

Date: _____

ATS D Min. Dissertation Program

Research Protocol Worksheet (Module 2)

Overview: In this worksheet there are several parts:

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- A. The faculty researcher (p. 2)
- B. The student researcher (p. 2)
- C. Human Participant Protection Training (p.4)

Part 2: The Hypothesis or Hypotheses You Propose to Prove or the Research Questions You Propose to Answer (p.4)

- A. Hypothesis or Hypotheses (p. 5)
- B. Research Question(s) (p. 5)

Part 3: The Theories or Theorists on Which You Base your Research Idea (p. 5)

Part 4: Descriptive or Experimental Research (p. 6)

- A. If Experimental Research, Your Proposed Intervention (p.7)

Part 5: The Data You Propose to Collect (p .7)

- A. Quantitative Data (Numerical Instruments) (p.8)
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Part 6: The Human Participants you Propose to Study (p.11)

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- B. Potential Dangers of Research Project Poses to its Participants (p.12)
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B. The Plan for Qualitative Data: Coding Systems (p. 13)

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PART 1: YOU THE RESEARCHER

1. Which are you? _____

_____ Faculty researcher : Go to Section 1A (below, p.1)

_____ Student researcher : Skip to Section 1B (p. 2)

Section 1A: Faculty Researcher

2. Name

3. Address _____

4. Email address _____

5. Phone number _____

6. What institution and department do you represent?

7. Name of Dept Head

8. If applicable, name of sponsor or funding source _____

9. Summarize previous related research and attach CV (with related publications)

10. If applicable, names of students assisting you in this research

Section 1B: The Student Researcher

11. Name

12. Address

13. Email address _____

14. Phone number _____

15. What institution and degree program do you represent?

16. Anticipated graduation date

17. Name of Degree program director

18. Approval from Supervising faculty member for this research

(either signature or acknowledgement of written permission)

19. Approval from Advisor / First Reader for this research, if different from the supervising faculty member above

(either signature or acknowledgement of written permission)

20. Have you completed the “Protecting Human Research Participants” Training? The training is available at: <https://phrptraining.com>.

Either cut and paste the certificate, or have your Supervising Faculty member certify this below:

(signature, or confirmation, of supervising faculty)

PART 2: THE HYPOTHESIS/ HYPOTHESES YOU PROPOSE TO PROVE OR RESEARCH QUESTIONS YOU PROPOSE TO ANSWER

21. How do you anticipate framing the presentation of your research?

_____ a theory your data will either verify or falsify (binary): Go to Section 2A: Hypothesis or Hypotheses (p. 3)

_____ an open-ended question (non-binary): Go to Section 2B: Research Question or Research Questions (p. 4)

(e.g. of Hypothesis: A Covid-19 positive patient who takes 500 mg of Vitamin C a day for 10 days will report a reduction of flu-like symptoms

E.g. of RQ: What is the effect on a Covid-19 positive patient who takes 500 mg of Vitamin C a day for 10 days?

Another example of a RQ: What FDA approved drugs will reduce flu-like symptoms in a Covid-19 positive patient?

_____ Both: Fill out both Section 2A and 2B

Section 2A: Hypothesis or Hypotheses

22. Please state your hypothesis or hypotheses (H1, H2, H3, etc.):

Section 2B: Research Question or Research Questions

23. Please state your research question or research questions (RQ1, RQ2, RQ3, etc.)

PART 3: THE THEORIES AND THEORISTS ON WHICH YOU BASE YOUR RESEARCH IDEA

24. If your research establishes a relationship between two variables, please state the independent variable (IV) and the dependant variable (DV) below:

25. Please offer some background information about your research idea. If there is a problem that your research intends to help solve, offer some information about the underlying problem. Cite sources, if applicable.

26. Please discuss previous research related to yours, if any. Cite the publication information.

27. Please list and discuss any theories or theorists whose ideas are essential or foundational to your research

PART 4: DESCRIPTIVE OR EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH

28. Which applies to your research?

_____ Descriptive research (describing the state of things as they are) (Skip to Part 5)

_____ Experimental research (comparing states before and after an intervention):
Answer Section 4A (p.6)

Section 4A: If, Experimental Research,
Discuss Your Intervention

29. Describe what treatment you propose to apply to your participants

30. Is the proposed treatment standardized, i.e. the same for all participants? If yes, go to Q31. If not, go to Q32.

31. If the treatment is standardized for all participants, do you have a plan to verify compliance to the standardized treatment for all participants? What is that plan?

32. If the treatment is different for different groups (e.g. differing dosages), do you have a plan to verify each group's compliance to its assigned treatment? What is that plan?

PART 5: THE DATA YOU PROPOSE TO COLLECT

33. Which type of data do you propose to collect?

_____ Quantitative (numerical) data: Go to Section 5A: Quantitative Instrument (below, p.7)

_____ Qualitative (verbal) data: Go to Section 5B: Qualitative Instrument below, p. 7)

_____ Both: Fill out both 5A and 5B

Section 5A: Quantitative Data: Numerical Instrument(s) (Attach a copy to this form)

34. Name and Describe the Instrument(s) You Propose to Use. Call them Instrument 1, Instrument 2, etc

Is this (Are these) instrument(s) published?

