

Session No. 13: Overview

- Strategies for Locating Disaster Research Studies
- Student Exercise
- Research Design Alternatives
- Data Collection Techniques
- Sampling Strategies and Issues
- Common Study Weaknesses

Study Location Strategies

- Newsletters
- Conference Attendance
- Library Index Searches
- Internet Searches
- Research Centers
- Local Agencies
- Learning Resource Center (LRC)

Workshop Tasks

Group 1 – Identify and describe four types of research designs Drabek has used.

Group 2 – Using the course outline and your notes as resources, identify and describe four types of research designs used in research we have reviewed.

Group 3 – Identify and describe four types of data collection techniques Drabek has used.

Group 4 – Using the course outline and your notes as resources, identify and describe four types of data collection techniques used in research we have reviewed.

Research Design Alternatives

- Case Study
- Comparative Case Study
- Survey
- Laboratory Study
- Quasi-Experimental Study
- Longitudinal Study
 - A. Panel
 - B. Time Series
- Cross-Cultural

Data Collection Techniques

- Observation
- Interview
 - A. Face-To-Face
 - B. Telephone
- Questionnaires
- Secondary Sources
 - A. Published research studies (literature review)
 - B. Organizational databases
 - C. Organizational documents
 - D. Media reports (print and electronic)
 - E. Other (diaries, oral histories)
- Content Analyses
 - A. Media coverage
 - B. Movies
- Unobtrusive measures

Sampling Strategies and Issues

- Random Probability Samples
- Non-Probability Samples
 - A. Convenience
 - B. Purposive
 - C. Theoretical

Common Study Weaknesses

- Weak Internal Validity
- Inadequate Sampling Procedures
- Faulty Measurements
- Contamination via Data Collection
- Weak External Validity

Future Directions, Needs, and Potentials

- Cross-National Data Bases
- Natural Disaster Cost Assessments
- Confirmatory Research
- Evaluation Studies
- Laboratory and Simulation Studies
- Emergent Multiorganizational Systems
- Disaster Life-Cycle Interdependencies
- Disasters and Other Social Problems
- Cross-Hazards Data Bases

Source: adapted from Thomas E. Drabek. 2002. "Following Some Dreams: Recognizing Opportunities, Posing Interesting Questions, and Implementing Alternative Methods." Pp. 127-153 in *Methods of Disaster Research*, edited by Robert A. Stallings. Philadelphia: Xlibris Corporation.