Research Design

Analytical framework

Methods

Analysis

RQs

Literature Review

Findings

Conceptual framework
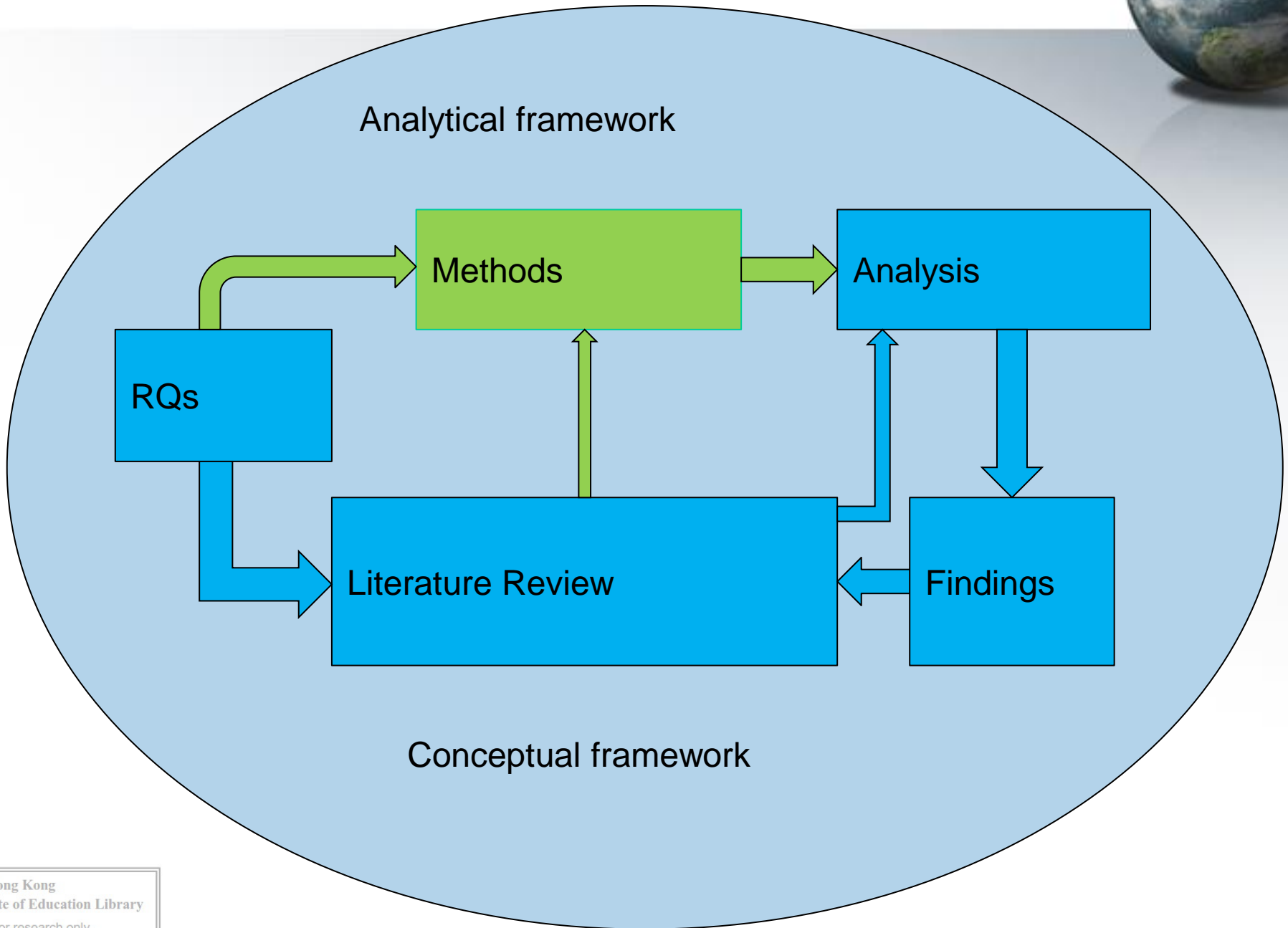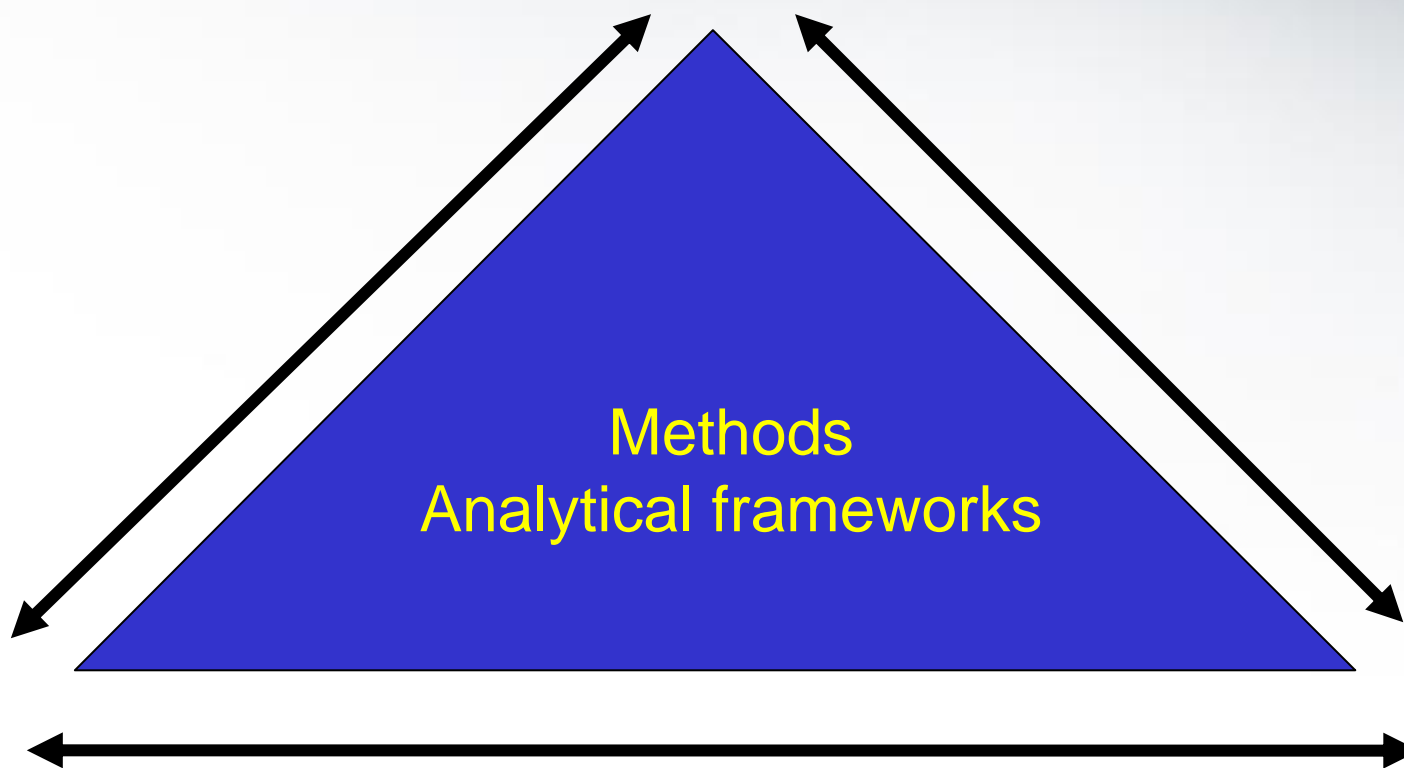
Research Questions

