

Factors Affecting Sense of Belongingness Among College Students: A Scoping Review



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Abstract

- About 21% of undergraduate and 11% of post baccalaureate students have reported having a disability (National Center for Education Statistics, 2023)
- Many students with disabilities are not given adequate accommodations and support.
- College students with disabilities are not fully assimilated into campus culture and may feel unincluded in peer activity amongst universities.
- Post-secondary education is extremely pivotal in building students' future and success in their desired occupation. (Sheppard-Jones et al., 2021).
- Maslow's hierarchy of needs suggests that a feeling of sense of belongingness is the pathway towards true self-actualization and confidence.
- The research culminates in a manuscript that displays the importance of a sense of belonging as well as the effects of a lack thereof

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Methods

The study was conducted by collecting articles with previous research about levels of sense of inclusion in college students with disabilities through literature review and coding on Zotero:

A scoping review 23,967 total articles Currently, our team is still undergoing the initial screening process:

- Stage 1- identifying research question
- Stage 2- identifying relevant studies
- Stage 3- study collection
- Stage 4- charting data
- Stage 5- summarizing and reporting results

Results

As this project is mainly a literature review study, we have yet to compile and code all articles necessary for our complete and final product:

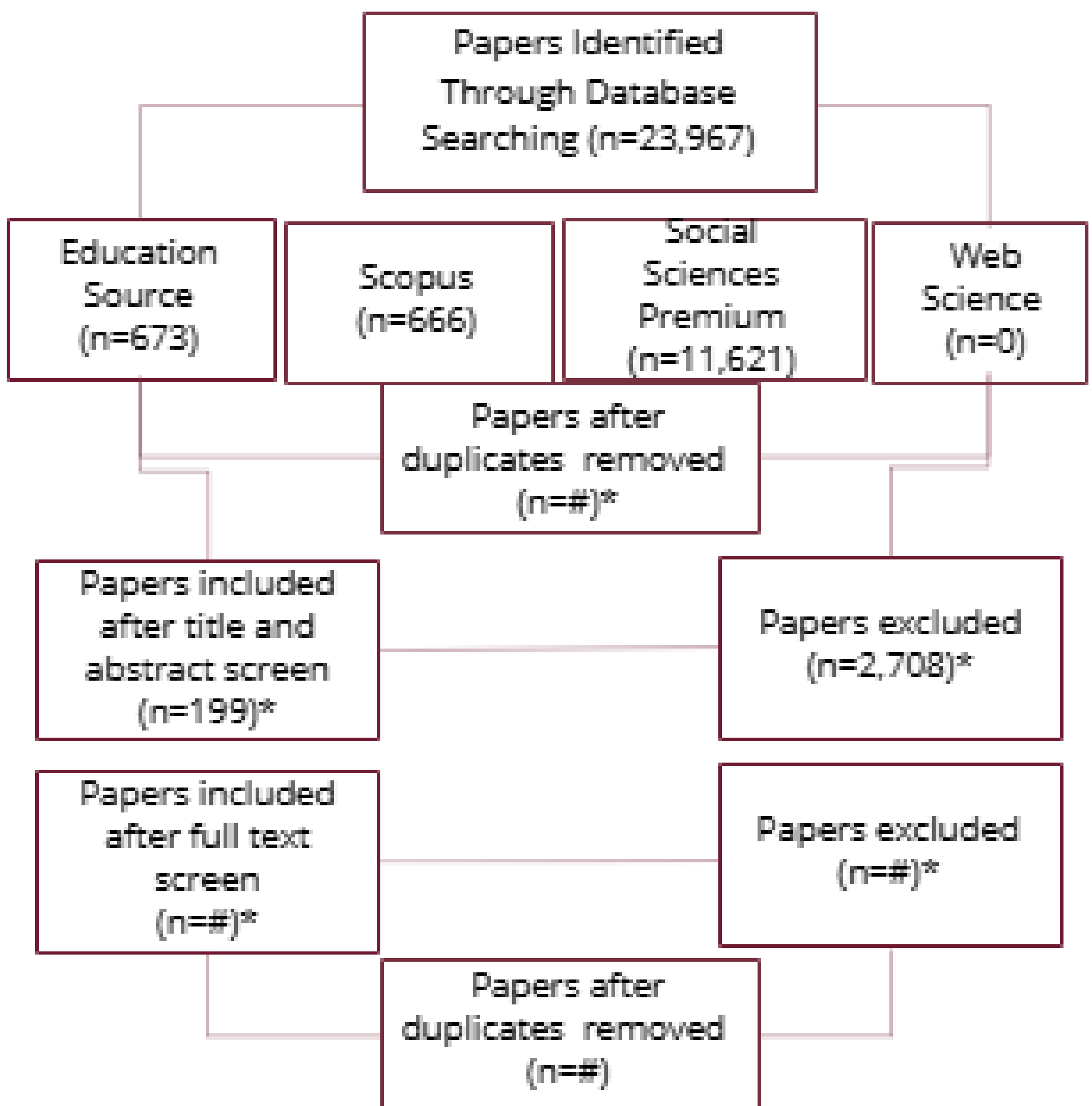
- There are a total of 23,967 articles that have been identified in the database.
- This project is currently in the beginning of stage 3, which is initial screening of the title and abstract. 199 articles have been passed, and 2,708 articles have been failed.
- The next phase will include of a full text screening of the passed articles.

Introduction

- Building a strong sense of belongingness is necessary for college students with disabilities to confidently emerge themselves into college culture.
- This research fills gaps in existing research by assessing the true levels of sense of belongingness amongst college students with disabilities as well as their overall willingness to participate in university related activities.
- We hypothesize that college students with disabilities feel a low sense of belongingness across various colleges and that colleges do not fully address these issues.

Research Question

What factors affect sense of belonging among college students with disabilities under an ecological framework through a scoping review?



Conclusion

- Ultimately, the purpose of this study is to determine the factors affecting the sense of belongingness amongst college students with disabilities.
- This research aims to provide more information and awareness on the topic and can be a valuable source in future research.
- Although the project is still in the beginning phase, there has been great advancement in the process.

Resources

National Center for Education Statistics. (2023). Table 311.10. Number and percentage distribution of students enrolled in postsecondary institutions, by level, disability status, and selected student characteristics: Academic year 2019–20 [Data table]. In Digest of education statistics. U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences. https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d22/tables/dt22_311.10.as Sheppard-Jones, K., Moseley, E., Kleinert, H., Collett, J., & Rumrill, P. (2021). The inclusive higher education imperative: Promoting long-term postsecondary success for students with intellectual disabilities in the COVID-19 era. *Journal of Rehabilitation*, 87(1), 48–54. Weis, R., & Bittner, S. A. (2022). College students' access to academic accommodations over time: Evidence of a Matthew effect in higher education. *Psychological Injury and Law*, 15(3), 236–252.

*n=# indicates the data is unavailable due to the research project not yet progressing to this stage. numbers marked are provisional

