Soc. 2820 Final Paper Assignment

In this assignment, your goal is to convey your knowledge of the social research by developing a research project about a topic of your choice. In order to do this, you will need to compose a paper (5-10 pages double spaced) with a section for each of the following:

Introduction/Literature Review **(Draft Due 10/30)**:

- Introduce and give a brief overview of your topic.
    - What question are you trying to answer?
- Review the work that others have done on your area of interest, bringing in at least 5 scholarly sources.
- Based on these previous works, conceptualize your study to add something new to our knowledge of your topic.
- Hypothesis: write at least one testable hypothesis that will help in answering your question.
- Variables: what are your independent and dependent variables?

Methods **(Draft Due 11/23)**:

- Sample: what is your population? What sampling frame did you use (if any)? What sampling method did you employ? Why?
- Method: what method did you use in order to test your hypothesis? Why?
    - Operationalize your variables.
        - How did you measure them?
        - What other variables need to be taken into account?
    - What did your study look like, how was it carried out?
        - Interview Schedule, Experimental Schedule, Survey Questions, Observational Regimen, Coding Scheme, etc.
    - What ethical issues (if any) did you encounter in this research, and how did you deal with them?
- Time: how was time dealt with in your study?

Results/Discussion/Conclusion **(Due with Final Paper 12/16)**

- What would did you find after carrying out this study?
    - Univariate results section
        - Describe what your independent and dependent variables looked like in your sample.
    - Bivariate results section
        - Describe the relationship between your independent and dependent variables.
            - What is the direction and magnitude of the relationship?
    - Discussion Section
        - What do your findings mean, were you successful in testing your hypotheses? (Hypotheses were/were not supported and why)
    - What are the limitations of your research design?
        - What might others want to do in the future if researching this topic?