



Rethinking field classification in education research

A keyword co-occurrence
analysis of web of science
indexed literature

Zehra Taşkın, Faruk Aydın, Serap Emil ve Güleda Doğan



the idea

Faruk Aydın, PhD dissertation

Tez Öneri Sınav Tutanağı

Bilgileri yukarıda verilmiş olan Anabilim Dalımız Öğrencisinin doktora tez önerisinin değerlendirilmesi için Tez İzleme Komitesi tarafından yapılan değerlendirmeler sonucunda; **'Yükseköğretim Sisteminde Yapılan Araştırma Politikası Değişikliklerinin Etkileri'** başlıklı tez önerisi ☒ OYBİRLİĞİ / ☐ OYÇOKLUĞU ile ☐ KABUL / ☐ RED edilmiştir.

Thesis Proposal Exam Report

The PhD Thesis Proposal of the above-mentioned student has been evaluated by the members of the Thesis Supervising Committee and thesis proposal entitled **'The Effects of the Research Policy Changes Made in the Higher Education System'** has been ☒ ACCEPTED / ☐ REJECTED ☐ UNANIMOUSLY / ☐ BY MAJORITY

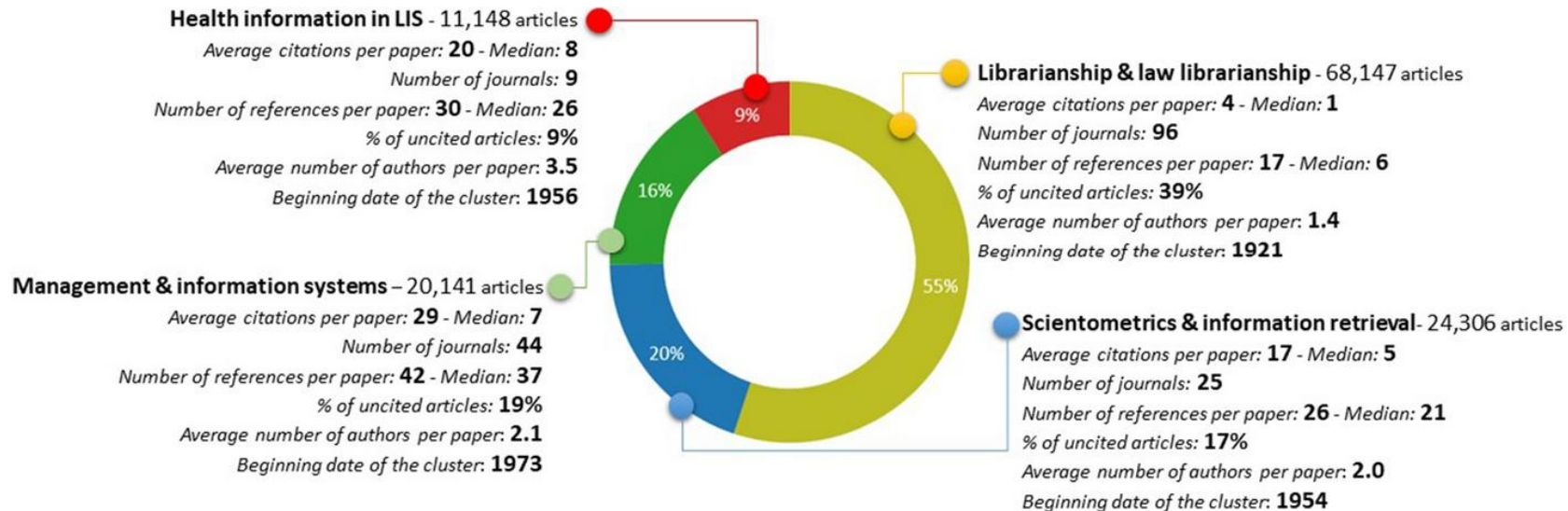
Tez İzleme Komitesi Onayı (Jury Approval)

