

- The Scientific Method
- Research designs
 - Observational
 - Survey
 - Experience sampling
 - Experimental

The Scientific Method

1. Develop a theory
2. Formulate specific hypotheses
3. Conduct research to test hypotheses
4. Analyze data
5. Refine theory
6. Repeat steps 1-5 (Replication)

- Operational Definition
- The operations or actions that will be used to measure a variable
- Defines a psychological process as something tangible that can be measured.
- Workplace aggression= swearing, voice raising.
- A very important part of the research process in psychology

Research Designs

- Observational
- Survey
- Experience Sampling
- Experimental

Observational Designs

- Naturalistic observation
- Observing and recording behavior as it occurs in nature
- A passive technique
- Observer does not actively change or alter ongoing behavior

Survey Designs:

Participants are asked to complete a questionnaire or survey.

Very common in organizational settings

Experience sampling methodology (ESM)

Participants prompted throughout the day to answer brief surveys about their current attitudes, feelings, or experiences.

Experimental designs

- To be considered an experiment, two design conditions must be met
- Random assignment of participants to conditions
- Manipulation of an independent variable
- Measure the effect of this manipulation on a dependent variable

- Major advantage: determining causation
- Provided that you eliminate all confounds that provide an alternative explanation for the relationship.