

# Basic Research Design Methods



**PSYCHOLOGICAL  
HEALTH PROGRAM**  
NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU



**Research Protocol**



# Introduction

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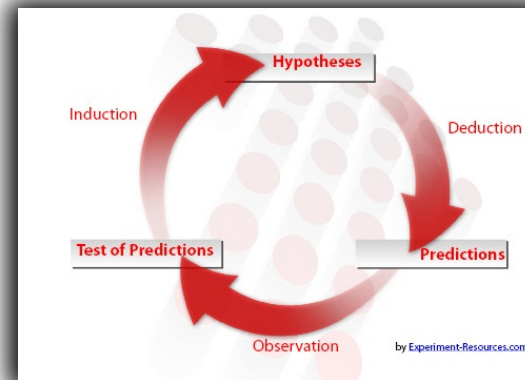
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  - Doctorate in Behavioral Health – Arizona State University
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# Research Design

- Proposal to explain human behavior that eliminates judgments that are subjective and anecdotal. Research uses scientific methods to study psychology in an objective and systematic way.
- Research goals:
  - Describe
  - Explain
  - Predict



# Human Research Criteria



## Human subject rights:

- Voluntary, informed consent
- Respect for persons: treated as autonomous agents
- The right to end participation in research at any time
- Right to safeguard integrity
- Benefits should outweigh cost
- Protection from physical, mental and emotional harm
- Access to information regarding research
- Protection of privacy and well-being



(United States Department of Health and Human Services. 2012)

# Four Steps Research Design



## Step 1: Forming a testable hypothesis

- Observable and measurable
- IRB Approval

## Step 2: Devise a study and collect data

- Longitudinal Research Study/Correlational Study

## Step 3: Examining results and drawing conclusions

- Summarize data
- Analyze results
- Draw conclusions

## Step 4: Report findings

- Writing up study



# Comments? Questions? Concerns?



# References

- United States Department of Health and Human Services, 2012
- Psychology Research Methods, About Psychology,com. 2012
- Research Design and Methods, A Process Approach. Bordens & Abbott, 2008