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PSY 256- ACADEMIC WRITING AND PRESENTATION

WRITING A RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Research Proposal

- A **research proposal** is a document that provides a detailed description of the intended project/research...
- It is like an outline of the entire research process that gives a reader a summary of the information discussed in a project.
- The objective in writing a proposal is to **describe what you will do, why it should be done, how you will do it and what you expect** will result.

Basic Components

1. Title
2. Abstract
3. Introduction
 - Review of Literature
 - Aims/Purposes
 - Objectives
 - Questions and/ or hypotheses
8. Methodology
9. Results (?)
10. References
11. Appendix

Title of the Research

- It should be concise, descriptive informative and catchy.
- Titles should clearly indicate the independent and dependent variables.
- The title provides the "key words" for the classification and indexing of the project.
- It is important to specify what population or universe will be investigated.

Good and Bad Titles 😊

- «The Role of Peer Influence in Adolescent Decision-Making: A Longitudinal Study»
- «Victim Sensitivity and Group Dynamics: How Perceived Injustice Shapes Social Interactions»
- "Interesting Findings About Social Groups"
- «Parental Attitudes and Adolescent Friendships: A Cross-Cultural Comparison»
- "An Investigation of How Adolescents Make Decisions and the Role of Their Peers and Parents in That Process"
- «How Social Exclusion Affects Group Cohesion: Evidence from Experimental Studies»
- «Peer Influence, Parents, and Adolescence»

Abstract

- It is a brief summary of approximately 250-300 words. (depends on DERGINİN FORMATI 😊)
- It should summarize all the central elements of the protocol, for example the objectives, methods, populations, and expected outcomes.

Introduction

- The introduction provides the readers with the background information.
- It should have;
 - Topic area
 - Research question
 - Significance to knowledge

Review of Literature

- In this section **what is already known** about the topic is written including the lacunae.
- You do not need to report on every published study in the area of your research topic.
- Choose those studies which are **most relevant and most important**.
- Reviews of the literature are **not summaries**, they are **arguments** (that there is a gap that needs filling; that you have sound reasons for believing your hypotheses are likely to be true; that your methods have been well thought through in relation to your research goals)

Review of Literature

- A Literature Review should;
 1. convince the reader that the research area is significant / important / interesting
 2. convince the reader that we shouldn't be (completely) satisfied with the existing literature on the topic
 3. convince the reader that your research will fill some important or interesting gap or address some important limitation or deficiency
 4. explain and justify your research hypotheses / ideas
 5. convince the reader that your research methods are well thought through

Aim/Purpose

- **The aim** is about what you hope to do, your overall intention in the project or research...
- It's what you want to know.
- An aim is, therefore, generally broad.

Objectives

- **The objectives** are the specific steps you will take to achieve your aim.
- **The aim is the *WHAT* of the research, and the objective is the *HOW*.**
- Research objectives are the goals to be achieved by conducting the research.

Objectives should be:

- Logical and coherent - tutarlılık
- Feasible
- Realistic, considering local conditions – where to conduct!
- Defined in operational terms that can be measured
- Phrased to clearly meet the purpose of the study (relevant)

Questions and/or hypotheses

- A hypothesis can be defined as a tentative prediction or explanation of the relationship between two or more variables.
- Unambiguous prediction of expected outcomes.

Methodology

- The methodology explains the procedures that will be used to achieve the objectives.

It covers;

1. Approach to the question
2. Research design
3. Research subjects
4. Inclusion or exclusion criteria
5. Sampling procedure
6. Controls or comparison groups
7. Data needs
8. Analytic techniques
9. Plan for interpreting results
10. Ethical issues

Methodology

- Overview of Approach
- Data Collection
- Data Analysis
- Interpretation

Budget

- The budget translates project activities into monetary terms
- A proposal budget is with item wise/activity wise breakdown and justification for the same.
- Indicate how will the study be financed.

References

- References should be written in **APA 7 Format!!**

Citing References:

- Grady, J. S., Her, M., Moreno, G., Perez, C., & Yelinek, J. (2019). Emotions in storybooks: A comparison of storybooks that represent ethnic and racial groups in the United States. *Psychology of Popular Media Culture*, 8(3), 207-217. <https://doi.org/10.1037/ppm0000185>.
- Teyfur, M. (2011). *İlköğretim okul yöneticilerinin uyguladıkları yönetim biçimlerine ilişkin algıları ve velilere göre okul yöneticilerinin yönetim becerilerinin değerlendirilmesi* [Yayımlanmamış Yüksek Lisans Tezi]. Atatürk Üniversitesi.
- Karadağ, E. ve Öney, A. (2006, Eylül). *Okul yöneticilerinin stres düzeylerinin öğretmenlerinin stres düzeylerine etkisinin incelenmesi*. 14. Ulusal Psikoloji Kongresi'nde sunulan bildiri. Hacettepe Üniversitesi Psikoloji Bölümü, Ankara.

Appendix

- Include the appropriate appendixes in the proposal.

For example:

1. Interview protocols,
2. Sample of informed consent forms,
3. Official letters for permission to conduct research,
4. Original scales or questionnaires...

How to Avoid Plagiarism?

- Understand What Constitutes Plagiarism

- Copying someone else's work without citation...
- Paraphrasing too closely without proper citation
- Self-plagiarism (reusing your previous work without citation)

- Use Proper Citation & Referencing

- Follow the required citation style (**APA**, MLA, Chicago, etc.).
- Cite all sources for direct quotes, paraphrased ideas, and data.
- Include a reference list or bibliography/references.
- In-text citation is very important!!

Any questions?? ☺