

## Research Problem Exploration

The goal for this assignment is to produce a two (2) to three (3) page problem statement that clearly establishes the research-worthiness of the study you're proposing. Use the following Problem Explication Outline as a guideline for the paper, but please remember, the assignment calls for a complete paper, including a title page, two to three pages of well-written properly-cited content, and a reference list.

### Problem Explication Outline

1. **What:** In no more than two sentences, what is the problem that the research will address? Remember, a problem is, essentially, something that is 'going wrong'.

**Who:** List three current, peer-reviewed references that support the presence of that problem and briefly describe the nature of that support.

2. **How, Where, and When:** Again, in no more than two sentences, describe the impact of the problem. How are people or researchers' understanding negatively impacted by the problem? When and where is the problem evident?

**Who:** List three current, peer-reviewed references that support the impact of the problem that the research proposes addressing and briefly describe the nature of that support.

3. **Why:** In no more than two sentences, identify the conceptual basis for the problem. That is, what does the literature outline as the cause of the problem?

**Who:** List three current, peer-reviewed references that support the conceptual basis of the problem and briefly describe the nature of that support.

4. **What** type of study – experimental, descriptive, developmental, causal-comparative, etc. – do you propose conducting to address the problem?

**Who:** List three current, peer-reviewed references that support the type of study being proposed and briefly describe the nature of that support.

5. **What** research questions would your study attempt to answer? Remember, research questions must be answerable by the type of study being proposed, and must relate directly to the problem being addressed. The answers to the research questions, in essence, would be the manner in which your study would make a contribution toward addressing the problem.

6. **What** data would be necessary to answer the research questions?