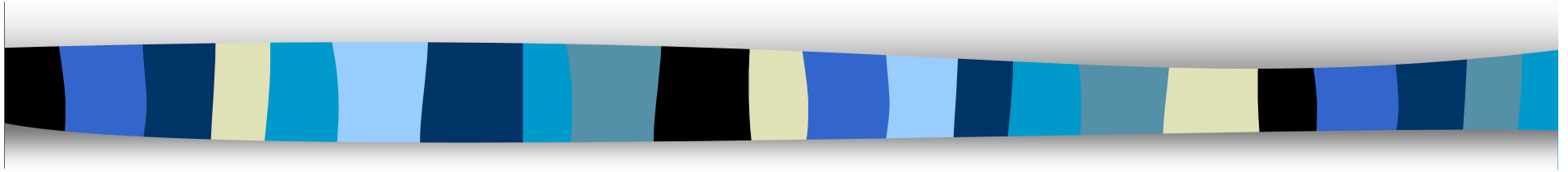


*SEN-SRN Conversion Course*  
*Research Module*



# Research Critique

*Presented By:*

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# Title & Abstract

## ■ Title

- Is it an acceptable length (usually more or less up to 15 words)?
- Is it relevant to the subject being studied?

## ■ Abstract

- Is it too long or short (usually 200 words)?
- Does it restate the research problem, significance, methodology, main findings, and implications?



# Research Problem & Purpose

## ■ Research Problem

- Is the problem identified clearly?
- Are you sure of **WHAT** is being studied?
- Is it significant – does the researcher provide a good argument for significance?
- Is it relevant to nursing/health care?

## ■ Purpose of the Study

- Is there a sound rational or justification to **WHY** is the study being done?
- Is the purpose clearly presented?



# Review the Literature

- Is it convincing that the author reviewed a sufficient amount of literature?
- Is it balanced, presenting literature that supports and that differs from the researcher's position?
- Is the review written critically (giving strengths and weaknesses of material presented)?
- Is the review comprised only of primary sources?
- Are references current, or a combination of current and classic?
- Is it well presented or just a chain of quotations?



# Theoretical Framework & Variables

## ■ Theoretical Framework

- Is a theoretical framework specified – is the study theory based?
- Does the framework “fit” the problem?

## ■ Study Assumptions

- Are assumptions stated and listed clearly?
- Are these assumptions relevant to the topic under discussion?

## ■ Study Variables

- Are the variables in the study appropriate to the problem?
- Are the variables relevant to nursing practice?
- Are the means to measure the variables appropriate?



# Methods

## ■ Hypothesis or Research Questions

- Are hypotheses/research questions stated?
- If stated, are the hypotheses clear?

## ■ Research Design

- Is the design (plan for how the study will be conducted) specified correctly?
- What design was used, quantitative or qualitative?
- Is the design appropriate to answer the research question?

## ■ Population

- Is the target population identified clearly?
- Is the target population related to the study?



# Methods (Cont'd)

## ■ Sample

- Is the sample size adequate?
- Is the sample representative of the target population?
- Are the criteria for including and or excluding people or items from the sample clear and appropriate?

## ■ Limitations of the Study

- Have the limitations of the study been properly identified and acknowledged?
- Have enough justification been presented for limitations mentioned?

## ■ Pilot Study

- Was a pilot study conducted?
- Was the pilot study useful?



# Data Collection

- Are the instruments or other means for data collection described sufficiently?
- Are reliability and validity of instruments addressed? Are these adequate?
- Are data collection methods described clearly?
- Are the data collection methods appropriate?





# Data Analysis

## ■ Data Organisation

- Has the data been organised properly?
- What tools were used in organising the data for analysis?

## ■ Data Analysis

- Is the process used to analyse data clear?
- Were the processes for data analysis appropriate to answer the research question?
- Do the results provide an answer to the research question?
- If tables or graphs are provided, are these clear and understandable?



# Interpret the Findings

- Does the discussion “fit” with the data? Is it logically based on the data and results presented?
- Does the researcher discuss the findings in regard to previous research?
- Does the researcher discuss implications for practice? Are these appropriate?



# Referencing & Style

## ■ References

- Is there a reference entry for each text citation?
- Is there a text citation for each reference entry?
- Is each entry complete?
- Is the style consistent?

## ■ Style of Report

- Is the report too detailed? Not detailed enough?
- Is it too personal and subjective?
- Was the report easy to read, good flow?