outcomes/perceptions
- Faculty members'/ID's experiences/perceptions
- Professional development
- QM tools & processes





**QM widely cited:** Narrowed selection resulted in reviewing 74 articles (60 different journals) + 27 dissertations/theses

# QM applied to improve online learning



### QM impact:

- ★ Standards were utilized for continuous improvement of courses
- ★ QM and other learning frameworks creatively combined for fuller exploration of online learning; mapped to quality circle
- ★ QM tools/processes scalable within the challenges of quality assurance implementation at institutional and systems levels

# **State of QM-focused research:**

- ★ Widely cited in the scholarly literature
- ★ Findings mapped well to quality circle
- ★ QM-diligence in design and discussion found in some studies; transparency/credibility still needed
- ★ Local (institutional) implementation strategies impact instructors' perception/willingness to engage with QM
- ★ Replication & extension a quick place to begin

# **Analysis**



## Why it matters: Building a body of literature

- ★ Expanding knowledge: Dabbling with one-shot observations; Being a reflective practitioner; Building story with evidence; Expanding knowledge in the field
- ★ Knowledgeable of & expanding research topics (Zawacki-Richter & Bozkurt, 2023)
  - Macro-level (systems/theories)
  - Meso-level (management, organizations)
  - Micro-level (teaching & learning)

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- ★ Use online learning/QM diligence when reading and designing research
- ★ Replicate & expand
- ★ Seek out & use institutional data
- ★ Apply longitudinal methodologies
- ★ Find research partners
- ★ Follow implementation & scale trends & data

What we're learning from QM-Focused Research: Research, practice, continuous improvement, and covered literature published from 2005 to December 2011

Research inputs and outputs of Quality Matters, and covered literature published from 2012 to June 2015

To be released by early summer 2023: Quality Matters in Research: A Systematic Literature Review, and covers literature published from July 2015 to December 2021

Research Briefs are a free resource provided by the QM Research Department. Contact Barbra Burch, Manager of Research & Development for more information.