The RQs set out:

- the scope
- the focus
- the orientation
- the "conceptual thread"

Perspective

Methods
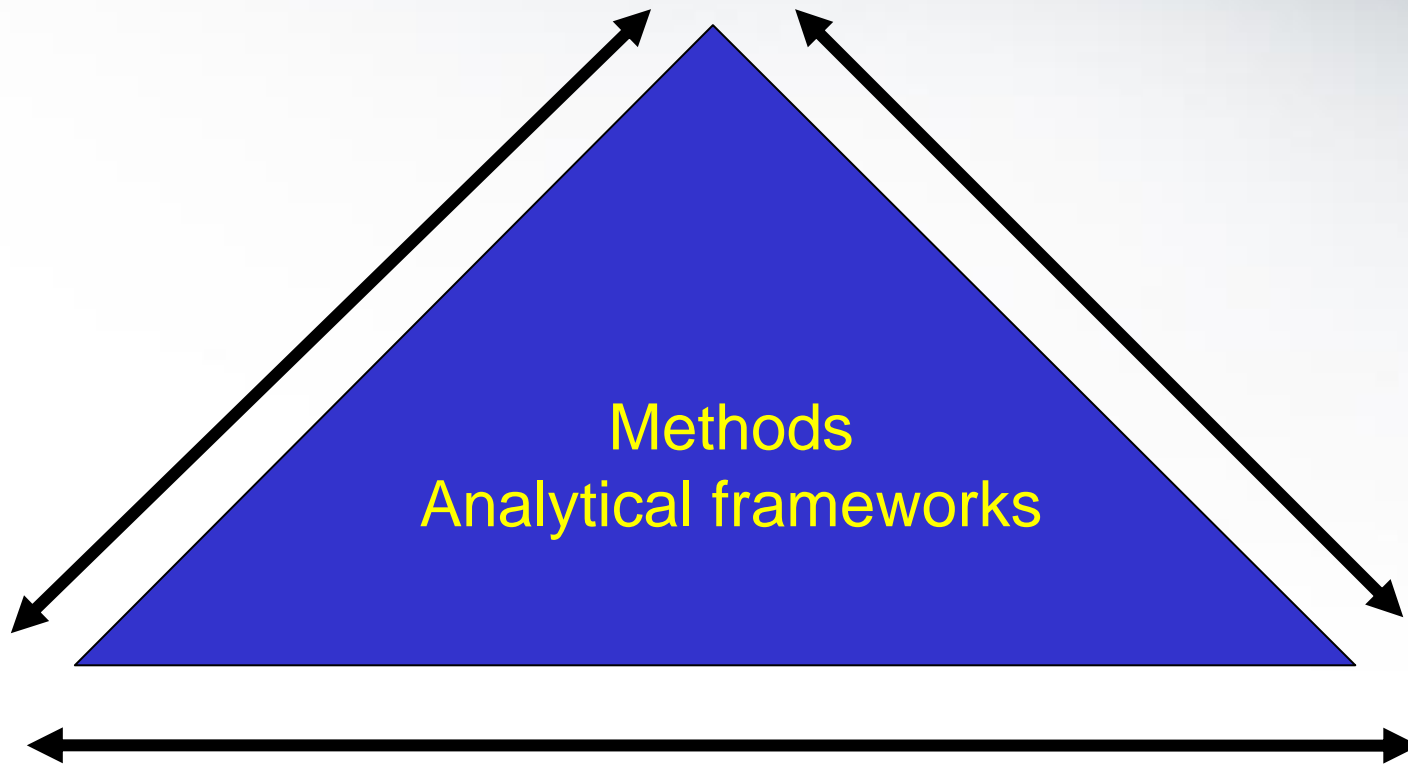Analytical frameworks

Unit of Analysis

Manifestation

Perspective

Methods
