Chapter 3 Starting Research From Real Life Problems

Worries about scientific objectivity just won t go away, but by now, it s safe to say, no one who reflects on the appropriate role of values and interests in scientific research thinks it is or could be free of them. It now seems obvious that social, political, and economic values and interests influence research on weapons, for example, or health and the environment. Yet the dominant late twentieth-century philosophies of science have tended to conceptualize the reliability and predictive power of the results of research as damaged by such values and interests, and they continue to do so in spite of powerful analyses of how sciences operate in practice and in spite of the rise around the globe in the last four decades of various forms of participatory action research and citizen science, both of which take their research agendas from the concerns of disadvantaged groups. Why are the epistemic/scientific norm of objectivity and the social/political norm of diversity still perceived as inevitably in conflict with each other? Why aren t they perceived as in conflict only sometimes, but many times as providing valuable resources for each other? How can we promote science that is both more epistemically adequate and socially just? Sandra Harding probes these questions with clarity and concrete cases, and in doing so puts severe pressure on conventional philosophies of science and points to intellectually sounder and politically more progressive ways to think about them. She proposes a new way to relink sciences and their philosophies to democratic social relations, even while these are themselves undergoing transformations. A must read for anyone interested in how to think about the politics of science globally."

There has been a long tradition of research on the relation between diversification and performance of public corporations in the strategy and finance fields. As for private equity portfolios, research on this matter is rather scarce. From a theoretical as well as from a practical perspective, however, it is interesting to know more about the relation between private equity portfolio diversification and performance, how private equity firms manage their portfolios, and what public companies can learn from private equity firms. These are the research questions which are addressed in Daniel Klier's research. In order to answer these questions, the author uses a two-tier research design. As a first step, he compares the diversification-performance link of public corporations and private equity firms. With respect to the private equity sample and the ope- tionalization of the relevant variables, the study is highly innovative in terms of generating the PE sample from databases like Preqin and Dealogic, constructing a diversification measure from transaction data, and developing comparable perfo- ance measures for private equity firms as well as traditional multi-business firms. As the second step, which is exploratory in nature, the author explores m- agement models of PE firms. The sample of 20 US and Europe-based private equity firms is unique and of high quality, because the author succeeded in getting in-depth interviews with top decision makers of PE firms. The exploratory study extracts three clusters of management models that PE firms are using, and their relation to performance.

For 21st-century entrepreneurs, this book provides the practical guidance they need to overcome the often intimidating challenges of starting, organizing, and running a new business effectively and efficiently. • 400 unique evaluative descriptions of print and electronic resources for initial start-up, creating a business plan, management,

marketing, personnel and HR, and competitive analysis • Screenshots of important and useful web pages • A glossary of relevant terms and acronyms • An index provides access by author, title, subject, and webpage

The application of emerging multimedia innovations can significantly benefit organizations across different sectors. These tools aid in increasing competitive advantage and optimizing knowledge management. Evaluating Media Richness in Organizational Learning is an essential reference source for the latest scholarly research on the application of computational tools for knowledge management frameworks and strategies in organizations. Featuring a broad range of coverage on topics and perspectives such as web semantics, product innovation, and knowledge sharing, this book is ideally designed for researchers, consultants, practitioners, professionals, and upper-level students seeking current information on ways to facilitate business innovation and achieve competitive advantage.

Learn every step you need for product design and development Key Features Explore all the tools that you need to be a complete UX designer Code the product designs you've created to become a full-stack designer Build an amazing portfolio with real-world projects Book Description Designing user experience (UX) is one of the most important aspects of a project, as it has a direct effect on how customers think of your company. The process of designing a user experience is one of the most challenging yet rewarding aspects of product development. Hands-On UX Design for Developers will teach you how to create amazing user experiences for products from scratch. This book starts with helping you understand the importance of a good UX design and the role of a UX designer. It will take you through the different stages of designing a UX and the application of various principles of psychology in UX design. Next, you will

