

	Modes for traditional empirical approaches (observations)							Modes for newer approaches (interpretations)		
Research Object	Theorem Proof	Laboratory Experiment	Field Experiment	Case Study	Survey	Forecasting & Futures Research	Simulation and Game/role Playing	Subjective/ argumentative	Descriptive interpretative	Action Research
<i>Society</i>	X	X	?	?	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	?
<i>Organisation/ group</i>	X	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Individual</i>	X	✓	✓	?	?	?	✓	✓	✓	?
<i>Technology</i>	✓	✓	✓	X	?	✓	✓	?	?	X
<i>Methodology</i>	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Research Purpose										
<i>Theory Building</i>	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Theory Testing</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	X	?	X	?	✓
<i>Theory Extension</i>	?	?	?	?	?	X	X	X	?	?

Legend

✓ = Yes

X = No

? = Possibly

Table 2: A taxonomy of Information Systems Research Approaches (based on Galliers 1992)