	Unvanı, Adı-Soyadı Title, Full Name	Kurumu/Bölümü Institution and Department	Tarih Date	İmza Signature
Tez Danışmanı Thesis Supervisor	Doç. Dr. Zehra Taşkın	Hacettepe Üniversitesi, Bilgi ve Belge Yönetimi Bölümü	05/12/2023	
TİK Üyesi TMC Member	Doç. Dr. Güleda Doğan	Hacettepe Üniversitesi, Bilgi ve Belge Yönetimi Bölümü	05/12/2023	
TİK Üyesi TMC Member	Doç. Dr. Serap Emil	ODTÜ, Eğitim Fakültesi, Eğitim Bilimleri Bölümü	05/12/2023	



Why field classification matters?





Problem

- Evaluation systems rely on WoS/Scopus
- Rigid, standardized classification
 - unfair for interdisciplinary fields
- Education field fragmented across few WoS categories
- Quartile-based promotion
 - disadvantage for education scholars

HEC classification for education

- Open and Distance Education
- German Language Education
- Arabic Language Education
- Computer Education and Instructional Technology
- Biology Education
- Geography Education
- Chinese Language Education
- Education for Students with Multiple Disabilities
- Religious Culture and Ethics Education
- Educational Studies
- Philosophy of Education
- Education Policy
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Educational Psychology
- Sociology of Education
- History of Education
- Educational Administration
- Educational Measurement and Evaluation
- Philosophical, Social, and Historical Foundations of Education
- Educational / Instructional Technologies
- Philosophy Group Education (Ethics–Philosophy–Sociology Teaching)
- Science Education
- Physics Education
- French Language Education
- Education of the Visually Impaired
- Fine Arts Education
- Life Sciences Education
- Lifelong Learning
- Early Reading and Writing Education
- Elementary Mathematics Education
- English Language Education
- Education of the Hearing Impaired
- Japanese Language Education
- Chemistry Education
- Speech and Language Disorders Education
- Mathematics Education
- Music Education
- Preschool Education
- Education of Students with Autism
- Gifted and Talented Education
- Psychological Counseling and Guidance
- Art / Visual Arts Education
- Russian Language Education
- Social Studies Education
- History Education
- Primary Education
- Turkish Language and Literature Education
- Turkish Language Education
- Adult Education
- Education of the Intellectually Disabled

WoS education category

ELECTROCHEMISTRY	Chemistry; Physics	ESCI, SCIE	44	17,660	1,068,127	3.
EDUCATION, SPECIAL	Social Sciences, General	ESCI, SSCI	62	2,321	83,094	1.
EDUCATION, SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES	Multidisciplinary; Social Sciences, General	ESCI, SCIE	86	9,377	248,954	1.
EDUCATION & EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH	Multidisciplinary; Social Sciences, General	ESCI, SSCI	762	38,305	1,007,408	1.
ECONOMICS	Economics & Business; Social Sciences, General	ESCI, SSCI	620	34,397	1,766,885	1.
ECOLOGY	Economics & Business; Environment/Ecology; Plant & Animal Science	ESCI, SCIE	201	24,119	1,611,891	2.

Purpose

- Reveal the interdisciplinary landscape of “education” in WoS
- Question the adequacy of existing field classifications
 - Not creating a new subject classification scheme

Method

- Dataset: 77,068 WoS publications (2024)
- Keywords: 109,189 standardized
 - → 2,967 used (≥ 20 co-occurrences)
- Tool: VOSviewer (keyword co-occurrence map)
- Goal: visualize thematic diversity using a very limited data source

Discussion

- WoS categories overlook real thematic diversity
- Interdisciplinary subfields underrepresented
- Evaluation systems reproduce inequalities

Need?

- Flexible, dynamic classification
- Data source diversity
- Recognition of interdisciplinary and subfield-specific contributions
- Reforming WoS-based evaluation



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