

E-Content

Research Methodology in Economics

Semester: V

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Session 2020-2021



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(Established under Galgotias University Uttar Pradesh Act No. 14 of 2011)

COURSE CONTENT

Course Code : XXXXXX

Course Name: Data structures using C

**RESEARCH DESIGNS: EXPLORATORY &
DESCRIPTIVE**

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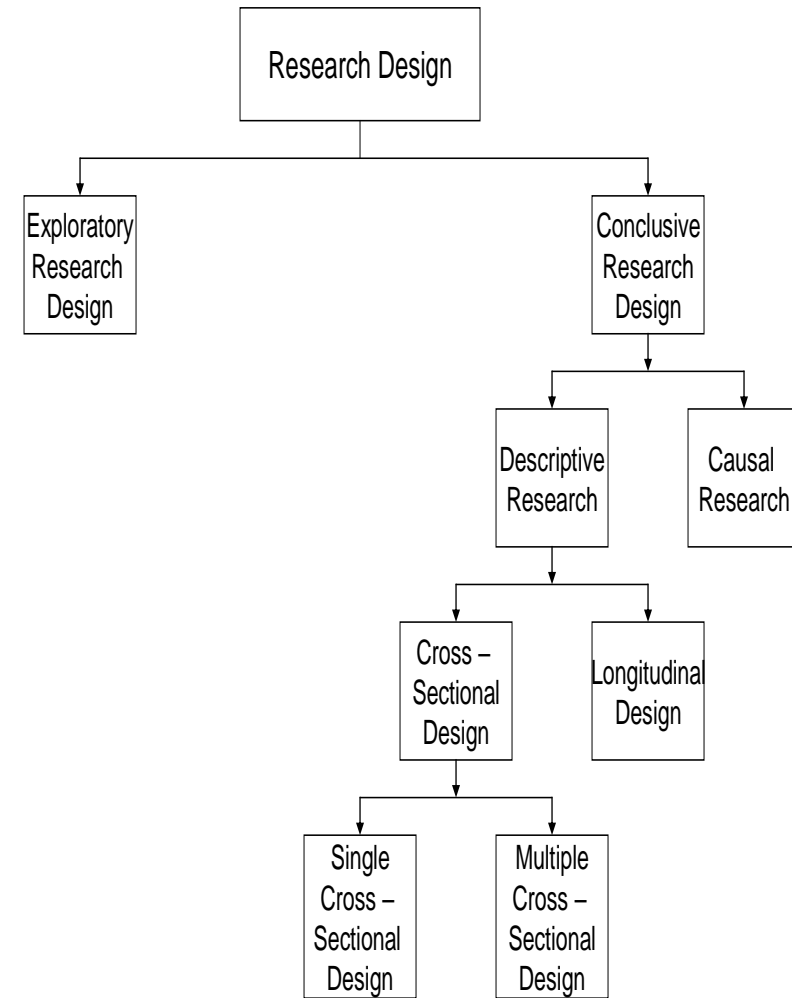
Three tenets of research designs

1. Convert the research question and stated assumptions /hypotheses into ***operational variables*** that can be measured;
2. Specify the ***process*** that would be followed to complete the above task, as efficiently and economically as possible; and
3. Specify the '***control mechanism(s)***' that would be used to ensure that the effect of other variables that could impact the outcome of the study has been minimized/negated.

