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RSCH 600 Term Paper (Part 3)

TERM PAPER PART 3: RESEARCH METHODS

Due at the end of week 6 (Sunday midnight)

The purpose of assignment is to develop skills associated with selecting appropriate methods for your research, and to develop skills for drafting a work plan that will enable you to complete the research project successfully -- and on time!

This part of your Term Paper should be a maximum of 5 pages, and written in paragraphs, in report format.

The key components and questions you need to cover here are:

1. What methods do you plan to use to answer your research question? Why? What kinds of instruments, variables, materials, or sources will you use (i.e. will you use observations, surveys, interviews, case studies, focus groups, experiments, documents, media, data base searches, etc.)? If you plan to use mixed methods, will they be sequential, concurrent or transformative? Why?
2. List the kinds of data/information that you plan to collect (e.g. testimonials, statistics, business/government reports, other research data, audio/video recordings, etc.). Also, consider two or three alternative ways you could gather data/information for this research.
3. If you plan to use research participants, where will they come from? How will they be sampled? How many participants will you require? If you are not using research participants, who will you use as the target audience of your data? Who would most benefit from your research, and why?
4. How will you analyze the data/information you collect? How will you validate your findings/conclusions?
5. What ethical issues will your research project present? What biases might you bring to the research and how will you address that bias?

GRADING CRITERIA

Part 3 Grading Criteria (18 points)	Exemplary (3)	Proficient (2)	Marginal (1)	Nil (0)	Maximums
Student abided by page length specifications	3	2	1	0	3
Student addressed the following questions: What methods do you plan to use to answer your research question? Why? What kinds of instruments, variables, materials, or sources will you use (i.e. will you use observations, surveys, interviews, case studies, focus groups, experiments, documents, media, data base searches, etc.)? If you plan to use mixed methods, will they be sequential, concurrent or transformative? Why?	3	2	1	0	3
Student addressed the following questions: List the kinds of data/information that you plan to collect (e.g. testimonials, statistics, business/government reports, other research data, audio/video recordings, etc.). Also, consider two or three alternative ways you could gather data/information for this research.	3	2	1	0	3
Student addressed the following questions: If you plan to use research participants, where will they come from? How will they be sampled? How many participants will you require? If you are not using research participants, who will you use as the target audience of your data? Who would most benefit from your research, and why?	3	2	1	0	3
Student addressed the following questions: How will you analyze the data/information you collect? How will you validate your findings/conclusions?	3	2	1	0	3
Student addressed the following questions: What ethical issues will your research project present? What biases might you bring to the research and how will you address that bias?	3	2	1	0	3
Totals					18
Percentage					100.00%



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