



FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENTS OF RESEARCH

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CONTENT OVERVIEW



- Research Problem
- Research Questions
- Hypotheses
- Variables
 - ❖ Independent
 - ❖ Dependent
- Relating the Foundational Elements

RESEARCH PROBLEM

the phenomenon at the center of the research study

- Establishes connection between literature and ideal practice



- Explains **why** your study is important

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

*the part of the phenomenon we want to know more about;
what we hope to learn from the study*

- Identifies the part of the topic that we want to better understand
- Presented as a question
 - ❖ How
 - ❖ What
 - ❖ When
 - ❖ Why
- Multiple research questions is not uncommon

HYPOTHESES

prediction of what we expect to learn

- Identifies what we think the answer(s) to the research question(s) will be
- Presented as a statement
 - ❖ Testable/Verifiable

VARIABLES

the things we plan to manipulate/observe for data collection

- Variables are characteristics that vary across participants/in the population
- Dependent Variable (DV)
 - ❖ Outcome of interest
 - ❖ Thing that will be affected by manipulating the IV
- Independent Variable (IV)
 - ❖ Thing we will manipulate to affect change in the DV

RELATING THE ELEMENTS