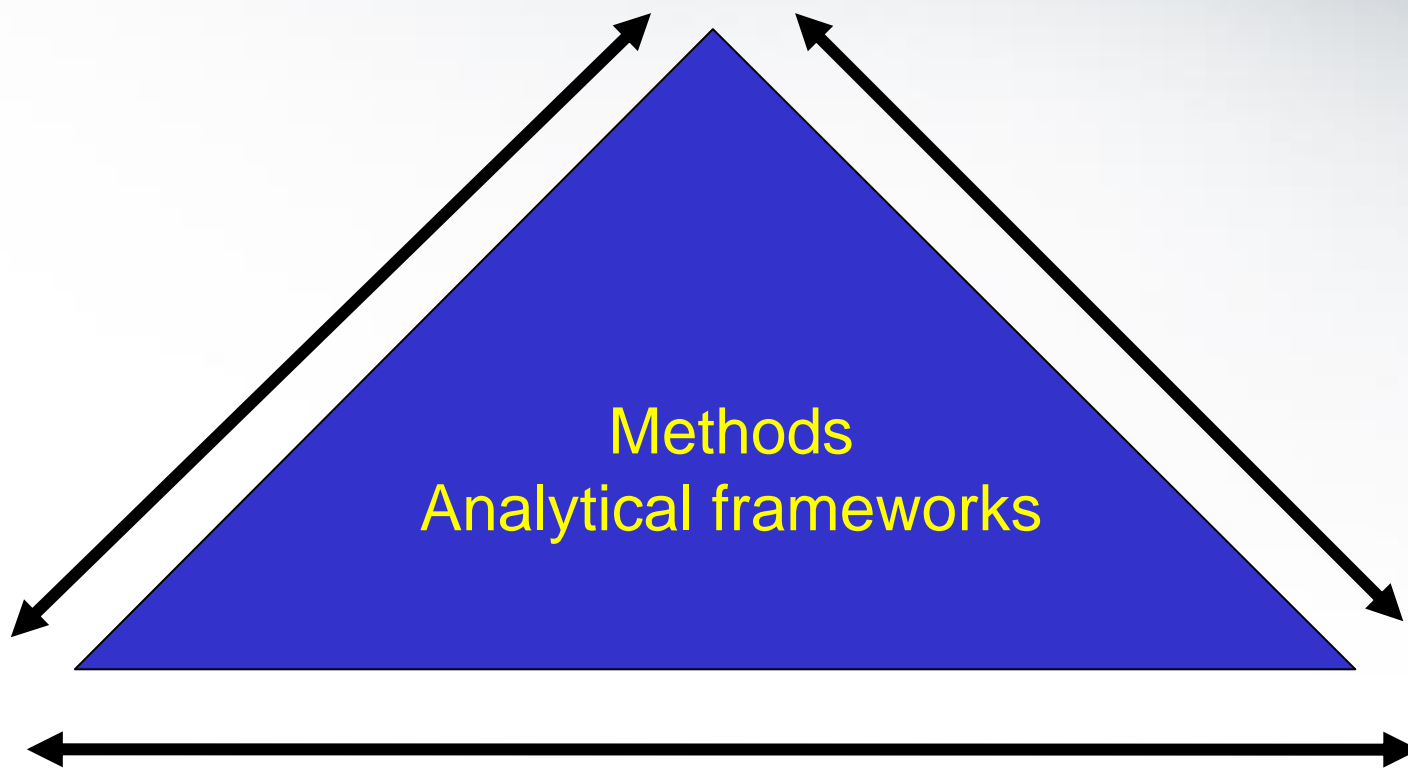Analytical frameworks

Unit of Analysis

Manifestation

Perspectives

- Investigative (What?)

- Evaluative (To what extent?)

- Interpretative (Why?)

- Critical (Who wins/loses?)

- Developmental / action-based (What happens …?)

