PSY 290
Introduction to Research Methods
Paper Directions and Rubric

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Directions:
This class counts as a General Education Writing Intensive (WI) course. Three papers are due in this course. Your paper is required to be:
- Typed
- 12-point font
- Double-spaced
- Have a minimum of 1,000 Words (please do not exceed 1,250 words)
- Follow either MLA or APA formatting
- Have 2 different scholarly sources
- Saved .doc, .docx, or .rtf format
- Submitted it to safe assign via Blackboard.

Tips for Success on Assignments
- Ask questions if you are unclear on a particular topic or assignment. I am happy to answer your questions!
- Select the paper option that interests you! It is easier to write about something you care about and that is relevant in your own life.
- Pay attention to the grading rubric that I will be using to evaluate your paper.
- If you struggle with grammar or spelling, utilize the AWC Student Success Center.
  - Writing Center Location: SC Building AWC Main Campus
  - Writing Center Phone Number: 928-317-6171
  - Writing Center URL: http://www.azwestern.edu/learning_services/learning_support_services/student_success_center/writing_center.html.
Paper Topics:
You will develop your three papers based on the “steps in the research process” (Neuman, 2009, p. 21). You will progressively complete your final paper.

Paper 1
Here is what you'll include within your first paper:

1) Topic Selection:
   a. Tell the reader what your topic choice is.
2) Topic Selection Background:
   a. Basic information regarding your study.
   b. Discuss the setting for your study.
   c. Is your study applied or basic research? Briefly explain.
   d. Is your study exploratory, descriptive, explanatory, evaluation? Briefly explain.
   e. Is your study qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-methods? Briefly explain.
3) Focus question(s)/Research Question(s):
   a. Simply introduce and state your question(s).
4) Literature Review:
   a. Explain your literature topics.
   b. Explain how the literature relates to your topic.
   c. The review of literature can be in annotated form, but it is not required.
5) Theoretical Conceptualization:
   a. Explain theory.
   b. Explain how the theory relates to your topic.

Paper 2
Here is what you'll include within your second paper:

1) Restate your topic and research question.
2) Ethical Concerns:
   a. Why is your study ethical?
3) Design Study:
   a. Is your study applied or basic research? Clearly explain.
   b. Is your study exploratory, descriptive, explanatory, evaluation? Clearly explain.
   c. Is your study qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-methods? Clearly explain.
4) Sampling Procedures:
   a. What are your sampling procedures?
   b. Which sampling will you use? Is it random or nonrandom?
   c. Describe your population.
   d. Describe your desired sample.
5) Data Collection:
   a. Which data collection instrumentation will use for your study?
   b. How will you demonstrate reliability and validity?
   c. Will you conduct a pilot test?
   d. How do you plan to measure your data collection?
   e. How will you analyze data?
Paper 3
Here is what you’ll include within your third paper:

1) You will include revised content from papers 1 and 2.
2) Analyze Data:
   a. How did you collect your data?
   b. Where there any data collection concerns?
   c. How did you analyze data?
   d. What type of test did you run in SPSS?
3) Interpret Data:
   a. State yielded data (mean, mode, median, percentiles, standard deviation, t-test, z-score, tables, graphs, etc.)
   b. Analyze levels of statistical significance.
   c. What does your mean? Did you data answer your research question?
   d. State any limitations.
   e. Make recommendations for future.
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<th>Assignment Grading Rubric</th>
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