

Methodologies on Textbook Research

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Textbooks are the cores of education, curriculum and instruction. Therefore, research related to textbooks is absolutely important. In recent years, the number of the related studies has been on the increase, and the focus of textbooks studies has been centered on the improvement of quality, but not on the increase of quantity. One of the clinchers to improve the quality of textbooks depends on the characteristics of research method and instrument; the characteristics of research method and instrument are based on the methodologies of textbook research. Taking these into consideration, the researchers of the present study probed into the developmental background of research method first, analyzed the paradigm and meaning of the research method, and then illustrated the characteristics and limitations of each quantitative or qualitative research method. In conclusion, not only did the researchers attempt to understand both paradigm and method of textbook research, but they also comprehended applicability, limitations and relationship between each other. Furthermore, the researchers would select appropriate research method in accordance with innate characteristics and specialty, and develop the integration of paradigms, integration of disciplines, and integration of methods.

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