
John Willison  
The University of Adelaide

Kerry O'Regan  
The University of Adelaide

Sara K. Kuhn  
University of North Dakota, sara.kuhn@library.und.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://commons.und.edu/oers

Part of the Educational Assessment, Evaluation, and Research Commons, and the Scholarly Communication Commons

Recommended Citation
https://commons.und.edu/oers/5

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Open Educational Resources by an authorized administrator of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact zeinehyousif@library.und.edu.
**Table 1: Researcher Skill Development Framework**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 4</th>
<th>Level 5</th>
<th>Level 6</th>
<th>Level 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prescribed Research</td>
<td>Bounded Research</td>
<td>Scaffolded Research</td>
<td>Self-initiated Research</td>
<td>Open Research</td>
<td>Adopted Research</td>
<td>Enlarging Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highly structured directions and modelling from supervisor prompt the researcher(s) to…</td>
<td>Boundaries set by and limited directions from supervisor channel the researcher(s) to:</td>
<td>Scaffolds placed by supervisor enable the researcher(s) to independently…</td>
<td>Researcher(s) initiate and supervisor guides.</td>
<td>Researcher(s) determine guidelines that are in accord with discipline or context.</td>
<td>Researcher(s) inform others’ agendas.</td>
<td>Researcher(s) enlarge the field of inquiry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respond to questions/tasks provided explicitly. Use a provided approach to clarify questions, expectations and ECST issues.</td>
<td>Respond to questions/tasks implicit in directions. Choose from several provided structures to clarify questions, expectations and ECST issues.</td>
<td>Respond to questions/tasks generated from instructions. Choose from a range of provided structures or approaches to clarify salient elements including ECST issues.</td>
<td>Generate questions/aims/hypotheses framed within structured guidelines. Anticipate and prepare for ECST issues.</td>
<td>Generate questions/aims/hypotheses based on provided structures. Delve into and prepare for ECST issues.</td>
<td>Identify previously unstated gaps in literature and articulate research directions and ECST issues in response to gaps.</td>
<td>Articulate research directions that expand or direct the field and anticipate the corresponding ECST issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organize information/data using prescribed structure. Manage linear process provided (with pre-specified team roles).</td>
<td>Evaluate sources/ information/data using simple prescribed criteria to specify credibility and to reflect on the research process.</td>
<td>Collect and record self-defined information/data using one of several prescribed methodologies.</td>
<td>Collect and record self-defined information/data, choosing an appropriate methodology based on structured guidelines.</td>
<td>Collect and record self-defined information/data, choosing or devising an appropriate methodology.</td>
<td>Collect and record self-defined information/data, choosing or devising an appropriate methodology.</td>
<td>Generate new methods/methodologies that are used widely.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpreting given information/data and synthesize knowledge into prescribed formats. Ask emergent question.</td>
<td>Interpret several sources of information/data and synthesize to fully integrate components specified. Ask rigorous, researchable questions.</td>
<td>Analyze trends in information/data and synthesize to fully integrate knowledge into standard formats. Ask relevant, researchable questions.</td>
<td>Analyze and create information/data to fill researcher-identified gaps or extend knowledge.</td>
<td>Analyze and create information/data to fill researcher-identified gaps or extend knowledge.</td>
<td>Develop substantial research outcomes, so that ideas, practices or interpretations become foundational in field or discipline.</td>
<td>Generate substantial research outcomes, so that ideas, practices or interpretations become foundational in field or discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicate &amp; Apply</td>
<td>Analyze &amp; Synthesize</td>
<td>Exemplify &amp; Evaluate (ECST)</td>
<td>Reflect &amp; Clarify</td>
<td>Generate &amp; Apply</td>
<td>Enrich &amp; Clarify</td>
<td>Discern &amp; Apply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discuss, listen, write, present and perform the processes, understandings and applications of the research, and respond to feedback, accounting for ethical, cultural, social and team (ECST) considerations.</td>
<td>Analyze information/data and synthesize to integrate knowledge into standard formats. Ask relevant, researchable questions.</td>
<td>Reflect on the research process.</td>
<td>Reflect on the research process.</td>
<td>Reflect on the research process.</td>
<td>Reflect on the research process.</td>
<td>Reflect on the research process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respond to questions/tasks provided explicitly. Use a provided approach to clarify questions, expectations and ECST issues.</td>
<td>Collect and record required information/data using a prescribed methodology from a prescribed source in which the information/data is clearly evident.</td>
<td>Collect and record required information/data using a prescribed methodology from self-selected source/s in which the information/data is clearly evident.</td>
<td>Collect and record self-defined information/data, choosing an appropriate methodology based on structured guidelines.</td>
<td>Collect and record self-defined information/data, choosing or devising an appropriate methodology.</td>
<td>Collect and record self-defined information/data, choosing or devising an appropriate methodology.</td>
<td>Collect and record self-defined information/data, choosing or devising an appropriate methodology.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**www.rsd.edu.au**

© Willison & O'Regan, August 2008/October 2015

Adopted Research

**Level 7**

Enlarging Research

Researchers…

a. **Embark & Clarify**
   - Respond to or initiate research and clarify or determine what knowledge is required, heeding ethical, cultural, social and team (ECST) considerations.

b. **Find & Generate**
   - Find and generate needed information/data using appropriate methodology.

c. **Evaluate & Reflect**
   - Determine and critique the degree of credibility of selected sources, information and data generated. Metacognitively reflect on processes used.

d. **Organize & Manage**
   - Organise information and data to reveal patterns and themes, and manage teams and research processes.

e. **Analyze & Synthesize**
   - Analyze information/data and synthesize knowledge into prescribed formats. Ask emergent question.

f. **Communicate & Apply**
   - Discuss, listen, write, present and perform the processes, understandings and applications of the research, and respond to feedback, accounting for ethical, cultural, social and team (ECST) considerations.