

**Research Article** 





# Research of state-of-art in education, music and musical education in Brazil

#### Abstract

This text presents the partial results of doctoral research that aims to build the state of art of scientific production in music education in Brazil. In this article, we present data referring to a review of the research already developed on the state of the art of scientific knowledge in the areas of Education, Music and Music Education in Brazil. Initially, we set out the main references of each of these three areas and later, draw a parallel between them, to understand the methodological aspects inherent to this type of research, especially the definitions of literature review, research review, systematic review, meta-analysis, and qualitative research synthesis.

Keywords: research, state-of-art, musical education

Introduction

In the context of a larger research, we aim to raise the State-of-art of scientific production in music education in Brazil. For this, we need to know the productions already done with this same purpose, which leads us to present here a review of the research that is configured as 'State-of-Art' research. Our focus is on research related to music education as an area that identifies with education and music.1 The following text presents a panorama based on the revision of the scientific literature, presenting the already developed studies on Stateof-art or State of Knowledge in the research in Education, in Music and in Music Education. We classify the authors by areas and highlight the way each area develops analyzes of its scientific production and brings elements of contribution to the related areas. We identify and differentiate the objectives, methodological aspects, and categories of analysis used by the researchers of each area in this type of research. We present and compare some methodological contributions used in these areas of knowledge to carry out State-of-the-Art research. This, in the context of the meta-analysis, literature review and systematic review, what time have the purpose of analyzing quantitative data, qualitative time, thus seeking to bring light to this intricate methodological context, not always clarified in the academic papers.<sup>2</sup>

## **Theoretical references**

The area of Education stands out from Musicology and Music Education since it is the area that has been developing academic research for a long time. The area has a larger quantity of scientific production and, consequently, was one of the first, in the twentieth century, to develop studies to review scientific production. In this sense, we consider the data of the Ministry of Science and Technology of Brazil, which show, in chart 1, the growth of post-graduate programs by major area of knowledge, from 1998 to 2014. In this graph, it is possible to observe that the large area, which is linked to Education, Human Sciences, has grown much more than the area to which Music is linked: Linguistics, Literature, and Arts. However, as you can see in Figure 1, both areas in 15 years have more than doubled their programs.<sup>3-9</sup>

With regard to Master's and Ph.D. programs in Arts/Music, it is possible to check with the Ministry of Education's website that 52 academic masters courses, 7 professional master's degrees, and 28

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Ph.D. courses in Arts/Music, totaling 87 postgraduate in Arts/Music in Brazil. Table 1 below shows that we currently have 19 institutions offering masters and 10 courses in which doctoral researches are developed in the field of music education.<sup>10</sup>

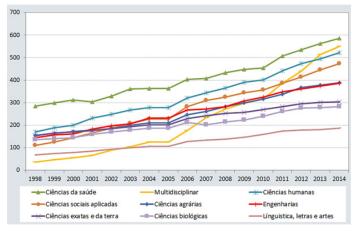


Figure I Growth of postgraduate programs, by major area, from 1998 to 2014 – Brazil.

#### Source: Ministry of Science and Technology

In Education in Brazil, we currently have 74 doctoral courses, 175 master's degrees, totaling 249 courses in Brazil.<sup>11–18</sup> According to Fernandes,<sup>19</sup> the majority of researches in music education are developed in graduate programs in Education or Arts / Music. In this sense, we present here some national surveys of the State-of-art type, in the areas of Education, Music and Music Education. In Table 2 we present a classification of authors who develop State-of-art research on scientific production in music in Brazil.<sup>20</sup>

The studies of State-of--art in music education research in Brazil, to which we had access, were presented in Table 3, classified by general objective, which in the case may be by a survey of original data, analysis by periodical or by subject and contextual reflections based on previous studies.<sup>21–26</sup>

Table 4, below, exemplifies authors who have developed State-ofart research on scientific production in education in Brazil.<sup>27</sup>

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Table I Masters and PhDs in Arts / Music with research in Music Education	(until	June 2017	)

