

LAB_02-Example: Refined Research Project Idea and First Draft of Project Materials

PSYO 270: Introduction to Research Methods and Design

In-class Assignment: Week 3

Refined Project Idea (Group Assignment) & Rough Materials

*Note: This is a **group** assignment. Only one set of materials per **group** is needed. Upload your completed assignment to Connect and then check that it has been uploaded. It does not matter which group member posts the assignment.*

Purpose: The purpose of today's assignment is to refine your project idea further, using the feedback you received on your initial idea.

1. Below, restate your conceptual research question (if you have extra time or can't decide, state up to 2):

How do certain stereotypes affect peoples interpretation of other peoples musical taste?

Great! Good work.

Next, try to further refine the translation your conceptual research question(s) into testable research question(s):

Do people interpret introverts as having different different musical taste compared to extroverts?

Nicely done!

Now, considering your testable research questions, what is the independent variable?

Independent variable: Personality types categorized as either introverts & extroverts

You bet!

How will the independent variable be manipulated (e.g., Heath et al. manipulated the disgustingness of urban legends by altering the content slightly). What are the levels of the independent variable (Heath et al. had a *low disgust* and a *high disgust* level, for 2 total levels).

Switching the scenarios of the character prescribed to each personality type (introvert vs. extrovert)

Good stuff.

The different levels being introverted personalities vs. extroverted

Yup

1. Next, what is your conceptual dependent variable (the outcome of your study; e.g., Heath et al. wanted to know if people would tell others the disgusting story).

LAB_02-Example continued

If the people in the study think that introverts and extroverts have differing musical genre tastes

Mostly – it's simply the opinion on musical genre - the difference is what the stats tell us.

You still need a second DV. What other related question could you ask?

2. What are your operationalized dependent variables? (Heath et al. asked participants (a) whether they would pass along the disgusting story and (b) whether they felt disgusted by the story. Try to type an actual question with responses scale in the space below.

How likely do you think person A is to listen to X genre of music

Scale of 1-5

1- very unlikely

2- somewhat unlikely

3- neither unlikely nor likely

4- somewhat likely

5- very likely

Great! And then for the second DV.

Depends on how you are framing the questions. If you are asking:

How likely is it that this person would listen to classical music?

How likely is it that this person would listen to rock music?

That could be your two DVs – likelihood of listening to classical and likelihood of listening to rock.

Excellent start! Good work!

When you are finished, open "Questionnaire Rough Draft" from Connect.