Table 2.1 Relationship Between Descriptive Research, Relational Research, and Experimental Research

Type of Research	Focus	General Claims	Typical Methods
Descriptive	Describe a situation or a set of events	X is happening	Observations, field studies, focus

Descriptive	or a set of events	χ is nappening	studies, focus groups, interviews
Relational	Identify relations	X is related to Y	Observations, field

			groups, interviews
Relational	Identify relations between multiple variables	X is related to Y	Observations, field studies, surveys

Relational	Identify relations between multiple variables	X is related to Y	Observations, field studies, surveys
Experimental	Identify causes of a	X is responsible	Controlled

	variables		studies, surveys
Experimental	Identify causes of a situation or a set of events	X is responsible for Y	Controlled experiments