***Formulating Research Questions***

**Monday, January 15: 3:30pm-5:00pm**

**3:00-3:10pm: Brainstorm** what is research, what makes up a research project

**3:10-3:20pm: Ask,** audience for example **research question** that could be modeled. *i.e., how does the population prevalence of HIV impact the transmission rate of TB?*

**3:20-3:45pm: Brainstorm** *state variables* in your system and *processes* that describe how individuals can move between these states. Highlight how some *processes* are dependent on various *states.*

**3:45-3:50pm: Pair up** with a partner you do not know.

**3:50-4:05pm: Write** down your research question in plain language. Use words that anyone could understand.

**4:05-4:20pm: Share** with partner.

--State your research question, then allow them to ask you questions about your question. Discuss your question until you arrive at a common understanding of what the question is and why it’s important.

--With partner, list *states* and *processes* you can identify in your system.

**4:20-4:35pm: Repeat** for the otherpartner.

**4:35pm-5:00pm: For homework,** make any further adjustments to your research question that seem appropriate after hearing your partner’s interpretation of your research. You can adopt their language if you feel they have done a particularly good job of wording your question so it can be understood by those outside your field of study.

***Bring your edited question to tomorrow’s small group session, ‘*Refining research questions for modeling’, *at 1pm***