

RESEARCH DESIGN

LIS 570

RESEARCH ASSESSMENT & DESIGN

AGENDA

- Read handout
- Class Admin
- Research Questions
- Break
- Research Design
- Break
- Access discussion

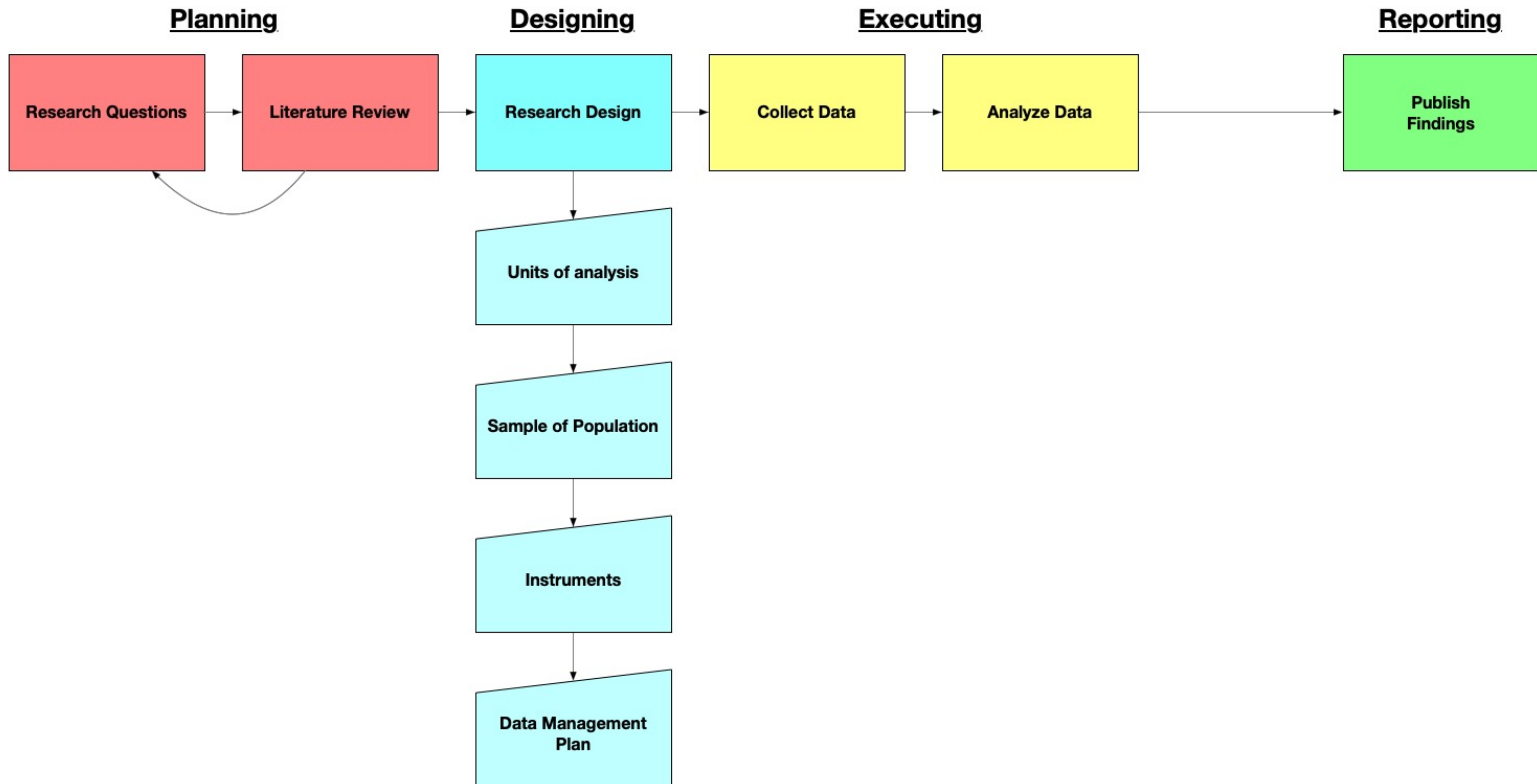
CLASS ADMIN

- Readings posted for 3-10 (many of these are practically oriented)
- Ombudsperson
- Wednesday / Thursday discussion (Access)
- Groups / Group Assignment
 - Reminder: Oct 18th
 - Group length

RESEARCH / EVALUATION DESIGN

RESEARCH DESIGN

- **What will be studied?** (Units of analysis and observation);
- **What ethics are in play?**
- **Who will be studied?** (Sampling of a population);
- **How will researchers / evaluators ensure the integrity of their research?** (Internal and external validity)
- **How will the study collect data?** (Research Instruments);
- **How will data be stored for analysis and long-term access?** (Data management plan)



RESEARCH / EVALUATION QUESTIONS

TYPES OF QUESTIONS

- **Descriptive** - What are the qualities most valued in a Mayoral candidate?
 - Gathering and describing what makes up important variables
- **Relational** - When do political beliefs impact voting habits? (internal)
- **Comparative** - How do supporters of Lorena Gonzales differ between District 2 and 3? (external)
- **Causal** - How do yard signs impact voter turnout in Seattle's 2021 Mayoral election?
 - Test one or more variables (yard sign vs non-yard sign + voter turnout)
 - X happens / is directly influenced by Y

IMPLICATIONS OF DIFFERENT ADVERBS

- **How** - Procedural question that seeks to understand ways that something occurs, has unfolded over time, or the chain of decisions / logic / beliefs that lead from one state to another (e.g. How do political beliefs of immigrants to the USA change after resettlement?)
- **What** - Will identify, name, and describe variables (people, their characteristics, etc) as well as potential relationships between those variables
- **Where** - geographic focus
- **When** - temporal focus
- **Why** - Explanatory question that seeks to use previous knowledge and / or new data for causal reasoning

WRITING A RESEARCH QUESTION

Topic	FOIA
...and / Or	Non-Profits
... place, time, population, or institution	Seattle
Goal	Descriptive
Question	What records do Non-Profit groups in Seattle request using FOIA ?

