

Individual Research Project: Draft of Final Report

Due Date: October 25th, 2004 (Monday)

The Task

Prepare a draft of the final report on your individual research project without the results (unless you've already collected data), saying how you would interpret your results if they turn out to be as you expected, and what you would conclude if they don't match your hypothesis.

General Structure

You can structure your paper in what ever way seems most appropriate, but you should aim to include the following:

- The title of the project
- Your name
- Abstract
- Introduction (i.e. your research question, motivation)
- Literature Review (i.e. discuss findings from prior research related to your research question, highlight how they are related to your study and what original contribution you might be able to make)
- Research Design
 - Participants
 - Method/Procedure
 - Independent/Dependent Measures
 - Expected results (or actual results if you've already collected data)
 - Discussion (i.e. interpretation of the expected results or failure to obtain these results)
- Conclusion
 - Summary of results
 - Interpretation of the results in terms of your introduction
 - Limitations of your study
 - Suggestions for further research

Length

There are no fixed requirements on the length of this draft, but try to target something around 15 pages (Times New Roman 12pt font, double-spaced) for the final project.

References for your Literature Review

Literature reviews are important because they help you frame your research questions, and think of the implications of your findings (plus, it will be part of your final grade).

Besides the Internet and Dewey Library, MIT does have subscriptions to many online journals. The following are example of some e-journals that you might find helpful:

1. <http://www.jstor.org/>
Collection of journals in different disciplines. Look under "Business" to find the management-oriented journals. You can read and download entire papers at this website.

2. <http://www.psycinfo.com/>
This is useful if you're looking for more psychologically-oriented papers/references. However, you only have access to the abstracts but not the actual papers.
3. <http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/servlet/useragent?func=showIssues&code=psci>
Psychological Science has short but informative and academic papers.