

Getting Started on a SoTL Project

SoTL Circle – Fall 2014

Answer these questions to the best of your ability right now.

1. Think about a teaching and/or learning issue, problem, or question that you have about your students, a course, an assignment, a pedagogical strategy, your program, etc. Briefly state that issue, problem, or question as a question(s).
2. What do you know about this topic and about ways to study this question from the extant literature in your discipline and in higher education more broadly?
3. Given your question, what types of information or artifacts do you already have that will help you to answer this question?
4. Given your question, what other types of information or artifacts will you need (and from what sources) to answer this question?
5. Given your question and the information you need, what research strategies (e.g., self-reflective portfolio or other product, interviews, focus groups, analysis of existing data, content analysis, questionnaires, quasi-experiment, multimethods) might you use to obtain this information and answer this question?
6. What time frame will be most appropriate to answer your question?
7. What are some practical problems you might face in doing this study? What resources would you need and how might you obtain these?
8. What ethical issues should you consider in doing this study?
9. In what ways and in what outlets (broadly defined) will you be able to obtain peer feedback on this work and make this work public?)

- taken from McKinney, K. (2007). *Enhancing learning through the scholarship of teaching and learning: The challenges and joys of juggling*. San Francisco: Anker.