Triangulation and Qualitative (or Mixed-Methods) Research Articles
A lot of people struggle with locating resources that include triangulation. Below are some Librarian Tips for locating these articles.

Tip #1: U-Search vs Specific Databases
For this type of research, you might have better success using a specific database rather than U-Search. We recommend starting with databases in the subject of Education: Education Source, ERIC, and PsycINFO are good places to start. NOTE: if you do not know how to find these databases, let us know and we will be happy to show you.

Library Databases for Authorized ASU Students, Faculty & Staff
Education

- Education Source
- Educational Administration Abstracts
- ERIC (via EBSCOhost)
- Gale Virtual Reference Library
- Physical Education Index
- Professional Development Collection
- PsycINFO
- Teacher Reference Center
Tip #2: Use Appropriate Keywords in the Search Boxes
One of the easier ways to accomplish this is to use both qualitative research and triangulation as keywords in your search string.

Start with the following:

Your research interest  Note: use specific keyword(s) like bullying, college preparedness, assessment
AND qualitative research or qualitative study  Example of using synonyms
AND triangul*  Note: using the truncated word triangul* searches for word ending variations  Note: in the Select a Field (optional) box, select TX All Text Fields

Librarian Tips:

• use synonyms to expand your search results (i.e. High School or Secondary School or 11th Grade)
• use OR to expand your search results (i.e. Qualitative or mixed-methods or mixed methods)
• use AND to narrow your search (i.e. counseling and FERPA)
• use NOT to eliminate unwanted results (i.e. counseling not FERPA)
• use the truncation symbol (an asterisk * in many databases) to search multiple endings for a word (i.e. counsel* will search for counsel, counselor, counselors, counseling, etc.)
• use the TX All Text Fields option to search within the text of the documents

Tip #3: When the Word “Triangulation” Does Not Show Up
There is no guarantee that the study will contain the word triangulation even though the author(s) used triangulation of data in the study. When you encounter this problem, stop searching for the word triangulation and search for specific methods of data collection used in qualitative research. For example: focus groups or observations or interviews or field notes or action research
Tip #4: Use Methodologies Limiters Found in Some Databases

In PsycINFO

Start with the following:

Your research interest  Note: use specific keyword(s) like bullying, college preparedness, assessment

AND triangul*  Note: using the truncated word triangul* broadens the search

Librarian Tips:

- use synonyms to expand your search results (i.e. High School or Secondary School or 11th Grade)
- use OR to expand your search results (i.e. Qualitative or mixed-methods or mixed methods)
- use AND to narrow your search (i.e. counseling and FERPA)
- use NOT to eliminate unwanted results (i.e. counseling not FERPA)
- use the truncation symbol (an asterisk * in many databases) to search multiple endings for a word (i.e. counsel* will search counsel, counselor, counselors, counseling, etc.)

Then look for the Methodologies limiter in one of two locations:
#1 if you have this screen:

Look in the left column for “Methodology” and click. Find “qualitative study” and put a check in the box. (if needed, click on “show more” then select “qualitative study”).
Once you have found an article of interest, analyze it to make sure it meets the requirements for your assignment. Be sure to read the abstract and the methods sections.

Ask a librarian for assistance in finding resources.

Ask your professor if you have questions about whether a specific article meets the requirements for the assignment.