

What is applied research?

Applied research involves scientific study undertaken to solve immediate practical problems.

What is the baseline?

The baseline in a research study is the record of the initial frequency of a target behavior.

What is a biased sample?

A biased sample is a sample that does not accurately reflect the population from which it was drawn.

What is a case study?

A cases study is an intensive investigation of the behavior of a single person.

What does causation mean?

Causation is simply the act of facilitating some effect.

What is a correlational coefficient?

A correlational coefficient is a statistical index ranging from -1.00 to +1.00 that indicates the direction and degree of correlation.

What is cognitive behaviorism?

Cognitive behaviorism is the approach that combines behavioral principles with cognition (perception, thinking, anticipation) to explain behavior.

What is cognitive psychology?

Cognitive psychology is the study of human thinking, knowing, understanding, and information processing.

What is a conditional statement?

A conditional statement is one that contains a qualification, often of the if-then form.

What is the control in an experiment?

Control, in an experiment is the process of eliminating, identifying, or equalizing all factors in an experiment that could affect the outcome.

What is the control group?

In an experiment, the subjects who are exposed to all conditions except the independent variable are called the control group.

What does correlation mean?

An orderly relationship between two events, measures, or variables is called a correlation.

What is a correlational study?

A correlational study is a non-experimental study designed to measure the degree of relationship (if any) between two or more events, measures, or variables.

What is courtesy bias?

Courtesy bias is the tendency to give "polite" answers to avoid hurting an interviewer's feelings.

What is a cross sectional study?

A cross sectional study is a study in which several sub groups are investigated at one moment in time.

What is a dependent variable?

In an experiment, the condition (usually a behavior) that reflects the effects of the independent variable is called the dependent variable.

What is descriptive statistics?

Descriptive statistics are the tools used to express simple characteristics about a group, sample or population.

What is a double-blind experiment?

A double blind experiment is a method in which neither subjects nor experimenters know which subjects are in the experimental group.

What is empirical evidence?

Empirical evidence are facts or information gained by direct observation or experience.

What is an ethnologist?

An ethnologists is a person who studies the natural behavior patterns of animals.

What is an experiment?

An experiment is a formal trial undertaken to confirm or disconfirm a fact or principle.

What is the experimental group?

In a controlled experiment, the group of subjects exposed to the independent variable or experimental manipulation is called the experimental group.

What is experimental self-observation?

Wilhelm Wundt's technique of combining trained introspection with objective measurement is called self observation.

Who are the experimental subjects?

Humans or animals whose behavior is investigated in an experiment are called subjects.

What is experimenter effect?

Any changes in subjects' behavior caused by the unintended influence of an experimenter's actions are called experimenter effect.

What are extraneous variable?

In an experiment, any condition prevented from influencing the outcome are extraneous variables.

What is the fallacy of positive instances?

The fallacy of positive instances is tendency to remember or notice information that fits one's expectations, while forgetting discrepancies.

What is a false positive?

A false positive, also called a type I error, is a mistake in statistical evaluation in which an error is made rejecting a "correct" null hypothesis.

What is a field experiment?

An experiment conducted in a natural setting is called a field experiment.

What does free will mean?

The doctrine that human beings are capable of freely making choices is simply called free will.

What is a frequency distribution?

A frequency distribution is a table showing the number of occurrences for each score in a group of scores.

What is a hypothesis?

The predicted outcome of an experiment or an educated guess about the relationship between variables is called the hypothesis.

What is the independent variable?

In an experiment, the condition being investigated as a possible cause of some change in behavior. The values that this variable takes do not depend on any other condition; they are chosen by the experimenter

What is inferential statistics?

Inferential statistics is the branch of mathematics that The branch of math that focuses on describing in numerical format what might be happening or what might happen in the future.

What is a linear relationship?

A linear relationship is one that forms a straight line when graphed.

What is a longitudinal study?

A longitudinal study is one that follows a group of subjects over a very long range of time.

What is the mean?

