

THEORETICAL AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Theoretical Framework

- ✚ The theoretical framework underpins the present study with a cognitive structure that the study intends to verify or support. The theory supports the study the same way the study supports the theory.
- ✚ The theoretical framework is only available for quantitative research and mixed methods, since these methods of inquiry serve to verify a present theoretical construct.
- ✚ Theoretical frameworks can be explained using the SEC approach: state the theory, explain the theory, and contextualize the theory to the problem of the present study.

Conceptual Framework

- ✚ A conceptual framework is the visualized construct of the present study. It describes the relationships that the present study seeks to establish.
- ✚ The conceptual framework remains with qualitative research. However, conceptual frameworks for qualitative studies also provide theoretical arguments that inform the study. It is not selecting a theory per se, but explaining the main arguments that serve to inform the whole paper.
- ✚ The conceptual framework is usually represented with a paradigm.
- ✚ For mixed methods studies, the conceptual framework must conform with mixed method designs pertinent to the research strategy. The sequence of