<b>Universiti</b> es	Acronyms	Official sites
University of São Paulo	USP	http://www3.eca.usp.br/pos/ppgmus
State of Campinas	UNICAMP	http://www.iar.unicamp.br/pos-graduacao-em-musica
State Paulista Júlio de Mesquita Filho	UNESP	http://www.ia.unesp.br/#!/pos-graduacao/strictomusica
State of Rio de Janeiro	UNIRIO	http://200.156.25.90/posmusica
Federal of Rio de Janeiro	UFRJ	http://ppgm.musica.ufrj.br
Federal of Rio Grande of Sul	UFRGS	http://www.ufrgs.br/ppgmusica
Federal of Bahia	UFBA	http://www2.ppgmus.ufba.br
Federal of Paraíba	UFPB	http://www.ccta.ufpb.br/ppgm
Federal of Minas Gerais	UFMG	http://www.musica.ufmg.br/ppgmus
Federal of Paraná	UFPR	http://www.ppgmusica.ufpr.br/
Federal of Goiás	UFG	http://mestrado.emac.ufg.br
Federal of Uberlândia	UFU	http://www.ppga.iarte.ufu.br
Federal of Rio Grande of Norte	UFRGN	https://sigaa.ufrn.br/sigaa/public/programa/portal.jsf?lc=pt_BR&id=7261
Federal de Pernambuco	UFPE	https://www.ufpe.br/musica
Federal of Brasília	UNB	http://www.ida.unb.br/musica
State of Santa Catarina	UDESC	http://www.ceart.udesc.br/ppgmus
Federal of São Carlos	UFSCar	http://www.ppgis.ufscar.br
Federal of Pará	UFPA	http://ppgartes.propesp.ufpa.br
State of Amazonas	UEA	http://www.pos.uea.edu.br/letraseartes

Source: Sites indicated and Platform Sucupira: https://sucupira.capes.gov.br/sucupira.

Table 2 State-of-art on scientific production in music

Broad search with data	Research in a specific subject or specific loacation	
Zille <sup>70</sup>	Barros⁵	
Tomás <sup>64</sup>	Nascimento <sup>43</sup>	
Ulhôa <sup>65</sup>	Kerr, Carvalho <sup>33</sup>	

Source: Prepared by the author.

Table 3 State-of-art on scientific production in music education

Wide area analysis with data collection	In a specific theme or	in specific periodicals	Wide analysis and contextualization from a study already carried out
	By Journal (ABEM)	Ву Торіс	
Araújo, Toscano <sup>3</sup>	Campos <sup>10</sup>	Cerqueira <sup>12</sup>	Santos <sup>60</sup>
Fernandes <sup>21</sup>	Del-Ben <sup>19</sup>	Pires, Dalben <sup>47</sup>	Del-Ben <sup>17</sup>
Fernandes <sup>22</sup>	Galizia, Lima <sup>29</sup>	Fernandes, Coutinho	Del-Ben <sup>18</sup>
Fernandes 23	Mateiro, Vechi, Egg41	Ida	Del-Ben, Souza <sup>19</sup>
Fernandes <sup>24</sup>		Niéri <sup>45</sup>	Figueiredo <sup>28</sup>
		Vieira <sup>67</sup>	

**Source:** Prepared by the author.

Table 4 State-of-art on scientific production in education

Broad search with data	Research on specific themes	Sociological or epistemic approaches
Magalhães, Souza <sup>38</sup>	André <sup>i</sup>	André, Simões, Carvalho, Brzezinski <sup>1</sup>
Magalhães <sup>37</sup>	Canen, Arbache, Franco <sup>11</sup>	Calderón, Ferreira <sup>9</sup>
Santos <sup>60</sup>	Fernandes <sup>21</sup>	Lamar <sup>35</sup>
Segenreich, Freitas <sup>61</sup>	Pimenta <sup>47</sup>	Nevado, Fagundes, Basso <sup>44</sup>
Search in specific location	Search in specific journal	Sacardo <sup>54</sup>
Coelho <sup>13</sup>	Bittar, Silva, Hayashi <sup>6</sup>	Sánchez Gamboa <sup>57</sup>
Kauchake <sup>32</sup>	Ramos⁵	Sánchez Gamboa <sup>58</sup>
Mendes, Silva <sup>42</sup>	Santana <sup>59</sup>	Silva <sup>55</sup>
Sánchez Gamboa <sup>56</sup>		

Source: Prepared by the author.

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## Methodology

This study is based on a systematic literature review.<sup>28</sup> We also use here techniques of content analysis, based on the methodological indications of Bardin<sup>29</sup> that guides the work of analysis by classification and categorization. Although we identify this study as a systematic review of the literature, it is verified that the national publications on methodology do not present a clear systematization on this type of research identification and generalize the work of literature review to construct the theoretical framework.<sup>30</sup> In this sense, we intend to reflect on this methodological question, based on the international literature on research methodology.<sup>31–49</sup> Based on these authors we arrive at the most used expressions related to the studies identified as State-of-art, organized in Table 5, below.

