




Identifying and Formulating a Problem Statement

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What criteria can help with formulating a research question?

FINER

- Feasible
- Interesting
- Novel
- Ethical
- Relevant



What do you need for developing a research question?

PICOT

- Patient, population or problem
 - Who or what is the subject?
- Intervention or Exposure
 - What is the intervention?
- Comparison
 - What is the alternative to that intervention?
- Outcome
 - What are the possible outcomes
- Time
 - Time interval for measuring the outcome



What do you need to develop a research question?

SPICE

- Setting
 - For example, a college campus
- Perspective
 - For example, college students
- Intervention
 - For example, text message reminders
- Comparisons
 - For example, telephone message reminders
- Evaluation
 - number of cigarettes used after text message reminder compared to the number of cigarettes used after a telephone reminder



Examples

- 1) “Can music therapy help students improve their communication skills?”
 - Population?
 - Intervention?
- 2) “How effective are antidepressant medications on anxiety and depression?”
 - Population ?
 - Intervention ?
- 3) “How does losing unemployment benefits affect graduate students?”
 - Population?
 - Comparison?
 - Outcome?



Group Subjects

- Reparations
- Abolition
- Borders
- Food
- Drugs

Create a problem statement/research question within one of a subject area

Identify the PICOT or SPICE or FINER elements