

# Research in Action Podcast Instructor Guide

Use the following episode description, learning objectives, guiding questions and activity suggestions to more easily include “Research in Action” podcast episodes as a supplemental resource for your course.

### Podcast and Episode Information

“Research in Action” is a weekly podcast about topics and issues related to research in higher education featuring experts across a range of disciplines.

On this episode of the podcast, the guest is Dr. Gerd Kortemeyer. Dr. Kortemeyer received his Diplom ("Masters") in Physics from the University of Hannover, Germany, and his Ph.D. in Physics from Michigan State University. He is an Associate Professor of Physics Education at Michigan State University with a joint appointment between the Lyman Briggs College and the Department of Physics and Astronomy. He is also the Director of the LON-CAPA (<http://www.lon-capa.org/>). His research interest is the effective use of technology in science education, with a particular focus on assessment, analytics, and gamification.

*Segment One* [00:00-11:44] - In this segment, Gerd shares about how he got started researching online learning.

*Segment Two* [11:45-23:48] - In this segment, Gerd discusses some of his research regarding the work habits of online students.

*Segment Three* [23:49-35:27] - In this segment, Gerd shares about his upcoming projects, including one on educational video games.

Show notes and a transcript for this episode can be found at:  
<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e58/>

### Learning Outcomes

By listening to this episode, students will be able to:

- Discuss some of the challenges in conducting online educational research
- Provide an example of student data that can be collected in an online learning environment
- Explain some of the interpretive challenges associated with student data collected in an online learning environment
- Describe some of the benefits and challenges in developing educational video games

### Guiding Questions for Listening

- What led Dr. Kortemeyer to begin researching in online learning?
- What appear to be some of the challenges in conducting online educational research?
- According to Dr. Kortemeyer, what are some of the differences and similarities in conducting educational research compared to research in physics?
- What does Dr. Kortemeyer advise pre-tenure members to “find out” about pursuing research in online education as it relates to scholarship of teaching and learning?
- What does Dr. Kortemeyer explain is “opportunistic” about collecting student data in an online learning environment?
- According to Dr. Kortemeyer, what is important to remember with regard to data interpretation and statistics?
- What are some examples of student data that can be collected in an online learning environment?
- What appear to be some of the challenges with interpreting student data collected from an online learning environment?
- What have been some of the outcomes of Dr. Kortemeyer’s research regarding online homework?
- What does Dr. Kortemeyer explain are some of the learning goals he is aiming to address in developing educational video games?

## Possible Activities

- Ask students to visit the show notes for this episode (<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e58/>) and look at an additional resource that is linked in connection with this episode. Students can write a short review of that resource to share with their peers.
- Ask students to visit the show notes for this episode (<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e58/>) and post an additional resource connected to the content of the episode in the comments section.
- Have students share questions that are raised for them based on the content of this episode. What would they ask Dr. Gerd Kortemeyer if they could?

## Suggested Citation (APA, 6th edition)

Linder, K. (Producer/host). (2017, May 8). *Dr. Gerd Kortemeyer on Researching in Online Learning* [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from <http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e58/>

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## Notes

## About the Research in Action Podcast

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“Research in Action” (RIA) is a podcast about topics and issues related to research in higher education featuring experts across a range of disciplines. Episodes are posted weekly and include guest interviews and occasional solo episodes. Guests are from a range of higher education institutions and share their expertise on qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods as well as their personal experiences as researchers, research and writing practices, organizational and productivity strategies, and much more. Some weeks, bonus content will also be posted.

“Research in Action” is hosted by [Dr. Katie Linder](#), research director for Oregon State University Ecampus.

Visit the podcast website to view [show notes and transcripts for each episode](#), explore our [episode guide](#), learn more about how to [contact us](#), or [suggest a future guest or topic](#).

You may subscribe to the [“Research in Action” RSS feed](#) or access the podcast via [iTunes](#), [Soundcloud](#) or [Stitcher](#).

“Research in Action” is also listed on [MERLOT](#).

The “Research in Action” podcast is a resource funded by Oregon State University Ecampus – ranked top ten in the nation for online education two years running by U.S. News & World Report. OSU Ecampus has more than 45 degree programs and more than 1,000 classes online.

## Contact

Katie Linder, Ph.D.  
Director of Research  
Oregon State Ecampus  
541-737-4629  
[kathryn.linder@oregonstate.edu](mailto:kathryn.linder@oregonstate.edu)

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