**Unit One Project: Research Proposal**

For our first project, you are to *design* your own descriptive, correlational, and experimental research studies. Design means that you will make a plan, not that you actually have to conduct these studies. You will submit your research proposal to me for review. Your proposal will have three sections. Please label each section as shown and number your answers to each of the questions in each of the sections.

Outcomes:

# Section 1: Descriptive Research Study Design

# What topic are you proposing to describe?

1. Which approach to psychology would be most interested in describing this topic?
2. Which of the three descriptive research methods will you use?
3. Thoroughly describe how you will design this research study with specific attention to *sampling, wording-effect and various biases when applicable.*
4. State what types of conclusions you will be able to draw from this study.
5. State if and to what extent you will be able to generalize your findings.

**Section 2: Correlational Research Study Design**

1. What two variables from your topic (please use the same topic as that from section I) are you going to study to determine if they are related?
2. What are your operational definitions for each topic
3. Describe how you will use a survey to gather data with specific attention to random sampling.
4. Describe or simply show how you will use excel to determine the correlation coefficient.
5. Discuss how you will interpret the correlation coefficient and what conclusions you can and cannot draw from this statistic.
6. State or show how you will graphically represent the correlation between the two variables.

**Section 3: Experimental Research Study Design:**

1. State your hypothesis.
2. Identify the independent and dependent variables you will study.
3. State the operational definitions of each variable.
4. Explain how you plan to set up your experiment with specific attention to *confounding variables, control/experimental groups, random assignment of participants, single/double blind procedures, demand characteristics, and applicable biases*.
5. Describe any necessary statistical techniques that you will need to apply to properly interpret your findings.
6. State what conclusions you could draw from your findings and to what extent your findings can be generalized.