Initial Dissertation Planning – Conceptual Planning Diagram with Specifics

1. To ascertain the level of university officials' knowledge concerning the IBDP and IB programs.
2. To understand how universities deal with IB in terms of university recognition.
3. To understand university officials perceptions of IB students.
4. To understand how university officials think of IB programs in relation to AP.
5. To understand university attitudes about legislation affecting IB and AP programs in Virginia.

Goals

1. Own background with IB – eight years experience teaching IB English A1 HL
2. Perceptions of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme: A Report of an Inquiry Carried Out in 2003 at UK Universities and Institutions of Higher Education (2003)
3. Perceptions of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Among Australian and New Zealand Universities (2007)
4. Code of Virginia § 23-9.2:3.8 - *Course credit; International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement courses*
5. Other scholars including Hayden, Thompson, and Hofstede

Conceptual Framework

1. What are university officials' perceptions of the IBDP?
2. How well do university officials believe IB students are prepared for undergraduate coursework?
3. What are university officials' perceptions of IB students?
4. What kinds of policies do universities in Virginia have for granting credit for IB higher and standard level exams and recognizing the IB Diploma?
5. How has the Virginia legislation impacted the climate in regard to university recognition for IB and AP in Virginia? What is the impact on the attitude of university officials when discussing the two programs?

Research Questions

1. Interviews
2. Research of publicly accessible university recognition policies on school websites (What students and parents would have access to)

Methods

1. Comparison of interviews data to university recognition policies available on websites
2. Member checks of transcripts
3. Comparisons as much as possible to initial data received during pilot study (limited data, no recognition legislation in pilot state)

Validity