

Writing a Research Proposal in Education

Dr. Katrina A. Korb
Paper Presented at the First Seminar
of NISEP Plateau State Chapter

Purpose of Research Proposals

- **Research Proposal:** Description of the research to be undertaken
- Purposes:
 - Provide a blueprint for conducting the research
 - Experts to assess whether the student has the skills and plan to successfully complete the project

Parts to a Research Proposal

- Title
- Introduction
- Research Methods

Title

- First word reflects the research design
- State the variables under study
- State the target population

Introduction

- Statement of Problem
- Research Questions and/or Research Hypotheses
- Operational Definition of Variables
- Outline of Literature Review

Research Methods

- Research Design
 - State and describe the Research Design
 - Justify the Research Design
 - Explain how the key elements of the Research Design will be met in the study
- Target Population: Explain the individuals whom the results will be generalized to
- Sample: Who will participate in the study

Research Methods

- Sampling Technique
 - State and justify choice of sampling technique
 - Explain key elements of the sampling technique
 - Explain logistics of how the sampling technique will be implemented

Research Methods

- Instrument: For each variable, explain the instrument/items that will be used to measure the variable
 - Name of the instrument
 - How many items to measure the variable
 - How participants respond to the item
 - Sample item
 - How a score will be calculated for the variable

Research Methods

- Procedure for Data Collection: Describe when, how, where, and for how long it will take to collect the data
 - Experimental Designs: Explain logistics for the Treatment and Control groups
- Method of Data Analysis: Statistic and/or procedure used to analyse each Research Question/Hypothesis

Research Methods

- Instrument: Prepare the actual instrument that will be given to participants
- Treatment/Control package: Plan the “lesson plan” for the Treatment and Control groups