We start from the simplest to the most complex, to reveal how literature review research has evolved, where we first have the nonsystematic literature review; the systematic review; the meta-analysis and the qualitative synthesis of research. We thus punctuate the main procedures indicated by the authors. Initially the non-systematic review of literature, which is a thematic choice of the researcher, being arbitrary and usually with a subjective trait, also called narrative literature review.<sup>50</sup> The systematic review of literature can be labeled differently: literature review, research review, systematic review, research synthesis, and meta-analysis. Some of these terms are interchangeable, while others have broader or narrower meanings, but the more comprehensive term is the literature review.

Table 5 Methodological complexity of the types of literature reviews

In these typologies of studies, most categories of analysis are easily identified. Literature reviews can focus on research results, research methods, theories, or research applications for real-world problems. According to Cooper,<sup>51</sup> the literature review is indicated where the reviewer hopes to present the theories offered to explain a particular phenomenon and to compare them in the works. The comparisons will examine the breadth of the theories, internal consistency, and the nature of their predictions. Cooper<sup>52</sup> creates a taxonomy for the systematic review of the literature described in Table 6 below. In this context of the research of systematic review of literature, the concept of Bibliographic or Bibliographic / Documentary research appears. Some authors will bring together these two approaches and others will argue that documentary research refers only to documents that have not been processed - unlike scientific works: articles, dissertations, and theses. In this sense, the work of Volpato,53 by Sá-Silva, Almeida and Guindani<sup>54</sup> and the work of Pizanni et al.,<sup>55</sup> review these typologies of studies and explain that although there is disagreement in relation to conceptualization, the treatment of information is similar. In this context of the research of systematic review of literature, the concept of Bibliographic or Bibliographic / Documentary research appears. Some authors will bring together these two approaches and others will argue that documentary research refers only to documents that have not been processed - unlike scientific works: articles, dissertations and theses. In this sense, the work of Volpato,56 by Sá-Silva, Almeida and Guindani<sup>57,58</sup> and the work of Pizanni et al.,<sup>59</sup> review these typologies of studies and explain that although there is disagreement in relation to conceptualization, the treatment of information is similar.

Type / Trend	Methodology		Procedures		Goals	
Narrative literature review	Bibliographical or bibliographic / documentary study	Exploratory, Exploratory,			Theoretical Framework:	
		Descriptive,			Define categories.	
		Analytical.				
A systematic review of the literature		State-of-art;	Meta-Analysis Quantitative Approach	Bibliometrics	Measure, compare and infer trends	
	or					
		State of Knowledge.	QUALITATIVE RESEARCH	Discourse Analysis,	Understanding concepts, positioning and inferring trend	
			SYNTHESIS	Content		

Source: Prepared by the author.

Table 6 Taxonomy of literature review

Feature	Categories	Feature	Categories
Focus	Search results	Roof	Exhaustive of all studies
	Research Methods		Exhaustive with selective citation
	Theories		Representative citations
	Practice or application		Central or main quote
Goal	Integration	Organization	Historical
	Generalization		Conceptual
	Conflict Resolution		Methodological
	Linguistic bridge construction	Public	Academic Specialists
	Criticism		General Students
	Central Issue Identification		Policy Managers and Executors
Perspective	Neutral Representation		General public
	Positioning display		

Source: Cooper.14

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In analyzing several works developed on the State-of-art, Ferreira<sup>60</sup> questions whether it would be possible to interrogate the history of academic production in a certain area of knowledge by choosing only to read bibliographic data and abstracts. The author criticizes studies based on the lists of institutional catalogs taking the productions as a documentary source. Thus, this type of analysis would be insufficient for a mapping of academic production in research. For the author, it is necessary to create a network formed by different links of categories linked from the same material medium, whose analysis must be "by the theoretical option manifest, by the theme that announces, by the explicit purpose of the research, by the methodological procedure adopted by the researcher".<sup>61</sup> For Romanowski<sup>62</sup> State-of-art, in the field of education, seek the constitution of the theoretical field of an area of knowledge, because they seek to understand how the production of knowledge occurs in a given area. They examine topics covered in the research, methodologies used, theoretical references, the relationship between research and pedagogical practice. For the author, this type of research usual in the American scientific literature is little known among researchers in Brazil. The term state of the art results from a literal translation of English, and, according to the author, aims to carry out surveys of what is known about a certain subject based on research conducted in a given area.63

