

**Project title:** A systematic review of cultural capital U.S.A. focused community development research

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**Summary:** The purpose of this systematic review is to assess how cultural capital has been conceptualized and operationalized in community development research. The following inclusion criteria will be used to screen studies: the study must be based in the United States of America, the study must have a stated conceptualization of cultural capital (and/or related topics such as cultural assets and cultural resources), it must focus on development (e.g. economic or community development), and must be published in a peer-reviewed journal. Exclusion criteria includes studies outside of the United States of America, papers published before 2001, and studies that focus solely on individual cultural capital development such those often found in education studies. A number of search strategies will be used to identify papers that meet our criteria including a keyword search in six electronic databases, evaluating search results based upon articles suggested by area experts, and studies found in papers that are not found in our database searches. Studies included in the review will be coded with the following: an inductive categorization of the study's conceptualization of cultural capital, unit of analysis regarding cultural capital, operationalization of cultural capital, hypothesis and outcomes about how cultural capital impacts development, cataloging data sources used, location of the research (e.g. town, state, urban, rural), and methods (e.g. qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods).

### **Study Purpose**

This systematic literature review will identify varying approaches to conceptualizing and deploying cultural capital in the U.S.A. focused on community development research and identify next steps for improved operationalization of cultural capital in community development efforts. This research is situated in the U.S. Land Grant university community development research and extension tradition which draws on the community capitals framework, including cultural capital.

### **Study Design**

A number of approaches will be used to identify, organize, and assess papers which conceptualize and operationalize cultural capital in community and economic development. This work will follow PRISMA 2020 guidelines and will use CASP checklists to assess each study that meets our inclusion criteria (<https://casp-uk.net/casp-tools-checklists/>).

#### **1. Literature and Search Screening**

- We will start by conducting a keyword search of six electronic databases. We will use the same keywords for each database and inclusion criteria. In the database searches,

studies before 2001 and those outside of the U.S.A. will be excluded. Studies not published in peer-reviewed journals will also be excluded.

- Search results will be consolidated and cleaned (e.g. identifying duplicates) in citation software such as Mendeley and Zotero, as well as Excel.
- Our team will select subject area experts to send the list of articles that result from database searches as an effort to solicit additional articles that we will assess with our inclusion and exclusion criteria.

## 2. Title and Keyword Screening

- Titles and Keywords will be screened to assess whether studies are obviously outside of our scope geographically, do not focus on development, or are educational in focus since these often focus on individual level indicators only
- At least two team members will do this for each title/keyword screen to ensure consistency. When inconsistencies arise, team members will discuss discrepancies, record notes, and come to agreement on criteria and assessment methods.

## 3. Abstract Screening

- Abstracts will be screened for whether the study deploys cultural capital in community development related work. Following Flora et al (2016), we define community development as being concerned with how the quality of interaction among people and places improves over time<sup>1</sup>. Central to this is the idea of collective agency, which is the ability of a group of people to solve common problems together. Community development is broader than economic development and leads to a focus on what local people do to improve the overall quality of life of their community.
- Abstracts will be screened for whether the study is on a U.S.A. population.
- At least two team members from the research team will screen all abstracts to ensure consistency. When inconsistencies arise, team members will discuss discrepancies, record notes, and come to agreement on criteria and assessment methods.

## 4. Full-text Screening

- Full-texts will be screened for whether the study conceptualizes cultural capital, or related concepts such as cultural assets or cultural resources.
- Full-texts will be screened for whether the study is on a U.S.A. population or of a U.S.A. place.
- At least two team members will do this to ensure consistency. When inconsistencies arise, team members will discuss discrepancies, record notes, and come to agreement on criteria and assessment methods. In cases of discrepancies, a third research team member will review the article.

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<sup>1</sup> Flora, C. B., J. L. Flora, and S. P. Gasteyer. 2015. *Rural Communities: Legacy + Change*. Avalon Publishing.



- References in papers that make it through the screening process will be scanned for additional papers to add to the database.

## 5. Full-text Coding

The full-text coding process will be iterative by at least two team members who will be reviewing and discussing discrepancies, making notes, and coming to agreement about criteria and assessment methods. However, we will be beginning with the following categories:

- What is the objective of the paper?
- What is the cultural capital outcome(s) discussed in the paper?
- Does the study have a research hypothesis?
- What is the hypothesis if it has one?
- What is the context of the study (e.g. town, state, urban, suburban, rural)?
- Does the paper conceptualize cultural capital directly or indirectly?
- Does the paper conceptualize cultural capital at the individual, group, or community level? Or an integrated approach?
- What theoretical lineage do the authors draw on to conceptualize cultural capital?
- Which development activities are included in this study?
- Does the paper specify indicators of cultural capital in development?
- If they do specify indicators, are these qualitative, quantitative, or mixed?
- Is the data sources used for deploying indicators specified?
- If it is specified, is it available to the public?
- What are the indicators used?
- What are the data used?
- If data was not used, what is the evidence used?
- What is the study design?
- What analysis techniques were used?
- What are the results of the study?
- What are the limitations of the study (if discussed)?
- If discernable, are the researchers at a land-grant university?

## 6. Meta-analysis

- The meta-analysis will group studies by how they conceptualize cultural capital and how they deploy the concept in community development or related work.

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## **Subject terms**

- Cultural capital and similar terms.
- Development and similar terms.

## **Geographic coverage**

- United States of America

## **Universe**

- All published peer-reviewed articles published after 2001 that deploy cultural capital (or related concepts) in development research and practice.

## **Time period**

- 2001-present

## **Collection date(s)**

- Fall 2021

## **Data type(s)**

- Peer-reviewed journal articles

## **Collection notes**

## **Sampling**

The following criteria will be used for inclusion and exclusion of articles in the systematic review:

- Inclusion:
  - Research populations within the United States of America.
  - Studies with a stated conceptualization of cultural capital (and/or related topics).
  - It must also have a focus upon some sort of development focused upon human communities. We define community development as being concerned with how the quality of interaction among people and places improves over time. Central to this is the idea of collective agency, which is the ability of a group of people to solve common problems together. Community development is broader than economic development and leads to a focus on what local people do to improve the overall quality of life of their community.



- Exclusion: People and groups outside of the United States of America, studies from before 2001, and studies within educational studies.

**Collection mode(s)**

- Database search
- Expert solicitation
- Snowball search through article references

**Unit(s) of observation**

- Peer-reviewed journal articles.

**Data source**

## Databases

- Web of Science
- EconLit
- Anthropology Plus
- Social Science Full Text
- Google Scholar

**Geographic unit**

- Community, town, city, region, nation



