

How to
write
a good research
proposal





- **Title**
- **Introduction**
- **Literature Review**
- **Data and Methods**
- **Hypotheses/
Preliminary Findings**
- **Bibliography**



1. Title

- Give your project proposal a title related to your research topic.



2. Introduction

- Introduce the topic you propose to study.
- Give a **brief description** of the social issue, phenomenon, or problem that you intend to investigate.
- What are the questions that frame your investigation?
- **Why is the topic worthy** of sociological inquiry?
- What motivated you to propose to study this topic in particular?
- Be specific. Narrow down the scope of your topic as much as possible.
- Your introduction should be about **1 page**.

General



Specific



Literature Review

- Give an **overview of scholarship on your topic**. You must use a **minimum of 5 academic sources**. Read these books, chapters, or articles, and discuss the scholars' arguments and findings. These sources must be relevant to your topic. A literature review provides a framework of existing research on a topic. Your literature review should be 3-4 pages.

Reliable resources for information include:

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Most questions receive a response within 24 hours, Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).
For immediate assistance, [chat with a librarian](#).

Asterisk (*) denotes required field.

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General Library Building 7:30 AM – Midnight	East Commons (Overnight Study) Open 24 Hours	Special Collections & Archives 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Audrey's Cafe 8:00 AM – 11:00 PM	Biomedical Library Building 8:00 AM – Midnight
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Library Website and Databases



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Articles

About 81,500 results (0.04 sec)

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Since 2018

Since 2017

Since 2014

Custom range...

Sort by relevance

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☒ include patents☒ include citations

Create alert

- 1 **Interracial relationships and the transition to adulthood**
K Joyner, [G Kao](#) - American Sociological Review, 2005 - journals.sagepub.com
This study tracks and explains changing patterns of involvement in **interracial** sexual **relationships** during the transition to adulthood. Using a life course perspective that highlights the role of historical changes as well as age-graded changes in contexts and ...
☆ Cited by 229 Related articles All 9 versions Web of Science: 98

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(Joyner & Kao, 2005)

- 2 **Interracial roommate relationships: An experimental field test of the contact hypothesis**
NJ Shook, [RH Fazio](#) - Psychological Science, 2008 - journals.sagepub.com
This study investigated how automatically activated racial attitudes are affected by relatively long-term **interracial relationships**. A natural field experiment was conducted in a college dormitory system. Participants were White freshmen who had been randomly assigned to ...
☆ Cited by 191 Related articles All 10 versions Web of Science: 88

[PDF] sagepub.com
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(Shook & Fazio, 2008)

- 3 **A note on family acceptance involving interracial friendships and romantic relationships**
[JK Mills](#), J Daly, A Longmore... - The Journal of Psychology, 1995 - Taylor & Francis
Perceptions of family acceptance concerning **interracial** friendships and romantic **relationships** were investigated in a group of 142 undergraduates. The Assessment Scale of **Interracial Relationships** (ASIR) was constructed by the authors and administered to 68 men ...
☆ Cited by 76 Related articles All 8 versions Web of Science: 20

[PDF] tandfonline.com
Full View

(Millis & Daly, 1995)

- 4 **Looking behind the stereotypes of the "angry black woman" an exploration of Black women's responses to interracial relationships**
[EC Childs](#) - Gender & Society, 2005 - journals.sagepub.com
In academic research on **interracial relationships**, as well as popular discourses such as film and television, Black women are often characterized as angry and opposed to **interracial relationships**. Yet the voices of Black women have been largely neglected. Drawing from ...
☆ Cited by 154 Related articles All 8 versions Web of Science: 44

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(Childs, 2005)

Related searches

interracial relationships **views**interracial relationships **slavery**interracial relationships **black women**interracial relationships **cultural differences**interracial relationships **family acceptance**interracial relationships **black men**interracial relationships **asian american**interracial relationships **society's perception**





Upon gathering sources, begin **taking notes** on each text as it relates to your research realm.

Walter Pauk (2011)

- Ability to concentrate = invaluable asset
- Will power alone = not enough
- Motivation alone can't help the students who don't set up the right environ. ⇒ quiet, no distractions, scheduled tasks
- Those who schedule study time as much as possible = better students + better quality work

Jean Guilton (2016)

- Preparation = important for peak performance
- No fatigue, relaxed attitude
- Environ = calm + stimulating
- Only useful + beautiful environ.

Alan Lakein (2017)

- Success = pacing + planning
- Planning = decision making
- Make decision on how to use time
- External time: time for others
- Internal time: best for working
- Scheduling helps organize work day

Your notes can consist of:

- Author's Name & Year
- Summaries of each author's main points
- Analysis of each author's main points.