_____ yes (published by another researcher): Answer only Q35-Q38 (p. 7)

_____ no (created by the present researcher for this project): Skip to Q39-Q42 (p.8)

35. Give the publication information for the instrument(s). What variable(s) do they measure for? In your project, are these variables the IV? the DV?

36. Tell if the instrument(s) is/are valid and reliable. Cite the validity and reliability studies.

37. Tell what subscores, if any, the instruments contain.

38. Tell how the instrument(s) are scored. What are their range of points?

39. If this instrument(s) is/are your creation for this project, state what variable your instrument measures for. Are the variable(s) the IV? the DV?

40. Discuss the "content validity" of this instrument(s) by citing scholarly sources that discuss the variable and, using these sources, demonstrate how the instrument measures for this variable

41. Tell how the instrument(s) is scored. What is/are the range of points?

42. Has this instrument(s) been field tested? If yes, was it found to be valid and reliable?

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Section 5B: Qualitative Instrument (attach the interview script to this form)

43. What variable(s) does this interview script measure for? State if these variable(s) are the IV for this project? The DV?

44. Can the variable your qualitative data is measuring be differentiated into sub constructs (i.e. component concepts)? (Note: You will have to list these in Q59 below)

45. Do you plan to record the interviews (be sure to include this in the informed consent)?

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Do you plan to transcribe the interviews?

46. Is there a rubric or interpretive guide that will offer an objective standard by which to analyze the verbal data? If so, please attach the rubric or interpretive guide and describe it below.

PART 6: THE HUMAN PARTICIPANTS YOU PROPOSE TO STUDY

Section 6A: Recruitment and Selection

47. From what population will you be recruiting your participants?

48. What selection criteria will you use to select your participants?

49. Are any of your participants 18 years old or younger? _____ If not, what is your plan for parental consent?

50. Are any of your participants intellectually disabled? _____ If not, what is your plan for informed consent?

51. How many participants do you propose to study? If you have various groups of participants for each instrument, please tell the size of the participant pool for instrument 1, instrument 2, etc. Does the number of participants meet the minimum required by your program regulations?

Section 6B: Potential Dangers This Research Project Poses to Participants

52. Discuss the potential dangers, if any, this research project poses to your participants. Discuss specifically what risks, if any, your participants take (a) physically, (b) emotionally-psychologically, (c) legally, and what steps you are taking to minimize or eliminate these risks.

Section 6C: Informed Consent Procedures

53. List what information you intend to disclose to your participants about your research project

54. Explain how you plan to protect the identities of your participants

55. Explain how you will obtain your participants' permission to be recorded, and to offer you data and information about themselves. If you plan to offer a written statement for participants to read, or you plan to read a written script to them, please attach that statement or script to this form:

PART 7: THE ANALYSIS OF THE DATA YOU INTEND TO PERFORM

56. Again, what type of data do you plan to collect?

_____ Quantitative Data (Numerical Data): Answer Section 7A below (p. 11)

_____ Qualitative Data (Verbal Data): Answer Section 7B below (p. 12)

Section 7A: Statistical Operations to Use for Quantitative Data:

Group 1: Descriptive Statistics for Central Tendencies

- a) Mean
- b) Median
- c) Mode
- d) Standard Deviation

Group 2: There are several statistical tests to specify:

- a) T-test and ANOVA
- b) Pearson Correlation
- c) Chi-Square

57. For each hypothesis (H1, H2, H3. etc), state the statistical operation you intend to use, whether for description or testing, or to prove your hypothesis

Section 7B: Analysis of Qualitative Data: Your Coding System

58. We'll assume you are working off an interview transcript. If you are using a grounded theory approach (the theory arises from your data), tell what "tags" you will apply to words and phrases in each "pass" over the transcripts. (e.g. "affective," behavioral" and "cognitive" are popular tags). Call the "passes" Pass 1, Pass 2, Pass 3, etc.

59. If instead you are coding to an existing theory, please list the sub-constructs--the component mental states--to the variable you are pursuing. (e.g. if you are seeking to measure "resistance to change, " according to psychologist Shaul Oreg, "resistance to change" is detectable if one is "routine seeking," has "emotional reaction" to change, has "short term focus," and has "cognitive rigidity"--four sub-constructs)

PART 8: THE RESOURCES YOU WILL NEED FOR YOUR PROJECT

60. What site supervisors' permissions will you need to perform this research?

(signature, or written permission granted, by site supervisor)

(signature, or written permission granted, by site supervisor)

61. What personnel will you need to assist you in performing this research? Have you arranged for this personnel?

62. What equipment or facilities will you need to perform this research? Have you arranged for this equipment or facilities?

63. What is the approximate timeline for your research?

PLEASE ATTACH ALL INSTRUMENTS and INFORMED CONSENT PROCEDURES TO THIS FORM.