

SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY, HPRF 295  
Activity #2: Research Classification

Directions:

Look over the research articles provided by the instructors (course reserve, website, or hard copy). Select **3 articles**--representing 3 different kinds of research methods--and classify them according to the categories given below. For each of the 3 articles, complete the form provided (i.e., MAKE THREE COPIES OF THE NEXT PAGE and fill in the blank). This activity is intended to help you THINK about research classification and terminology, so for some questions, there could be more than one right answer.

1. Basic to Applied Continuum:

Identify where on this continuum you think this article fits, and briefly explain your choice:

Basic: Done for the purpose of gaining new knowledge, but not directly applicable to practice.

Primarily basic: Primarily seeking new knowledge, but indirectly relevant to practice.

Somewhat applied: Research conducted on an area of human experience that could potentially help us solve problems in practice.

Applied: Directly applicable to practice: for example, studies that test interventions.

2. Do the researchers use quantitative or qualitative strategies or do they integrate both?

ie., Identify whether this research is quantitative or qualitative, or whether the researchers use both.

Quantitative (statistical methods)

Qualitative (conceptual analysis)

Integrated (uses both) [If, "integrated," briefly explain your answer]

3. If this study uses quantitative methods, indicate where it fits on the

"Experimental Continuum" and identify what **level of question** is being asked:

Experimental

Quasi-experimental

Pre-experimental

Non-experimental

For information on "level of question" (Level 1, 2, or 3), see Depoy & Gitlin or lecture notes.

4. Is this study trying to address change over time?

If this study is addressing change over time, indicate which of the following categories fits this study:

Prospective-Longitudinal

Retrospective

Cross-sectional

If it is addressing change over time by another method, identify the design or method.

5. Researcher's distance from the data:

Primary analysis

Secondary analysis

Meta-analysis

6. Mark whether this study fits into one of these unique functional categories.

Don't just answer randomly, since some of these categories are mutually exclusive.

Needs assessment

Program evaluation

Epidemiological research

Theory development

Phenomenological study

Clinical research

Instrument development (methodological research)

Community based participatory research

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Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of author and title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Use the directions for Activity #2 to help you fill in the blanks below:**

1. Where would you place this study on the “basic to applied” continuum? \_\_\_\_\_  
Explain your decision: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Is this a qualitative or quantitative study or do the researchers integrate both?

Qualitative \_\_\_\_\_ Quantitative \_\_\_\_\_ Integrated (both) \_\_\_\_\_

3. If this is a **quantitative** study (or if it uses both)....

Where does it fit on the experimental continuum? \_\_\_\_\_

Is there a treatment or manipulated variable in the study? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

What level question(s) is being asked? Level 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Level 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Level 3 \_\_\_\_\_

4. **Is this study trying to address change over time?** Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, check the category that you think applies to this study:

\_\_\_\_\_ prospective-longitudinal

\_\_\_\_\_ retrospective

\_\_\_\_\_ cross-sectional

\_\_\_\_\_ other: \_\_\_\_\_ (specify)

5. Researcher’s distance from the data?

\_\_\_\_\_ primary analysis      \_\_\_\_\_ secondary analysis      \_\_\_\_\_ meta-analysis

6. Does this research fit into one of these unique categories?

\_\_\_\_\_ Needs assessment

\_\_\_\_\_ Program evaluation

\_\_\_\_\_ Epidemiological research

\_\_\_\_\_ Theory development

\_\_\_\_\_ Phenomenological study

\_\_\_\_\_ Clinical research

\_\_\_\_\_ Instrument development (aka “methodological” research)

\_\_\_\_\_ Community based participatory research

Explain why you marked the category(ies) above: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_