

ideal for complex social issues, overcomes the elite bias of naturalistic research, overcomes the holistic fallacy of naturalistic research, and allows divergent results to enrich explanation. The two goals of triangulation – confirmation and completeness of data – are the major strengths of this approach.

Begley (1996) argued that it is important that researchers are clear why they are choosing triangulation as a method and that they should provide evidence of how it is used. In this case, as is the tradition in CSR, multiple data collection tools were used (Yin 2009) – observations, interviews and documentation were collated in a dataset grid.

Miles and Huberman (1994) spoke of triangulation as a state of mind: 'If you self-consciously set out to collect and double-check findings, using multiple sources and modes of evidence, the verification process will largely be built into the data-gathering process, and little more need be done than to report on one's procedures.'

Conclusion

This paper has highlighted a study that brought together educational and practice issues related to student learning in the workplace. By using CSR, the study opened up a new dimension of learning in the workplace and learning was viewed from a number of different perspectives. Furthermore, the study brought CSR to the forefront of nursing research that can be used to improve practice and education in a systematic way.

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Conflict of interest
None declared

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