

# Exploring Applied Doctoral Research through Case Studies: An Overview of the ADE Program

## Introduction



Qualitative research is an invaluable tool for exploring "what" and "how" a specific phenomenon occurs in the real world (Bloomberg & Volpe, 2019). In particular, this type of methodology offers critical insights into educational contexts that would otherwise remain hidden.

By employing qualitative research methods to explore learning experiences and practices, we are able to uncover new knowledge and understanding. Furthermore, qualitative descriptive case studies can be useful in providing the details of events and their reasoning behind specific phenomena (Bloomberg, 2018).

Thus, case study design presents a solid foundation for further exploration within an Applied Doctoral Experience (ADE).

## Description



When conceptualizing and executing a dissertation study motivated by an applicable problem of practice that has tangible educational implications, the case study design is the optimal research approach.

Case study researchers analyze ongoing, real-world cases so that they have access to precise, current facts. This aligns well with the ADE program's focus on a problem of practice. A descriptive design permits the researcher to select data collection techniques best suited for their research objectives and can incorporate single interviews, group discussions, observation, surveys or critical incident questionnaires.

The versatility of these methods grants them maximum flexibility when exploring such practical areas of exploration! To ensure the credibility of this study, a range of methods will be utilized.

Careful consideration must be taken when determining which data collection techniques are most suitable for the research questions being addressed. Each source serves as an important piece in forming a complete picture that leads to greater insight into the case at hand and its application to educational challenges and solutions.

All strands of information should come together harmoniously to build an overarching understanding of the issue at hand.