

The Nature and Language of scientific research - the purpose of research and developing ideas for research

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Objectives of the Course

- Know and identify methods for research
- Identify types of research and data collection methods in RH
- List topics for research in RH
- Appreciate and solve problems in RH research
- Know how to conduct literature review, and to write proposals, research papers and thesis in RH
- Fully appreciate the basic elements of scientific investigation

The purpose of research and scientific investigation

- To provide answers to unresolved scientific questions.
- To break new grounds and to make scientific discovery
- To foster creative thinking and provide new knowledge.
- Research must focus on new knowledge, otherwise it would be wasteful and not make sense.

Methods of acquiring new knowledge

- Non-scientific methods
- Scientific methods

Non-scientific methods for new knowledge

- The method of tenacity
- The method of authority
- The method of intuition

Scientific Method

- It's open in search for knowledge
- It is controlled - follows an ordered and disciplined process
- It is empirical and grounded in observations
- It allows for replication
- It is self-correcting
- It seeks explanation rather than description

The Scientific process

1) Problem

2) Theory

3) Test

4) Results and conclusion

The Scientific Process

- Problem
- Obstacles
- Previous experiences
- Solution

Steps in the Research Process 1

Step 1: formulate the idea

Step 2: Conduct the literature review

Step 3: Identify and define the key concepts

Step 4: Formulate the research questions, objectives and hypothesis as appropriate

Steps in the Research process 2

- Collect the data
- Analyse and discuss the data
- Draw appropriate conclusions
- Write the research report
- Disseminate the research findings

Stages of Research

Problem Stage

Identify the idea

Literature search

Hypothesis and objectives formation

Planning Stage

Research design and proposal writing

Execution Stage

Execution of the research, analyse and evaluate the results and write the thesis/paper

- FINAL REMARKS