learn how to conduct user research and market research, which is crucial to creating a great UX. You will also learn how to create user personas and use it for testing. This book will help you gain the ability to think like a UX designer and understand both sides of product development: design and coding. You will explore the latest tools, such as Sketch, Balsamiq, and Framer.js, to create wireframes and prototypes. The concluding chapters will take you through designing your UI, dealing with big data while designing a UX, and the fundamentals of frontend. Finally, you'll prepare your portfolio and become job ready in the UX arena. What you will learn What UX is and what a UX designer does Explore the UX Process and science of making products user-friendly Create user interfaces and learn which tools to use Understand how your design works in the real world Create UI interaction, animation, wireframes, and prototypes Design a product with users in mind Develop a personal portfolio and be well-prepared to join the UX world Who this book is for Hands-On UX/UI Design for Developers is for web designers who have knowledge of basic UX design principles. Addressing one of the key challenges facing doctoral students, Completing Your Qualitative Dissertation by Linda Dale Bloomberg and Marie Volpe fills a gap in qualitative literature by offering comprehensive guidance and practical tools for navigating each step in the qualitative dissertation journey, including the planning, research, and writing phases. Blending the conceptual, theoretical, and practical, the book becomes a dissertation in action—a logical and cohesive explanation and illustration of content and process. The Third Edition maintains key features that distinguish its unique approach and has been thoroughly updated and expanded throughout to reflect and address recent developments in the field.

This title provides a guide to mixing or combining methods in

educational and social research and covers complex interventions, Bayesian approaches, new political arithmetic, triangulation, life histories and design studies.

In Research Concepts for the Practitioner of Educational Leadership, Lee Baldwin acquaints the reader with principles of educational research that are most applicable to today's educational leader.

The Communications Toolkit contains practical advice, tips and strategies to enable learners to develop the communication skills needed to be successful students. The text helps students make a successful transition to tertiary studies, develop effective research skills for their discipline, approach academic writing with confidence, refine their writing skills, and enhance their face-to-face communication experience. This new edition includes more information than ever on active listening and dealing with conflict, while taking into account the changing nature of university studies as more and more students study and take courses online. New examples of online students' communication work and new coverage of the communication challenges students face when going to university via an online channel deals with this diversity. The direct, inclusive, motivational and student-friendly text addresses both individual students and those working in seminar or workshop groups, and provides activities for both types of student throughout the book. The new CourseMate Express website offers students resources for learning and revision, making this the strongest communications textbook in the market today.

From best-selling author of Introduction to Global Health, Introduction to Health Research Methods demystifies the research process and empowers students (and other new investigators) to conduct their own original research projects. Using clear language and practical examples, the text has five sections that describe the entire research process

beginning with the identification of a research question and the selection of a study approach, proceeding through the collection and analysis of data and the preparation of a formal scientific report, and ending with academic and professional presentations and publishing. By breaking the research process down into manageable steps, Introduction to Health Research Methods communicates the excitement and importance of health research—and encourages readers to make their own contribution to improving the health of individuals and communities through research. Key features: • A step-by-step guide to conducting research in medicine, public health, and other health sciences • For classroom use or for guiding independent work on scholarly projects • Covers the entire research process from identifying a study question and selecting a study approach to collecting and analyzing data to disseminating the findings • Includes detailed information about how to conduct primary studies (collection of new data), secondary analyses (analysis of existing data), and tertiary studies (literature reviews) • Weaves elements of research ethics throughout the book Economic reasoning has thus far dominated the field of public policy analysis. This new introduction to the field posits that policy analysis should have both a broader interdisciplinary base—including criteria from such fields as political science, sociology, law, and philosophy, as well as economics—and also a broader audience in order to foster democratic debate. To achieve these goals, MacRae and Whittington have organized their textbook around the construction of decision matrices using multiple criteria, exploring the uses of the decision matrix formulation more fully than other texts. They describe how to set up the matrix, fill in cells and combine criteria, and use it as an aid for decision making. They show how ethical assessment of the affects that alternatives have on various parties differs from political analysis, and then they

extend the use of the decision matrix to consider alternatives by affected parties, periods of time, or combined factors. The authors also thoughtfully address the role of expert advice in the policy process, widening the scope of the field to describe a complex system for the creation and use of knowledge in a democracy. An extended case study of HIV/AIDS policy follows each chapter (in installments), immediately illustrating the application of the material. The book also contains a glossary. Expert Advice for Policy Choice provides a new basis for graduate education in public policy analysis and can also serve as a text in planning, evaluation research, or public administration. In addition, it will be of interest to students and professionals wishing to aid policy choice who work in such fields as sociology, political science, psychology, public health, and social work.

