

SOC 340 FINAL RESEARCH QUESTION & RESEARCH METHODS PAPER

THE ASSIGNMENT:

- This paper is worth 200 points of your final grade.
- You are to write a 4-5 page paper in which you create a research question based on your topic of interest, but also related to socialization. Remember that socialization is the required broad topic and that you must narrow down the topic with a specific focus. Examples were provided in a handout in the Socialization folder which can be found in the Assignments folder.
- In this paper, you are to create a research question and explain what specific type of research method you would use if you were to conduct research to answer your research question. Be sure to explain why you would choose this method and how it is better than some of the other methods for answering your question.
- In addition, you will be expected to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of your proposed research method, and use citations from the textbook. This will be the “heart” of this paper-- be sure to explain this section in detail and provide specific examples. Relate the strengths and weaknesses to your topic, and how, as a researcher, you would compensate for any weaknesses.
- Explain also what ethical considerations you should keep in mind if you were to conduct research on your chosen topic. How would you make sure that you would not violate confidentiality and retain anonymity? How would you protect your subjects or participants?
- You will also be expected to briefly summarize and cite from one, or more, of the scholarly articles that you have been collecting and reading throughout this course. A good paper would “weave” in specific examples from the scholarly article into the text of your paper. Be sure to connect the scholarly article to what you have to say about your chosen research method.

REQUIREMENTS AND FORMAT OF THE FINAL PAPER:

- Cover page in APA style
- 4-5 pages of text
- Reference page with references formatted in APA style

HOW WILL THIS PAPER BE EVALUATED?

- This paper will be evaluated (graded) according to the standards of the rubric for this assignment.