

AN ARTS-BASED RESEARCH CASE STUDY OF COLLABORATIVE ART METHODS COURSE ASSIGNMENT BETWEEN THE INSTRUCTOR AND ART EDUCATION STUDENTS

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This visual arts-based research (ABR) case study portrays an experiment in collaborative research design in a midlevel art education methods course. ABR is a transdisciplinary approach to knowledge building that combines the tenets of the creative arts in research contexts. The overarching research question is: How does their development of individualized art education research impact students' perceptions of art education and learning? The art education students (n=9) in this course collaborated with the instructor in designing the research project—choosing the readings and developing the research design and methods based on the topic of their choice. Data was collected in analyzing participants' reflective journals, artwork that describes their research experience, and a focus group interview. Findings indicate that the students enjoyed their freedom to choose research topics that identify issues in their pre-service teaching experiencing research in a real-world context, and articulating how their findings apply to their teaching practices.

