

NSG 687: The Research Process: Quantitative Design & Methods Part II

UNIT 1: Experimental, Quasi-Experimental, and Intervention Research Designs

Week 1: Course Introduction

Review all course materials and begin assigned readings for weeks 2 & 3.

Graded Activities

Discussion Activity

1. **Introduction:** Introduce yourself (tell us about yourself- where do you live, work, etc). What is your clinical area of interest? What is your research area of interest? What types of concepts are you interested in? (Please post your introduction by Wednesday of Week 1).
2. **SAGE Research Methods:** Many of the course materials will be accessed through the SAGE Research Methods database. This week, access the SAGE research methods through the library. Set up a personal account in the program. Peruse the database. Share with the class something interesting that you found in the database.
3. **Wimba discussion:** All students are required to attend the week 1 Wimba Session. In this session, the instructors will discuss the course, content, assignments, and introduce themselves and their research to students. Students will introduce themselves to the instructors and fellow students. Students will be asked to tell a little bit about themselves, their work, clinical and research areas of interests, who their advisors are, and any other pertinent information.

Week 2 & 3: Quasi Experimental & Experimental Designs Threats to Internal and External Validity

Assigned Readings

Grove, Burns, & Gray (2013) Chapter 10: pp. 195-207.

*you were assigned to read this in NRS 686, however, read this chapter with an eye towards experimental designs

Grove, Burns, & Gray (2013) Chapter 11 (pp. 231-263)

Fogg, D., & Gross, D. (2000). Threats to validity in randomized clinical trials. *Research in Nursing & Health*, 23, 79-87.

Review: <http://www.consort-statement.org/>

Supplemental Reading

From Sage Research Methods:

Bracht, G., & Glass, G. (1968). The External Validity of Experiments. *American Educational Research Journal*, 5(4), 437-474. DOI: 10.3102/00028312005004437

Outhwaite, W., & Turner, S. (2007). Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Designs in Behavioral Research: On Context, Crud, and Convergence. *The SAGE Handbook of Social Science Methodology*.

Spector, P. (1981). Research Designs. Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications. DOI: 10.4135/9781412985673. **READ:** basic concepts, and review the chapters on: Basic Logic of Design, One-Group Designs, Multiple-Group Designs, & Factorial Designs.

Lecture/Lecture Notes

See document: Week 2 & 3 Lecture Notes

Podcast

Graded Activities

Discussion activities

All students respond to #1 (original posts by Friday, Week 2):

1. Find a research article reporting a clinical trial in your clinical and/or research area, introduce the study then:
 - a. Identify the design used in the study.
 - b. What group comparisons were made in the study?
 - c. Identify at least two strengths in the design used in the study.
 - d. Evaluate the limitation section in the paper related to the study design, what are the main limitations? Is there anything missing or not addressed?
 - e. What are the threats to external validity in the study and/or issues with generalizability?
 - f. Post a follow up question re: any of the above points for discussion

Choose 1 of the following questions to respond to (original posts by Friday, Week 2):

2. What was useful information from the readings? Describe why this is useful to your research practice.
3. Is there anything in the assigned reading that is unclear? What do you have questions about?

Responses:

Read each other's original responses to the discussion questions throughout weeks 2 and 3, respond accordingly. Feel free to add another follow up question; this tends to elicit further discussion.

Week 4: Intervention Research Designs

Assigned Readings

Grove, Burns, & Gray (2013). Chapter 11: 228-231 & Chapter 14

Conn, V., & Groves, P. (2011). Protecting the power of interventions through proper reporting. *Nursing Outlook*, 59(6), 318–325.

Forbes, A. (2009). Clinical intervention research in nursing. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*, 46, 557–568.

Supplemental Reading

See course shell, supplemental readings on intervention fidelity.

Lecture/Lecture Notes

Podcast

If you are really interested in intervention research, here is a good text/resource, not too expensive.

Melnik, B. & Morrison-Beedy (Eds.). (2012). *Intervention research: Designing, conducting, analyzing, and funding*. New York: Springer Publishing Co.

Graded Activities: Discussion activities

All students respond to one of the discussion questions (original posts by Wednesday, Week 4):

1. As you are working on your first paper, do you have any questions? Post them here.
2. From the readings, what did you find useful or new? Describe. Talk about how this relates to your area of inquiry.
3. Identify an important issue related to intervention research. Describe it and discuss why this is of interest to you.

Responses:

Read each other's original responses to the discussion questions, respond accordingly. Feel free to add another follow up question; this tends to elicit further discussion.