The work of Vosgerau and Romanowski<sup>64</sup> presents a very thorough analysis of the types of studies involved in State-of-theart research. The authors highlight nomenclatures, identifications and methodological procedures based on examples of concrete research. However, although they cite the typologies of systematic reviews, they suggest that the whole framework is clustered on the axis entitled: review studies. On the other hand, it is verified that the systematic reviews of literature depend on deepening in quantitative and qualitative treatments of the data coming from the "bibliographic documents" in question. Borenstein<sup>65</sup> explains that systematic reviews began in the mid-1980s and took root in the 1990s, where researchers departed from the narrative review and adopted systematic analyzes and meta-analyses. For systematic reviews, a clear set of rules are used to collect studies and then to determine which elements will be included or excluded from the analysis. A key element in most systematic reviews is the statistical synthesis of data, meta-analysis. In contrast to the narrative review, where the reviewers implicitly attribute some level of importance to each study, in the meta-analysis, the weights assigned to each study are based on specified mathematical

Table 7	Content anal	ysis of	state-of-art	in	music
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criteria.<sup>66</sup> Although reviewers and readers may still disagree on the substantial significance of results, the statistical analysis provides a transparent, objective, and replicable framework.<sup>67</sup> The meta-analysis is offered as a method or even a paradigm, from which the researcher takes a new approach when gathering results and conclusions from others. It is distinguished from the usual bibliographical review, common in scientific activity, because quantitative techniques assume a prominent place in it.<sup>68</sup>

On the other hand, the synthesis of qualitative research, according to Cooper is intended to replace the previous documents that were lost sight of and to direct future research. For the author:

Research syntheses focus on the results of empirical research and aim to integrate past research by drawing general conclusions (generalizations) from several separate investigations that address identical or related hypotheses. The purpose of the research synthesizer is to present the state of knowledge about the relationship (s) of interest and highlight important questions that the research left unsolved.<sup>69</sup>

At its most essential level, the synthesis of qualitative research is an approach that uses qualitative methods to analyze, synthesize and interpret the results of qualitative studies. According to Major & Savin-Baden<sup>70</sup> the qualitative synthesis has the following advantages: It provides a way of dealing with the explosion of scientific information; Helps researchers avoid reinventing the wheel; Makes connections between existing studies; It complements primary empirical studies or existing syntheses; It provides a different perspective on a given phenomenon; Provides a way to advance theory; Helps identify gaps and omissions in a particular body of research; It allows dialogue and debate; It allows the development of practices and policies based on evidence; Provides a cost-effective approach to qualitative research.

### **Discussion and results**

We have developed a timely analysis of cutting-edge research in these three areas: music, education and music education. Tables 7–9 below, show the expressions taken from abstracts and texts searched State-of-art investigations. Through this work of codifying texts and selecting expressions and terminologies, we arrive at an interpretation of how each area develops, conceives this type of research here still in an exploratory way. We consider the objectives, methodological aspects and categories of analysis worked on in these investigations.

	Goals	Methodological / Practical aspects	Analysis of categories
Music	Directions, Dimensions, Balance, Perspectives, Characterization, Territorial delimitation, Diagnosis of intellectual production; Production in the area; Provide a catalog; Analytical descriptive inventory; Aiming trends and problems; Publicize the surveys; To train undergraduate and graduate students; Reflection of a specific field;	Cataloging; Ranking; Identification of bibliographic data; Survey of quantitative data; Review parameters to extract information; Interpretive sketch of production; Elaboration of tables; Brief institutional history; Organization of the whole;	Number of works; Periods; Database; Newspaper; Title; Author; Institutional affiliation; Town / Region; Abstracts; Keywords; Thematic Classification by area; Approaches used in a subarea; Bibliographic references; Research methodology; Type o vehicle and occurrence:

Source: Prepared by the author.

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	Goals	Methodological / Practical aspects	Analysis of categories
Musical education	Survey; Survey of articles; Outline the area; Production characterization; Deepening the theoretical discussion; Reflection of the research about itself; Present the situation of the field; Description; To compare the production of postgraduate courses; Field situation; Map the literature; Understand trends; State of art; Map the field; Internal evaluation; Policies for research; Interest of researchers; Referential for consultation;	Selection of subthemes; Abstract; Categorization; Catalog; Metric studies; Document Analysis; Textual analysis; Reading protocol; Listing; Ranking; Statistical / Catalytic Method; Sort categories; Reflections, Comparisons; Analyzes; Map thematic trends; Organization; Theoretical-bibliographic study; Critical analysis; Qualitative research of bibliographic character; Database; Reading summaries;	Problems; Concept (pedagogical ideology); Number, Volume; Thematic; Subjects; Epistemology of the area; Ways of thinking; Scientific speeches; Pedagogical discourses; Author; Title; Date of defense; Advisor; Themes in the Newspaper; Sources; Pedagogical aspects; Technical and theoretical researc construction; Variability of the field; Different visions; Research object; Critic points of the area; Condition of research development.

