

Introduction to Research

Objectives

- This presentation will assist you in improving your knowledge about basic issues in research. Hence, after this presentation you will be able to:
- 1- define research and some common terminologies
- 2- describe approaches to research
- 3- differentiate between quantitative and qualitative studies
- 4- explain qualities of good research and good researchers.

What is research?

- investigation of natural phenomena
- ✓ Systematic
- ✓ controlled
- ✓ empirical
- ✓ moral
- ✓ public
- ✓ critical

Approaches to research

- Quantitative research
- Qualitative research
- Mixed method study

Other research terminology

- Basic research
- Applied research
- Field research
- Laboratory research
- Inductive or deductive research

Quantitative\Qualitative comparisons

Quantitative characteristics

Description and explanation oriented

*Major role

*Specific, narrow

*Measurable, observable data

*Predetermined instruments

*Numeric data

*Large number of individuals

*Statistical analysis

*Comparisons

*Standard, fixed

*Objective and unbiased

Steps in the process of research

Identifying a research problem

Reviewing the literature

Specifying a purpose

Collecting data

Analyzing and interpreting data

Reporting and evaluating research

Qualitative characteristics

Exploratory and understanding oriented

*Minor role

* General, broad

*Participants' experiences

*General, emerging from text or image data

*Text analysis

*The larger meaning of findings

*Flexible, emerging

*Reflexive and biased

Characteristics of good research

- Based on previous work and a thorough review of literature
- Based on theory
- Apolitical, objective and logical
- Designed to answer a question or solve a problem
- Can be replicated and validated

Characteristics of good research

- Can be generalized to other settings(quantitative)
- Uses accurate observation and measurement
- Requires patient, unhurried activity
- Involves rigorous analysis of data
- Results are reported for others to utilize and critique

Characteristics of good researchers


- Inquisitive
- Patient, unhurried and deliberate
- Perseverant and determined
- Systematic and logical

Characteristics of good researchers

- Doubtful and skeptical
- Independent, objective, impartial and honest
- Seek order and understanding
- Courageous

Summary

- Definition of research and other terminologies
- Approaches to research
- Quantitative\qualitative comparisons
- Characteristics of good research
- Characteristics of good researchers



Appreciate Your Attention