

UNIT 8: Research Project

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WEEK FIVE
LECTURER: N. QUARRIE

Learning Outcome One (1)

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- LO2 Be able to implement the research project within agreed procedures and to specification

Objective of Lesson

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- By the end of this lesson you should be able to:
- 2.1 match resources efficiently to the research question or hypothesis



Overview

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- Having enough resources to complete a research is one thing and efficiently using and matching these resources is another thing. I will briefly take a look at issues concerning this.
- I will also use this lesson to explain: Implement: according to research design and method; test research hypotheses; considering test validity; reliability

Match resources efficiently

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- After completing your research plan you will realize that there are a number of resources that you will need to complete the research. You must correctly match these resources with each research objective.
- After identifying the resources you must ensure that the resources are used efficiently
- You must also ensure that each resource that you highlight is appropriate for the task that you will be using it for.

Implement: according to research design and method

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- After writing research plan, objectives, literature review etc then its time to do the actual research.
- This research that you carry out must be reflective of your research plan, objectives, literature review etc.
- So if in your methodology you noted that you would be using interviews and questionnaires the that is what you should be using to complete the research.

Implement: according to research design and method

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- Your implementation process should also follow the deadlines etc that you outlined in your research plan
- NB: You were expected to complete a research plan not just to submit for grades but to also assist you in successfully completing the research paper without much headache.

Test research hypothesis

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- The mere fact that you selected a topic and decided to do a research paper on it means that you have decided to test the hypothesis.
- You will need to test you hypothesis will means that you will need to:
 - 1. Review what others are saying about your topic
 - 2. Conduct an actual research (issue questionnaire etc) to prove whether or not your hypothesis is indeed true

Test research hypothesis

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- Your topic may not have been stated in a hypothesis format, however, you will realise that you will still need to test the hypothesis. That is, you will need to gather information to identify the current issues and then draw some sought of conclusion based on your findings.

Considering: Validity and Reliability

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- Validity: “Validity is an indication of how sound your research is. More specifically, validity applies to both the design and the methods of your research. Validity in data collection means that your findings truly represent the phenomenon you are claiming to measure. Valid claims are solid claims (Linguistics.byu.edu, n.d.)”
- “Reliability has to do with the quality of measurement. In its everyday sense, reliability is the "consistency" or "repeatability" of your measures (Socialresearchmethods.net, n.d.)”

Types of Validity

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- **“Face validity-**This refers to whether a technique looks as if it should measure the variable it intends to measure. For example, a method where a participant is required to click a button as soon as a stimulus appears and this time is measured appears to have face validity for measuring reaction time. (psucd8, 2011)”
- **“Concurrent validity-**This compares the results from a new measurement technique to those of a more established technique that claims to measure the same variable to see if they are related. Often two measurements will behave in the same way, but are not necessarily measuring the same variable, therefore this kind of validity must be examined thoroughly. (psucd8, 2011)”

Types of Validity

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- **“Predictive validity-**This is when the results obtained from measuring a construct can be accurately used to predict behaviour. There are obvious limitations to this as behaviour cannot be fully predicted to great depths, but this validity helps predict basic trends to a certain degree. (psucd8, 2011)”
- **Construct validity-**This is whether the measurements of a variable in a study behave in exactly the same way as the variable itself. This involves examining past research regarding different aspects of the same variable (psucd8, 2011)”

Review Questions

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1. Michael who is currently doing a research course with a school in Mandeville was asked to efficiently match his research to his research questions. What is meant by this and what is the importance of efficiently matching resources with your research question.
2. Explain the main difference between validity and reliability of a research?
3. If you were asked to test a research hypothesis, what do you believe they are asking you to do? Thoroughly explain

References/Additional Reading List

1. Socialresearchmethods.net. (n.d.). *Reliability*. [online] Available at: <http://www.socialresearchmethods.net/kb/reliable.php> [Accessed 2 Jun. 2016].
2. Linguistics.byu.edu. (n.d.). *Research Methods: Planning: Validity*. [online] Available at: http://linguistics.byu.edu/faculty/henrichsenl/ResearchMethods/RM_2_18.html [Accessed 2 Jun. 2016].
3. psucd8. (2011). *What is validity and why is it important in research?*. [online] Available at: <https://psucd8.wordpress.com/2011/11/20/why-is-validity-important-in-research/> [Accessed 2 Jun. 2016].