The underlying reason for the publication of this book is to address the need for information and provide guidance to individuals as they peruse business opportunities. This book provides a step-by-step process to help anyone develop their idea into an actionable plan. The authors, combined, have been involved in several very small and very large local- and international-based businesses over a twenty-year period. We hope to provide guidance to anyone with an idea that can be potentially turned into a business. Idea-driven people are the backbone of a new business, but they need guidance on how to bring their ideas to reality. Starting with a solid foundation will provide stability. Putting pen to paper tends to spark detailed conversation about the initial business idea. We urge people to spend ample time researching everything about a business before committing significant financial resources. Rely on factual data and not opinions. In addition, engage the best people you can find for advisory services in all functional areas. The most important aspect is to enjoy the process and have fun while embarking on a new business venture. This

will reflect in the end result, a solid plan to start and grow a new small business.

Brought to you by the UK's leading small business websiteIf you're looking for a practical guide to help you start a business, this is the book for you. Covering each stage of starting up - from evaluating your business idea to marketing your product or service - this annually updated handbook includes the latest information on support and legal regulations for small businesses, plus advice on taking advantage of today's economic conditions. Whether you're looking to start up a cleaning business, set up as a freelancer, go into property development or start an eBay venture, you'll uncover the expert advice you need to succeed.Inside you'll find practical pointers and first-hand business insight from successful start-ups and top entrepreneurs.Find our how to:Turn an idea into a viable businessWrite an effective business planRaise finance for your start-upDeal with regulations and lawsPrice products or services competitivelyFind and retain customersMarket your business on a budgetHire the best employees

Delreux examines how the EU functions when it participates in international environmental negotiations. In particular, this book looks at the internal EU decision-making process with regard to international negotiations that lead to multilateral environmental agreements. By studying eight such decision-making processes, the book analyses how much negotiation autonomy (or 'discretion') the EU negotiator (the European Commission or the Council Presidency) enjoys vis-à-vis the member states it represents and how this particular degree of discretion can be explained. The book's empirical evidence is based on extensive literature review, primary and semi-confidential document research, as well as interviews with EU decision-makers. It is aimed at a readership interested in EU politics and decision-making, global/multilateral governance,

environmental policy science and methodological development of Qualitative Comparative Analysis. Develop more secure and effective antivirus solutions by leveraging antivirus bypass techniques Key Features Gain a clear understanding of the security landscape and research approaches to bypass antivirus software Become well-versed with practical techniques to bypass antivirus solutions Discover best practices to develop robust antivirus solutions Book Description Antivirus software is built to detect, prevent, and remove malware from systems, but this does not guarantee the security of your antivirus solution as certain changes can trick the antivirus and pose a risk for users. This book will help you to gain a basic understanding of antivirus software and take you through a series of antivirus bypass techniques that will enable you to bypass antivirus solutions. The book starts by introducing you to the cybersecurity landscape, focusing on cyber threats, malware, and more. You will learn how to collect leads to research antivirus and explore the two common bypass approaches used by the authors. Once you've covered the essentials of antivirus research and bypassing, you'll get hands-on with bypassing antivirus software using obfuscation, encryption, packing, PowerShell, and more. Toward the end, the book covers security improvement recommendations, useful for both antivirus vendors as well as for developers to help strengthen the security and malware detection capabilities of antivirus software. By the end of this security book, you'll have a better understanding of antivirus software and be able to confidently bypass antivirus software. What you will learn Explore the security landscape and get to grips with the fundamentals of antivirus software Discover how to gather AV bypass research leads using malware analysis tools Understand the two commonly used antivirus bypass approaches Find out how to bypass static and dynamic antivirus engines

Understand and implement bypass techniques in real-world scenarios Leverage best practices and recommendations for implementing antivirus solutions Who this book is for This book is for security researchers, malware analysts, reverse engineers, pentesters, antivirus vendors looking to strengthen their detection capabilities, antivirus users and companies that want to test and evaluate their antivirus software, organizations that want to test and evaluate antivirus software before purchase or acquisition, and tech-savvy individuals who want to learn new topics.

Completing Your Qualitative DissertationA Road Map From Beginning to EndSAGE Publications

First published in 1999. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

This book guides student researchers through the different stages of small-scale or practitioner research, a common component of study for students training to work in the lifelong learning sector. The authors look at the entire research journey, from planning a research topic and framing research questions, through the process of data collection and analysis, to writing up and presentation. Using a step-by-step approach the book tackles common thorny issues such as: Understanding the different genres of research Discussion of qualitative and quantitative approaches to research The importance of forming research questions and of locating them within current research literature How to do a literature review Dealing with permissions, access and ethics The nuts and bolts of research methods Interpreting data and writing up research findings Together with case studies and examples of real-life research projects that have been completed by the authors' own students, this book

