

Cihan University Sulaimaniya
Course: Research Writing

Introduction to Research Writing

Momen Yaseen M. Amin (Ph.D.)

What is Research?

- Research is a systematic process of investigating, analyzing, and interpreting information to answer questions, solve problems, or contribute to knowledge.
- It involves gathering evidence, evaluating sources, and presenting findings in a structured manner.
- **Purpose of Research:**
 - To explore new ideas.
 - To test theories or hypotheses.
 - To provide evidence-based conclusions.

Types of Research

- **1. Qualitative Research:**
 - Focuses on understanding concepts, opinions, or experiences.
 - Methods: Interviews, case studies, observations.
- **2. Quantitative Research:**
 - Involves numerical data and statistical analysis.
 - Methods: Surveys, experiments, questionnaires.
- **3. Mixed-Methods Research:**
 - Combines qualitative and quantitative approaches.
- **4. Applied vs. Basic Research:**
 - Applied: Solves practical problems.
 - Basic: Expands theoretical knowledge.

Structure of Research

- **Key Components of a Research Paper:**

1. **Title:** Clear and concise.

2. **Abstract:** Brief summary of the research.

3. **Introduction:** States the research problem and objectives.

4. **Literature Review:** Reviews existing studies on the topic.

5. **Methodology:** Explains how the research was conducted.

6. **Results:** Presents the findings.

7. **Discussion:** Interprets the results and their implications.

8. **Conclusion:** Summarizes the research and suggests future work.

9. **References:** Lists all sources cited.

Key Sections of a Research Paper

- **1. Introduction:**
 - Introduces the topic, research question, and significance of the study.
- **2. Literature Review:**
 - Provides context by reviewing existing research.
- **3. Methodology:**
 - Describes the research design, data collection, and analysis methods.
- **4. Results:**
 - Presents the data or findings without interpretation.
- **5. Discussion:**
 - Explains the results, their meaning, and how they relate to the research question.
- **6. Conclusion:**
 - Summarizes the study and suggests areas for further research.

Writing Tips for Research

- **1. Clarity and Precision:**
 - Use clear and concise language.
 - Avoid jargon unless necessary.
- **2. Logical Flow:**
 - Ensure ideas are organized logically.
 - Use headings and subheadings to guide the reader.
- **3. Evidence-Based Arguments:**
 - Support claims with data, examples, or citations.
- **4. Proper Citation:**
 - Avoid plagiarism by citing all sources.
 - Use a consistent citation style (e.g., APA, MLA, Chicago).

Common Challenges in Research Writing

- **1. Defining a Research Question:**
 - Ensure the question is specific, measurable, and relevant.
- **2. Time Management:**
 - Plan and allocate time for each stage of research.
- **3. Finding Reliable Sources:**
 - Use academic databases and peer-reviewed journals.
- **4. Analyzing Data:**
 - Use appropriate tools and methods for data analysis.
- **5. Writing Clearly:**
 - Avoid vague language and ensure coherence.

Conclusion

- Research is a systematic process that requires careful planning, execution, and presentation.
- Understanding the types, structure, and key sections of research is essential for success.

Thank You!