The arithmetic mean is the average of all of the scores in a distribution.

What are measures of central tendency?

Measures of central tendency are those scores that give an indication of the centrality and shape of the distribution.

What is the median?

The median is the absolute middle score in the distribution.

What is meta-analysis?

Meta analysis is a statistical technique for combining the results of many studies on the same subject.

What is the mode?

The mode is the most common score in the distribution.

What is the scientific model?

In research, an animal whose behavior is used to derive principles that may apply to human behavior is called the scientific method.

What is a natural clinical test?

An accident or other natural event that provides psychological data is called a natural clinical test.

What is the natural setting?

The environment in which an organism typically lives is called the natural setting.

What is naturalistic observation?

Naturalistic observation is the method of studying the subject in its natural setting.

What is a lab observation?

Observation and recording of naturally occurring behavior that is not manipulated experimentally is called laboratory observation.

What is negative correlation?

A negative correlation is a relationship in which one variable tends to go up as another variable tends to go down.

What is a negative relationship?

A negative relationship is one in which increases in one measure correspond to decreases in the other.

What is a norm as it applies to research? An average score for a designated group of people is called the norm.

What is the normal curve? The normal curve is shaped in a bell shape.

What is an observation? Directly gathering data by recording facts or events is called observation.

What is observer bias? Observer bias is the tendency of an observer to distort observations or perceptions to match his or her expectations.

What is the observer effect?

Changes in a person's behavior brought about by an awareness of being observed is called the observer effect.

What is an open-ended interview?

An open ended interview is one in which persons are allowed to freely state their views.

What is an operational definition?

An operational definition is a scientific concept by stating the specific actions or procedures used to measure it.

What does placebo mean?

A substance that resembles a drug but has no chemical effect is called a placebo.

What is the placebo effect?

Changes in behavior due to expectations that a drug (or other treatment) will have some effect is called the placebo effect.

What is a population?

A population is the entire group of animals or people belonging to a particular category.

What is a positive correlation?

A positive correlation is relationship between two variables where one variable increases as the other increases.

What is a positive relationship?

A positive relationship is one in which increases in one measure correspond to increases in the other.

What is random assignment?

Random assignment is the method of placing subjects into either the experimental or control group at chance.

What does representative mean?

Representative means that the sample is like the population.

What is the range?

The range is the difference between the highest score and the lowest score in a distribution.

What does replicate mean?

To replicate means to reproduce or repeat.

What is a representative sample?

A small, randomly selected part of a larger population that accurately reflects characteristics of the whole population is a representative sample.

What is a research method?

A research method is a systematic approach to answering scientific questions.

What is a response in psychology?

A response is any muscular action, glandular activity, or other identifiable behavior.

What is a sample?

A sample is a subset or portion of a population.

What does self-fulfilling prophecy mean?

A prediction that prompts people to act in ways that make the prediction come true is called self fulfilling prophesy.

What is a single-blind experiment?

A double blind experiment is an arrangement in which subjects remain unaware of whether they are in the experimental group or the control group.

What does Sixty-Eight Percent have to do with the population?

In a normal distribution, 68 percent of the scores will fall between the first standard deviation lines to the left and right of the mean.

What is standard deviation?

Standard deviation is the measure of the average dispersion in a collection of numbers.

What is a stratified sample?

A stratified sample is one that takes into consideration subpopulations in the population.

What does it mean to be statistically significant?

Experimental results that would rarely occur by chance alone are called statistically significant results.

What is a stimulus?

A stimulus is any physical energy sensed by an organism.

What is a survey method?

The use of public polling techniques to answer psychological questions is called the survey method.

What is a variable?

A variable is any condition that changes or can be made to change; a measure, event, or state that may vary.

What is the variance?

The variance is the difference between the score and the average score.

What is volunteer bias?

Volunteer bias suggests that those who volunteer for a study are different than the population who do not.

What is a waiting-list control group?

A waiting list control group is a group of people who receive no treatment in experiments designed to test the effectiveness of psychotherapy.