WRITING A RESEARCH QUESTION

Topic	
...and / Or	
... place, time, population, or institution	
Goal	
Question	

BREAK

Bias and Research Validity

All research is inherently biased.

By being transparent in our intent and method we reduce bias.

We also reduce bias through the concept of validity

- **Internal validity** is about the design and rigor of our method
 - Follow community norms, best practices, and ethical standards
- **External validity** is about the representativeness of our findings.
 - Check with participants; statistical tests that are replicated

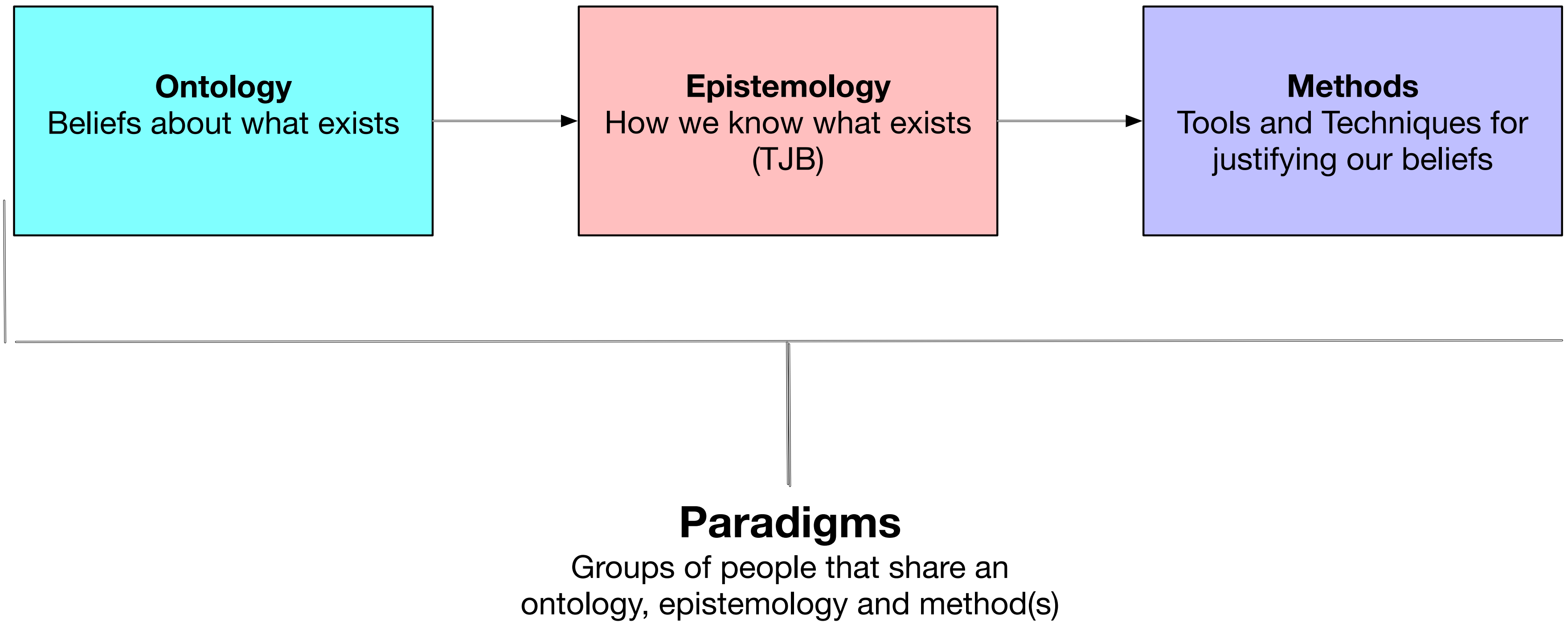
UNITS OF OBSERVATION / ANALYSIS

- **Unit of analysis:** What will be studied as representative of a phenomena
 - Cliques in High School cafeterias (tables)
- **Unit of observation:** What will be observed (collected, interrogated, Interviewed etc)
 - Individuals that sit at particular tables in the cafeteria as representing a clique

Broad Topic	Restricted Topic	Narrowed Topic	Research Question
Literacy	Digital Literacy	Digital Literacy in Older Adults	How is digital literacy measured in older adults?
Censorship	Social Media	Social Media and Political Affiliation	What impact does political affiliation have on feelings of censorship on social media?
Mental Health	Restricted Screen Time	USA Adults	How will apps aimed at restricting screen time impact USA adults mental health?

Broad Topic	Narrow topic	And / Or / Context	Research Question
Bias			
Broadband Access			
Intellectual Property			

RESEARCH QUESTIONS +
ONTOLOGY +
EPISTEMOLOGY



BREAK