Methodologies Chart

**Qualitative Research:** Used to answer questions about relationships among measured variables with the purpose of explaining, predicting, and controlling phenomena.

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| Design | Definition | Data Collection |
| **Case Study** | *A type of qualitative research in which in-depth data are gathered relative to a single individual, program, or event for the purpose of learning more about an unknown or poorly understood situation. (page 108)* | * Observation * Interviews |
| **Ethnography** | *A type of qualitative inquiry that involves an in-depth study of an intact cultural group in a natural setting. (p. 108)* | * Participant observation * Artifact Collection |
| **Phenomenological Study** | *A qualitative method that attempts to understand participants’ perspectives and views of social realities. (p. 108)* | * In-depth Unstructured Interviews * Sampling of 5 to 25 individuals |
| **Grounded Theory Study** | *A type of qualitative research aimed at deriving theory through the use of multiple stages of data collection and interpretation. (p. 108)* | * Interviews * Other Relevant Data Sources |
| **Content Analysis** | *A detailed and systematic examination of the contents of a particular body of material for the purpose of identifying patterns, themes, or biases within that material. (p. 108)* | * Identification and possible sampling of the specific material to be analyzed |

**Historical Research:** An attempt to solve certain problems arising out of a historical context through gathering and examining relevant data.

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| Design | Definition | Data Collection |
| **External Evidence** | *External evidence is primarily concerned with the question, Is the article genuine? (p. 167)* | * Original Manuscripts * Original Documents |
| **Internal Evidence** | *Internal evidence asks the question, What does it mean?* | * Original Manuscripts * Original Documents |

**Descriptive Research:** Either identifying the characteristics of an observed phenomenon or exploring possible correlations among two or more phenomenon.

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| Design | Definition | Data Collection |
| **Correlational** | *A statistical investigation of the relationship between two or more variables. (p. 108)* | * Scatter plot Graphs * Achievement Tests |
| **Developmental** | *An observational-descriptive type of research that either compares people in different age groups (a cross-sectional study) or follows a particular group over a lengthy period of time (a longitudinal study). (p. 108)* | * Cross-sectional Study * Longitudinal Study |
| **Observational Studies** | *A type of quantitative research in which a particular aspect of behavior is observed systematically and with as much objectivity as possible. (p. 108)* | * Observation * Interviews |
| **Survey Research** | *A common method used in business, sociology, and government. Surveys are used to describe the incidence, frequency, and distribution of certain characteristics in a population. (p. 108)* | * Observation * Interviews |

**Experimental and Causal-Comparative Designs:** The researcher considers many possible factors that might cause or influence a particular condition or phenomenon.

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| Design | Definition | Data Collection |
| **Pre-experimental Designs** | *In pre-experimental designs, it is not possible to show cause-and-effect relationships, because either (a) the independent “variable” doesn’t vary or (b) experimental and control groups are not comprised of equivalent or randomly selected individuals. Such designs are helpful only for forming tentative hypothesis that should be followed up with more controlled studies. (p. 223)* | * One-Shot Experimental Case Study * Statistic Group Comparison |
| **True Experimental Designs** | *A study in which participants are randomly assigned to groups that undergo various researcher-imposed treatments or interventions, followed by observations or measurements to assess the effects of the treatments. (p. 108)* | * Pretest-Posttest Control Group Design * Within-subjects design |
| **Quasi-Experimental Designs** | *A method similar to experimental research but without random assignment to groups. (p. 108)* | * Simple time- series design * Control group, time-series design |

Leedy, P.D., and Ormond, J. E., (2005). *Practical research: Planning and design*, Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson.