
Research Proposal: Assignment #1 (50 points)**Research Topic, Theoretical Proposition(s), Term Definitions, Hypothesis, and Variables**

Instructions for submission:

1. In 1 - 2 pages complete sections "I through V" using the appropriate headings and subheadings. See Example Assignment #1 for the proper format.
 2. This assignment must be completed in MS Word (*.doc or *.docx), MS Works (*.wps), or as a basic (*.rtf) file.
 3. E-mail your completed assignment to dkamedasjsu@aol.com as an attachment (do not copy and paste it into the e-mail). Be sure to retain the e-mail you send your assignment with just in case. You will receive a confirmation "thank you" e-mail in response to your submission.
 4. Include your name as part of the file name (e.g., DinaKameda_Assignment#1)
 5. Your assignment is due on **Monday, 02.16.09 by 11:59 PM.**
 6. Late assignments will incur a 5-point deduction, and will not be accepted after Tuesday, 02.17.09
 7. Revisions of Assignment #1 will be due: 03.02.09 (via e-mail as an attachment prior to midnight) - See greensheet for policy regarding *Revision Eligibility*
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- I. **Statement of Research Topic:**
In a short paragraph, describe a topic you wish to research and explain why it is important to study.
- II. **Theoretical Proposition(s):**
State your main theoretical proposition using general, abstract law-like statements. You may have more than one if needed.
- III. **Term Definition(s):**
Define the important terms in your theoretical proposition. The decision about which terms to define should be based on the question of whether or not a lay person would likely or unlikely know the definition.
- IV. **Hypothesis: (or Hypotheses if you have multiple)**
State a specific hypothesis (i.e., a specific instance of your more general proposition).
Your hypothesis:
 1. Needs to be phrased as a declarative statement, do not phrase it in the form of a question
 2. Should only be one sentence
 3. Should include a clear comparison between at least two groups (levels of your independent variable)
 4. If what you wish to research is too complex to fit into one hypothesis, construct as many hypotheses as necessary. Multiple hypotheses should be denoted by: H_1 , H_2 , H_3 and so on.
- V. **Variables:**
 1. You will need to come up with a minimum of **one** independent variable (IV), **two** background variables (BV), and **one** dependent variable (DV).
 2. Your IV needs to be categorical in nature, with at least two levels (groups) for comparison.
 3. Your background variables may be continuous or categorical (see Example Assignment #1 for more information about determining whether your variables are continuous or categorical).

Please see the instructor or e-mail (dkamedasjsu@aol.com) in a timely manner if you are having trouble with this assignment. Always remember, there is no penalty for having questions. ☺