Source: Prepared by the author.

Table 9 Content analysis of state-of-art in education

	Goals	Methodological /	Analysis of categories
		Practical aspects	
Education	Review of investigations; State of knowledge; State of art; Integrative synthesis; Researches that study research; Determine the object of study of the area; To know all the studies; Quantitative and qualitative growth and dissemination; Individual publication index; Aim theoretical clues; Emergence of a theme in a specific context; Detect emphases, silences and potentialities; Aiming trends; Suggest perspectives; Evaluate production; Thesis impact on the production of articles; Produce indicators of scientific production; Indicators of research quality; Constitution of the scientific field of the area; Evolution of knowledge production; Epistemological vigilance; Create indicators of the epistemological matrix;	Survey of documents; Comprehensive tracking; Nuclear thematic; Literature review; Monitoring the growth of the area; Percentage; Temporal distribution; Integrative synthesis; Bibliometria; Statistical indicators; Analytical-descriptive history; Reading and categorization; Comparative dialogue; Theoretical Dialogism; Analysis of subject-author interaction with socio-historical conditions; Speech analysis; Measure publication rate; Critical-epistemological analysis; Speech analysis; Preparation of Excel forms; Mixed methods; Historicizar (historical-philosophical); Relate socio- political-economic determinants;	Approaches; Gray literature; Universities; Geographical regions; Newspapers that publish thematic; National or foreign; Research focus; Research methodology; Political dimension; Genre; Ethnicity; Modality and educational level; Social movements; References used; Thematic, theoretical and methodological trends; Research object; Conception of pedagogical ideas (man, society, education, school, teacher, teaching- learning); Ideological aspects; Sense arising from the statements; Epistemological barriers; Epistemological breakdowns; Changes in beliefs, values and pedagogical practice; Epistemological matrix; Clues, characteristics and scope: Method (Dialectic or Phenomenological); Objectives of study; Methodologies and procedures; Theoretical- methodological approaches; Theoretical- philosophical trends; Epistemological and ontologica implications; Theoretical-epistemological articulation

Source: Prepared by the author.

It is verified that in music the works are more descriptive and quantitative, arriving at thematic classifications of the several subareas of the musical knowledge. In music education, in addition to quantification and thematic classifications, there are analyses of comparative, explanatory, conceptual/pedagogical categories, as well as an analysis of the relationship between scientific production and the development of socio-cultural / educational policies. In addition to these aspects of research in music and music education, research on education presents other elements such as: analysis of the structure and internal quality of scientific production, analysis of concepts linked to pedagogical ideas (conception of man, society, education, school, teacher, teaching-learning), as well as philosophical / sociological / epistemological analyzes.

In relation to the impact on the pedagogical practice or the creation of policies aimed at sociocultural change, few works were found. Researchers generally focus more on surveying and processing data or on epistemological and sociological interpretations. There is a certain difficulty in meeting these two fronts, collection, and analysis; this is the function of the complexity and volume of work inherent to this type of research. In general, there is a lack of methodological foundation in the elaboration and development of this type of research in the areas of music and music education, mainly. At this point the international references mentioned here can collaborate, to allow a refinement in the proposal of researches that go beyond the comprehensive analyzes. Thus, the totality sought by the 'State-of-art' research can be added to more focused analyses of the theoretical/ academic/scientific works.

# **Final considerations**

The research of State-of-art, or research of systematic review of bibliography, is configured by an epistemological approach that takes into account concrete elements that are not always quantifiable. The theoretical elaborations, the conceptual data, and understandings about certain phenomena are among these qualitative data types. Stateof-art researches that seek to publicize the productions of qualitative studies are not strictly meta-analytic but have in the methodology of categorical content analysis a structured procedure for conducting qualitative research syntheses.

Thus, due to the considerable development of the qualitative researches in music education in Brazil, it is up to the researchers of the area to advance beyond the simple description of the research already done. We believe that the studies already were undertaken corroborate and enable complex and relational interpretations with cultural and social elements reflected on the educational context.

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## **Conflicts of interest**

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest.

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