tackles research in a student-friendly and accessible style, carefully unpacking and defining the different terms, concepts and theories that students need to know when beginning research for the first time. This book is essential reading for students who are training to work in the lifelong learning sector or practitioners who are undertaking CPD to maintain their license to practice. "Many teachers training in the lifelong learning sector, as well as those going on to do foundation, honours and masters degrees in education, find the prospect of carrying out educational research for the first time daunting. Thus far, they have been reliant on generic educational research textbooks. Jonathan Tummons' and Vicky Duckworth's excellent work now guides them clearly and supportively through the research journey in a way which is underpinned by the authors' deep understanding of both the sector and nature of the challenge of the research task to the student, using an informal and accessible written style." Andy Armitage, Head of the Department of Post-Compulsory Education at Canterbury Christ Church University, UK "This book combines sound practical advice with an exploration of the philosophical and methodological concepts underpinning educational research. Often drawing on the authors' own experiences, it makes a convincing case for the practitioner as researcher and draws clear and appropriate attention to the purposes, uses and dissemination of small scale research." Susan Wallace, Professor of Continuing Education, Nottingham Trent University, UK

When the objectives of public policy programmes have

been formulated and decided upon, implementation seems just a matter of following instructions. However, it is underway to the realization of those objectives that public policies get their final substance and form. Crucial is what happens in and around the encounter between public officials and individual citizens at the street level of government bureaucracy. This Research Handbook addresses the state of the art while providing a systematic exploration of the theoretical and methodological issues apparent in the study of street-level bureaucracy and how to deal with them.

Aspiring entrepreneurs learn the ins and outs of starting their own successful business in one of today's hottest industries: beauty. From laying the groundwork for starting a small business and establishing themselves in the marketplace to holding their grand opening and developing service policies, this step-by-step guide takes beauty enthusiasts from big-picture plans to day-to-day dealings at their new spa and salon. Soon-to-be business owners also get an insider's perspective from beauty industry practitioners and experts who offer tips, advice, examples, and even their contact information to add to the many resources provided.

Survey Methodology describes the basic principles of survey design discovered in methodological research over recent years and offers guidance for making successful decisions in the design and execution of high quality surveys. Written by six nationally recognized experts in the field, this book covers the major considerations in designing and conducting a sample survey.

The Hidden History of Head Start is the most complete chronicle ever written on one of the foremost social programs in US history.

This book will help readers understand the practice of qualitative research--whether they want to do it, teach it, or just learn about it. All the major research phases are encompassed (startup, design, data collection, analysis, and composing), including newly emerging trends. Numerous easy-to-read vignettes show how other scholars have successfully implemented specific procedures. Equally distinctive, the book presents qualitative research as an adaptive craft. The array of choices among different procedures and methods enables readers to customize their own studies and to accommodate different worldviews and genres. New to This Edition: *Stronger discussion of different worldviews (e.g., constructivism, postpositivism, and pragmatism) and how they relate to different methodological choices. *Clearer emphasis on doing a generalized qualitative study, while acknowledging 12 specialized genres (e.g., action-based research, arts-based research, autoethnography, grounded theory, phenomenology, and others). *Expanded discussions of different kinds of qualitative study samples and of mixed methods. *New ideas on how to avoid getting stalled when analyzing qualitative data. *Consideration of an additional way of concluding a qualitative study: by taking action. Pedagogical Features *Chapters start with an abstract and end with a suggested exercise. *Key terms and concepts appear in boldface throughout the text and are listed in end-of-chapter recaps as well as in the book's

glossary. *Sections within each chapter start with a preview box: "What you should learn from this section." *An appendix presents a semester- or yearlong field-based project.

Most prosperous businesses are started on extremely tight budgets, and founders hustle hard to deliver innovative--or simply good--products or services. This book focuses on strategies to make great business ideas reality as cheaply as possible.

Previous ed. cataloged as: Qualitative inquiry & research design. c2007.

Describes how to critique various types of study including: case studies, surveys, correlation studies, regression analysis studies, factor-analytic studies, discriminant analysis studies, factorial studies, and quasi-experimental studies.

In today's times, more and more companies pursue global sourcing strategies in some form and to some extent. The most prominent reason for the increased interest in global sourcing is the idea to benefit from factor cost differences between sourcing regions. However, recent research indicates that cross-border sourcing is no panacea to generate cost savings. There are situations in which international sourcing does not lead to the intended price reductions or even causes expensive backsourcing activities. Accordingly, the ambiguous image of global sourcing is the point of departure for the dissertation at hand. Thus, the main purpose of this

thesis is to explore how global sourcing can contribute to a firm's purchasing performance. The results indicate that the accumulation of social capital between the buying organisation and its international suppliers can increase the sourcing success. However, given the limited amount of resources for those intimate buyer-supplier relationships, close partnerships cannot be maintained with all suppliers. Consequently, the research at hand points in the direction that global sourcing can be a means to increase the intensity of competition in supply markets, facilitating the pursuit of more adversarial relationships.