Perspective

Methods
Analytical frameworks

Unit of Analysis

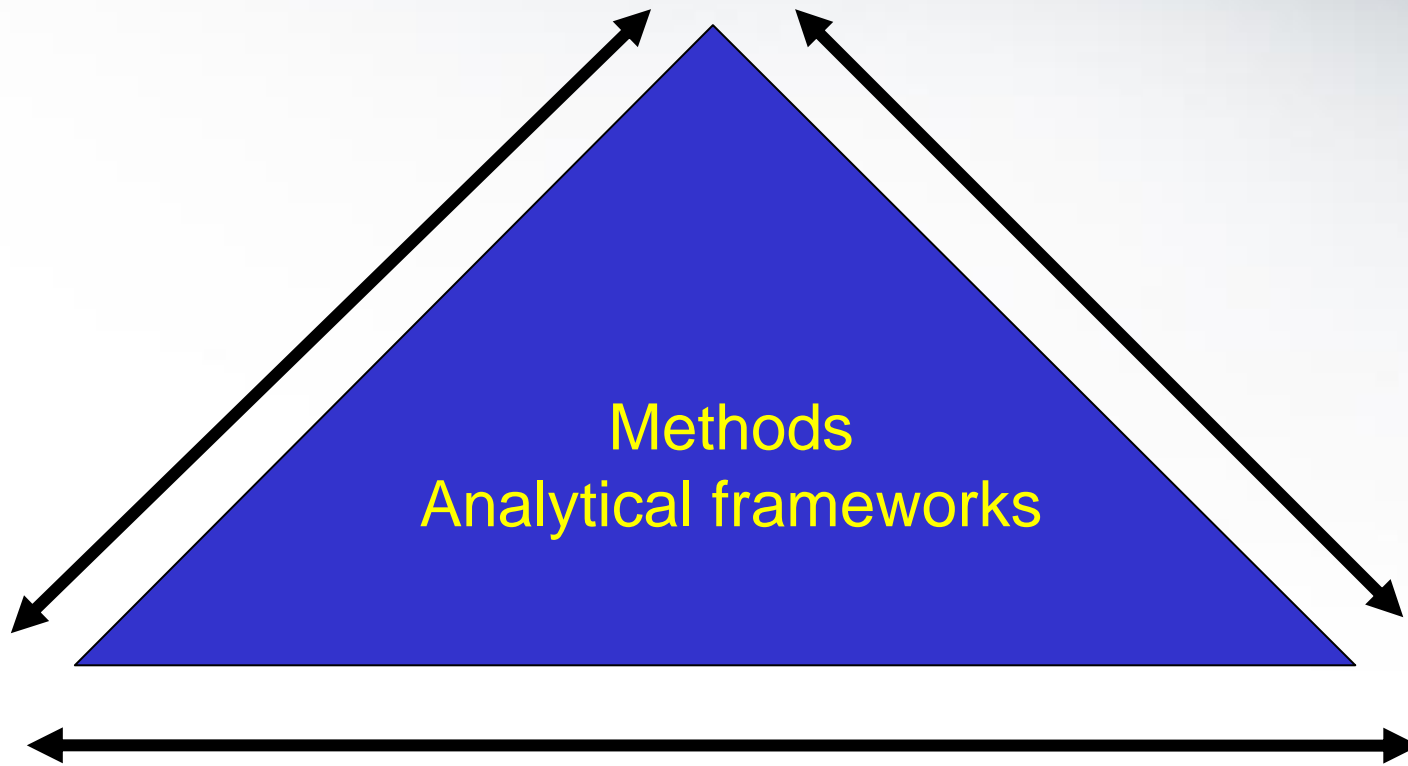Manifestation

Some units of analysis

- locations
- systems
- policies
- changes over time
- cultures
- values, conflict resolution & citizenship
- educational achievements, international indicators & student performance
- curricula
- educational organisations, governance & accountability
- ways of knowing & learning
- ways of teaching
- economics of education
- assessment
- teacher education & professionalism
- ideologies, goals & purposes of education
- social equity and access to education
- language in education

Perspective

Methods
Analytical frameworks

Unit of Analysis

Manifestation

Manifestations

Area	Typical manifestations
Ideology	books academic papers policy documents speeches & statements
Planned/ intended policy	policy documents minutes of meetings notices syllabuses prospectuses learning materials schemes of work/ lesson plans assessment materials
Enacted practices	participant interaction (e.g. use of time and resources) roles of participants participant perceptions, interest and engagement interaction patterns outputs
Experience	change in participants' attitude and/or behaviour cognitive, interpersonal and affective processes

Methods

How can we research?

- Qualitative methods

- Quantitative methods

- Mixed methods

Choose your methods according to RQs and the type of data you will collect.

Area	Typical manifestations	Typical research methods
Ideology	books academic papers policy documents speeches & statements	discourse analysis interviews
Planned/ intended policy	policy documents minutes of meetings notices syllabuses prospectuses learning materials schemes of work/ lesson plans assessment materials	discourse analysis interviews
Enacted practices	participant interaction (e.g. use of time and resources) roles of participants participant perceptions, interest and engagement interaction patterns outputs	observations participant's log interviews ethnography activity records
Experience	change in participants' attitude and/or behaviour cognitive, interpersonal and affective processes	questionnaires interviews reflections psychometric tests

Workshop Q1

You are a language policy specialist. You are invited to submit a research plan to find out why many secondary school students in Xining find English difficult to learn.

The time frame for the research is one year.

Workshop Q2

Xining Mathematics Education Research Association has invited you to submit a research plan to identify ways to improve the understanding of algebra of primary students in local schools

The time frame for the research is nine months.

Workshop Q3

The university wants to find out the problems that rural students face in adapting to university life in their freshman year. Please make a plan.

The time frame for the research is two years.

The website
http://www.ied.edu.hk/InternationalEducator

Thank you!

- Prof Bob Adamson
- Dept of International Education & Lifelong Learning
- Hong Kong Institute of Education

- badamson@ied.edu.hk