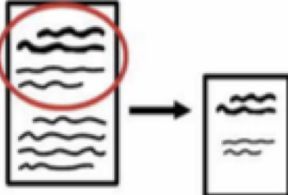


Exercise: Write down your 5 academic sources (Books, journal articles, and chapters of book)

1. Author, Year, Title
2. Shook & Fazio, 2008, Interracial roommate relationships
3.
4.
5.

Literature Review Strategies

The following are brief descriptions of techniques that you might use in your literature review. Choose the approaches that are the most pertinent to your rhetorical situation. Defer to your professor's instructions.

 Summary Briefly state the argument and main points of relevant research.	 Synthesis Combine ideas in order to form an integrated theory or system through critical evaluation, compare/contrast, etc.
 Analysis Closely examine the elements or structure of the research and interpret through the lens of the field.	 Evaluation Assess the research based on criteria you choose, state, and explain. Support your evaluation with research.



Data and Methods

- Describe your research design.
- How do you intend to study your topic **and find answers to your research questions?**
- What is your **research method**, and **what kinds of data** will you be gathering or using?
- Your data and methods section should explain **why the research design you propose is well-suited to studying your topic.**
- This section should be about **2-3 pages**



Data and Methods

- **Example**
 - ✓ **Survey** (Sample/ survey question, method of analysis)
 - ✓ **Existing Survey Data** (e.g., GSS), IV and DV
 - ✓ **Field Research** (population, group, or setting in which you will conduct participant observation; your role and activities)
 - ✓ **Interview-based Project** (sample of interviewees, selection process, key question)



Hypotheses or Preliminary Findings AND Discussion:

- What relationships do you expect between your key variables of interest and why?
- If you actually performed empirical analysis (not required), what are your preliminary findings?
- This section should be 1 page or less.



Bibliography

- You must include a list of your references in ASA/APA or MLA format. Remember that **in-text citation** is also required. This means that throughout your paper, you must cite any sources you reference.
- Consult style guides online or through the library website if you have questions about bibliographic formatting.

In text Citation

In-text citations **help readers locate the cited source** in the references section of the paper. Whenever you use a source, provide in parenthesis:

- The author's name and the date of publication
- For quotations and close paraphrases, provide the author's name, date of publication, and a page number

The zebrafish organism is a common and useful model organism for studies of vertebrate development and gene function (Cárdenas, Quesada, and Medina 2011). Success with it in large scale forward genetic screens consolidated its importance. It has a dedicated online database of genetic, genomic, and developmental information, the Zebrafish Information Network (ZFIN). D. rerio is one of the few fish species to have reached space (Shono et al. 2011; Lange et al. 2011; de Borsetti et al. 2011). They may supplement higher vertebrate models, such as rats and mice.

References

- de Borsetti, Nancy Hernandez, Benjamin J Dean, Emily J Bain, Joshua A Clanton, Robert W Taylor, and Joshua T Gamse. 2011. "Light and melatonin schedule neuronal differentiation in the habenular nuclei." *Developmental Biology* (August 5). doi:10.1016/j.ydbio.2011.07.038. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21840306>.
- Cárdenas, Casimiro, Ana R Quesada, and Miguel A Medina. 2011. "Anti-angiogenic and anti-inflammatory properties of kahweol, a coffee diterpene." *PloS One* 6 (8): e23407. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0023407.
- Lange, C, C Li, I Manjubala, W Wagermaier, J Kühnisch, M Kolanczyk, S Mundlos, P Knaus, and P Fratzl. 2011. "Fetal and postnatal mouse bone tissue contains more calcium than is present in hydroxyapatite." *Journal of Structural Biology* (August 10). doi:10.1016/j.jsb.2011.08.003. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21855638>.
- Shono, Takanori, Daisuke Kurokawa, Tsutomu Miyake, and Masataka Okabe. 2011. "Acquisition of glial cells missing 2 Enhancers Contributes to a Diversity of Ionocytes in Zebrafish." *PloS One* 6 (8): e23746. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0023746.

In-text citations

Bibliography

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/in_text_citations_the_basics.html

Bibliography

- [1] R.W. Anderson, *Roadside safety research - a crisis*, 27th Annual Proceedings, American Association for Automotive Medicine (1983), 437.
 - [2] Roger P. Bligh, *Assessment of vehicle characteristics*, Tech. report, Texas Transportation Institute, Washington, DC, 2001.
 - [3] M.E. Bronstad, *Guardrail ends*, 27th Annual Proceedings, American Association for Automotive Medicine (1983), 389.
 - [4] M.E. Bronstad, L.R. Calcote, and K.L. Hancock, *Effects of changes in effective rail height on barrier performance, volume 1*, Research report, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, 1987.
 - [5] M.E. Bronstad, J.D. Michie, and L.R. Calcote, *Bridge rail designs and performance standards, volume i: Research report*, Tech. re-port, Department of Transportation, Federal Highway
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- Your paper should be **8-10 pages**, double-spaced, **12 point** Times New Roman font. A title page is not necessary and does not count towards your paper length.
- Your bibliography can count for 1 page.
- Due: Final exam day

Conclusion





Q & A

See You Next Monday!