This conference book includes contemporary reports and corresponding studies on swim starts conducted by young scientists from around the world. The various topics relate to individual starts from the block, backstroke starts, and relay starts, highlighting different aspects and phases of the corresponding movement behavior. Most of the reports published in this book have been presented during the 2015 Young Experts Workshop of Swim Start Research supported by the Federal Institute of Sport Science in Germany.

In this book: Brought to you by the UK's leading small business website Startups.co.uk." Need a hand to get your business up and running? If you're looking for a practical guide to help you start a business, Start Your Own Business 2013,is the book

for you. Covering each stage of starting up - from evaluating your business idea to marketing your product or service - this annually updated handbook includes the latest information on support and legal regulations for small businesses, plus advice on taking advantage of today's economic conditions. Whether you're looking to start up a cleaning business, set up as a freelancer, go into property development or start an eBay venture, you'll uncover the expert advice you need to succeed. Inside you'll find practical pointers and first-hand business insight from successful start-ups and top entrepreneurs including easyjet's Stelios and Betfair's Andrew Black. Find out how to: Turn an idea into a viable business Write an effective business plan Raise finance for your start-up Deal with regulations and laws Price products or services competitively Find and retain customers Market your business on a budget Hire the best employees . Other books in the Startups.co.uk series: Books on the following subjects are available from the Startups.co.uk series: Startups: Online Business, Startups: Bright Marketing, Startups: How to Start a Successful Business.

The field of strategic management has developed significantly since its birth from "business policy" and "business planning" in the 1960s. Pioneering studies were essentially normative, prescriptive, and often based on in-depth case studies. The evolution of

strategic management into a respected field of academic study resulted from the adoption of research methods previously employed in economics. Today, research in strategic management is likely to employ a mixture of methods borrowed from related and unrelated disciplines, such as politcal sciences, psychology, neuroscience, and behavioral economics, which can be confusing to researchers new to the field. This book provides the reader with a broad introduction to the array of qualitative and quantitative research methods required to investigate strategic management. Throughout the book, strong emphasis is placed on practical applications that transcend the mere analysis of the theoretical roots of single research methods. The underlying result is a book that encourages and aids readers to "learn by doing" – in applying the implications of each chapter to their own research. This text is vital reading for postgraduate students and researchers focused on business strategy.

Doctoral Thesis / Dissertation from the year 2011 in the subject Business economics - Investment and Finance, University of Kassel (Research Group Entrepreneurship), language: English, abstract: Independent Venture Capital (IVC) has been paramount in the emergence of the information technology industry in both the United States and Europe. There are relatively few large global

information technology companies in Europe. A widening gap is observable in the success rate of IVC backed start-ups between the U.S. and Europe in the information technology industry. This difference could be attributable to the differences in the venture capital financing of start-ups in the U.S., UK, Germany and France. This book deals with "Differences in Venture Capital Financing of U.S., UK, German and French Information Technology Start-ups". The comparative analysis is conducted on a microeconomic level (managerial venture capital research), i.e. on the venture capital firm level. The differences are analyzed for the whole venture capital investment cycle: contact phase, initial screening phase, due diligence phase, deal structuring and negotiation phase, management phase — value adding services, and exit phase. The research framework model examines the following differences in the venture capital investment cycle: average size of investment in the seed stage, average size of investment in the start-up stage, aver-age size of investment in the growth stage, percentage of start-ups in pre-revenue phase at time of investment, percentage of start-ups not managed by founders but experienced managers, percentage of investment in start-ups with me-too products, percentage of mar-ket analysis due diligence done informal, typical liquidation preference multiple, percent-age syndicated exits that are outperformers,

number of tranches per investment round, number of board seats per partner and the cash multiple X that defines an outperformer. The empirical research work is based on an extensive scientific online questionnaire with VCs in the U.S., UK, Germany and France. Before the online questionnaire was drafted, a preliminary face-to-face expert interview was conducted with 24 VCs in Silicon Valley, London, Paris, Hamburg, Berlin and Munich. The primary data collected in the questionnaire served as basis for quantitative parametric and non-parametric statistical analysis. The book is bespokenly written for decision makers in the venture capital industry in the U.S, UK, Germany and France; all entrepreneurs and professionals who want to under-stand the economics and mechanics of venture capital term sheet clauses; venture capital industry professionals; VC associations

