

## Research Design Notes & Checklist

### Requirements

- ☐ Due date: Thursday, Dec 12th @noon PDT (Friday, Dec 13th @4am CST)
- ☐ 2500 word min
- ☐ Cite at least 15 journal articles
  - ☐ By spring, need 30 - 50
- ☐ Go to the writing center or peer editing
  - ☐ Too wordy
- ☐ Consistent citation styling

### Recommendations

- ☐ Making a list of papers, then read 1 / 2 a day to take notes
- ☐ Saturation: when the same authors come up over and over
- ☐ Consider cutting some background
- ☐ Editing

### Structure

#### Introduction (1 page)

- ☐ Hook / Anecdote
- ☐ Motivation: why should the reader care
- ☐ Research question
- ☐ Theory
- ☐ Roadmap

#### Background - Literature review

- ☐ Throughout survey of *up-to-date* paper all DV & IV
- ☐ Organize around debates and conflicts, and how does my theory address these
- ☐ How does this project build on the previous work
- ☐ Consider separating background and literature review if background information not linked to theory but would be helpful to the readers

#### Theory

- ☐ Introduce hypothesis (formally with **H1**)
  - ☐ Include the null hypothesis
- ☐ Why might IV impact DV
- ☐ Draw out causal reasoning
  - ☐ Causal mechanism: build this on previous work
  - ☐ Temporal order
  - ☐ Is there an association
  - ☐ Alternative hypotheses
    - ☐ control spurious factors
    - ☐ why your hypothesis is better

## Variables and Data

- ☐ DV
- ☐ IV
- ☐ Controls V
  - ☐ 6 - 8 variables
  - ☐ Explain the relationship between CV & DV
- ☐ For each section
  - ☐ Introduce concepts
  - ☐ Specific operationalization
    - ☐ Coding
    - ☐ Types of variables
    - ☐ Data source
    - ☐ What choice made for this sampling
    - ☐ Why this choice

## Methods & Hypothesis Testing

- ☐ Why the multivariate model
- ☐ Link to
  - ☐ Falsification
  - ☐ Spurious causes
  - ☐ Statistical signification