

Social Change in the U.S.

Notes for class 1/31/06 recorded by Tyler Hartshorn with important instructions from Dr. Brush at the bottom of this file

Components of an IRB Protocol or any proposal: (this is what we are currently doing)

1. Study aims: This is a good place to articulate your research questions
2. Background/Significance (lit review)
 - Prior findings
 - Existing models and/or explanations
 - Concepts
 - Why is this research important? Why do sociologists want answers to these research questions?
3. Study design and methods
 - Sources of data: 1) data gathering (subjects if applicable)
 - 2) measures (lit review)
 - Design of inquiry: 1) longitudinal
 - 2) comparative
 - a) intergenerational
 - b) time frame
 - Methods of analysis: 1) models or means of (answering research questions)

Presentations on research topic in class Thursday next week

We split into our topic groups and had time in the lab to work on literature searches, download IRB paperwork, etc.

Note from Dr. Brush on our *timetable*:

For Thursday Feb. 2

1. Choose a data "type" and method appropriate to a specific IRB protocol.
2. Work on a preliminary bibliography for your literature review.
3. Propose specific research questions.

For Tuesday Feb. 7

4. Fill out cover page of IRB paperwork.
5. Complete "aims" and "significance" sections.
6. Review concepts, measures, and findings of prior research (you may want to divide this labor).
7. Generate a set of possible data sources and corresponding designs and analytic methods.

For Thursday Feb. 9

8. Provide a hard copy of a complete draft of your group's protocol.

9. Prepare a formal presentation in which you explain your study aims, state your research question(s), situate your research and explain its significance in the context of prior studies, and propose a design, data source, and analytic strategy for answering your research questions. One or two people from your group who have not already made a presentation will represent your entire group to make this presentation; be sure to provide preparation and practice. We will have 4 10-minute presentations plus time for comments, questions, and feedback.

For Tuesday Feb. 14

10. Provide a hard copy of the final version of your group's protocol.
11. Prepare a formal presentation in which you explain your study aims, state your research question(s), situate your research and explain its significance in the context of prior studies, and propose a design, data source, and analytic strategy for answering your research questions. One or two people from your group who have not already made a presentation will represent your entire group to make this presentation; be sure to provide preparation and practice. We will have 4 10-minute presentations plus time for comments, questions, and feedback.

The groups that present Feb. 9 will have the benefit of feedback on their presentations to refine their protocols. The groups that present Feb. 14 will have additional preparation time for their presentations. Assignment to the two presentation dates will be RANDOM, so be prepared to present your draft!