Research Methods for Education, Second Edition takes the student by the hand and guides them through the complex subject of research methods in an engaging, witty and clear way. The book covers the philosophical approaches and epistemology, as well as the practical aspects of research, such as designing questionnaires and presenting conclusions. Each chapter is split into 'Context' and 'Practice' and both sections are packed with exercises, examples and comparative international material from other educational contexts, Peter

Newby's book is the student-friendly text which demystifies the research process with clarity and verve. Key features: -written in a clear and friendly manner to help students feel more confident dealing with the complexities of research and particularly useful for those new to research or less confident with numbers -a mixed methods approach, which doesn't simply prioritise quantitative or qualitative methods, allowing for greatest possible coverage contains guidance on analytic procedures that require more advanced tools such as SPSS and Minitab -many excellent international examples and case studies specifically from education, which breaks away from a parochial focus on UK education system.

The home is the most popular place for start-ups. With the rate of new business start ups being unaffected by the recession, more than a quarter of a million people in the UK start a business from home each year and four times that number giving it serious consideration. Entrepreneurs need little more than a laptop and a telephone line to start off with, but when the new business starts to expand they face the challenge of staying at home without sacrificing their growth potential. Starting a Business from Home identifies business opportunities, gives advice on preparation and set up, and how you run, control and manage its growth. Now with extra exercises and end of chapter advice, this new edition includes: researching the market, business ownership and title issues, raising the money and

managing finances, building and operating a website, bringing a product to market and starting up overseas. With appendices giving home-based business ideas and sources of help, as well as advice on research, getting the business started and an indication of how much money could be made out of each business, Starting a Business from Home is an invaluable practical guide for the aspiring entrepreneur.

Discover how brands are created, managed, differentiated, leveraged, and licensed Whether your business is large or small, global or local, this new edition of Branding For Dummies gives you the nuts and bolts to create, improve, and maintain a successful brand. It'll help you define your company's mission, the benefits and features of your products or services, what your customers and prospects already think of your brand, what qualities you want them to associate with your company, and so much more. Packed with plain-English advice and step-by-step instructions, Branding For Dummies covers assembling a top-notch branding team, positioning your brand, handling advertising and promotions, avoiding blunders, and keeping your brand viable, visible, and healthy. Whether you're looking to develop a logo and tagline, manage and protect your brand, launch a brand marketing plan, fix a broken brand, make customers loyal brand champions—or anything in between—Branding For Dummies makes it fast and easy. Includes tips and cautionary advice on social media and its impact on personal and business branding programs Covers balancing personal and business brand development References some of the

major brand crises—and how to avoid making the same mistakes Shows brand marketers how to create brands that match their employers' objectives while launching their own careers If you're a business leader looking to set your brand up for the ultimate success, Branding For Dummies has you covered.

Learn about search engines, reliable sources, and the best way to conduct research online. From online databases to Google, this book will teach you how to safely and effectively find the information you need online.

First Published in 2004. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

This book provides a thought-provoking guide to conducting collaborative arts-based research. Focusing on ways that social inquiry might be conducted with marginalised groups to promote social justice, the text offers chapters on: Telling 'alternative' stories through a variety of methods from crafts to digital film Visual and metaphorical approaches to social research including photography, art and poetry Performative methods that include drama, dance, music and performance art Foster introduces relevant methodological debates, giving a context for understanding when arts-based research can be a fruitful approach to take and outlining a convincing rationale for using the arts as a way of understanding and representing the social world. The book also suggests a range of alternative criteria for evaluating the quality of arts-based research. Illustrative examples from around the world are used throughout the book and an extended case study is included that focuses on

Foster's own collaborative arts-based research. With their emphasis on the value of participative research and social justice, arts-based methodologies are becoming increasingly popular in health and social research. This is the ideal text for anyone looking to introduce arts-based methods into their research practice.
With the competitiveness of firms in an open and integrated world environment increasingly reliant on technological capability, universities are being asked to take on a growing role in stimulating economic growth. Beyond imparting education, they are now viewed as sources of industrially valuable technical skills, innovations, and entrepreneurship. Developed and developing countries alike have made it a priority to realize this potential of universities to spur growth, a strategy that calls for coordinated policy actions.
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