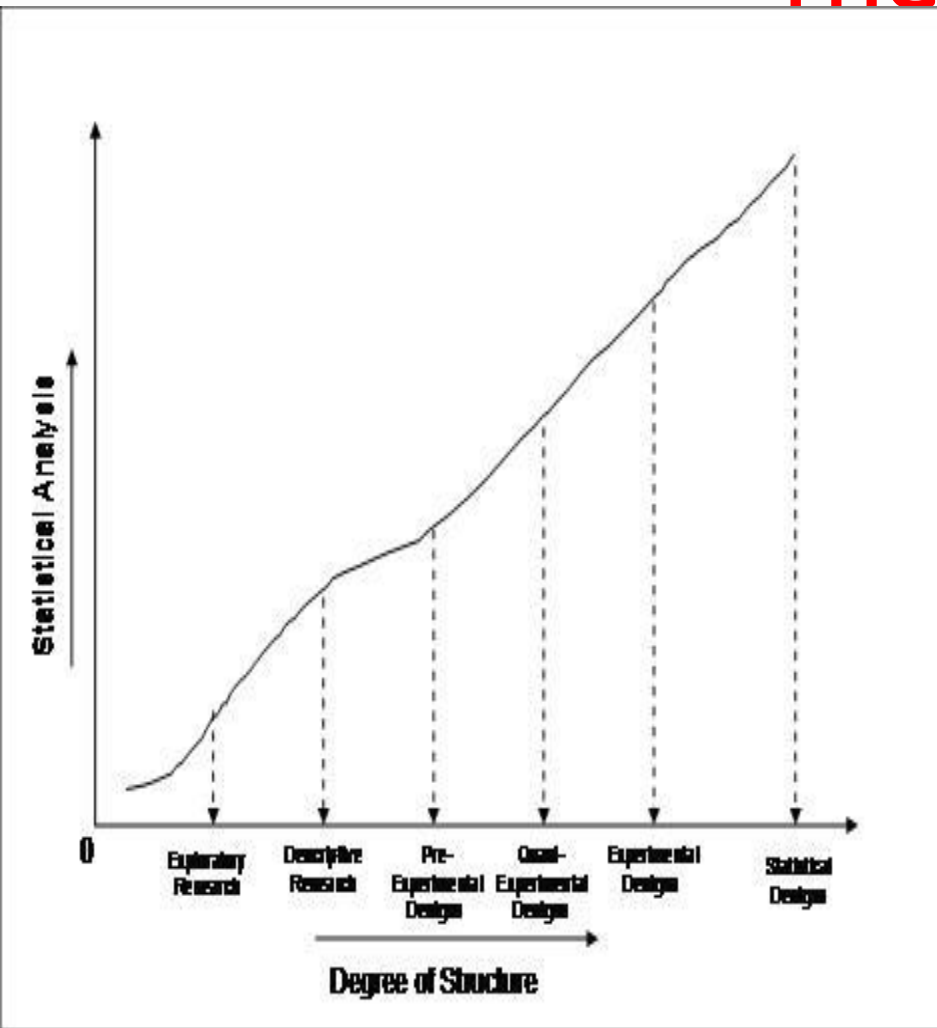
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Classification of research designs

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The design continuum



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Types of research designs

- ***Exploratory research designs:*** are the simplest, most flexible and most loosely structured designs. As the name suggests, the basic objective of the study is to explore and obtain clarity on the problem situation.
- ***Descriptive research designs:*** are more structured and formal in nature. As the name implies the objective of these studies is to provide a comprehensive and detailed explanation of the phenomena under study.

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Exploratory research designs

- ***Secondary resource analysis***: Secondary sources of data give information –in terms of details of previously collected findings in facts and figures – which has been authenticated and published.
- ***Case method***: it is intricately designed and reveals a comprehensive and complete presentation of facts, as they occur, in a single entity. This could be an individual, an organisation or an entire country.

Exploratory research designs

- ***Expert opinion survey:*** valuable insights obtained from experts which might be based on their experience in the field or based on academic work done on the concept.
- ***Focus group discussions:*** a carefully selected representative sub set of the larger respondent gather to discuss together, in a short time frame, the subject/topic to be investigated.

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Descriptive research designs

Cross-sectional research designs: two criteria

1. carried out at a single moment in time, therefore the applicability is temporal specific
2. Conducted on a sub-section of the respondent population

Variations

- Single/multiple cross- sectional designs
- Cohort analysis

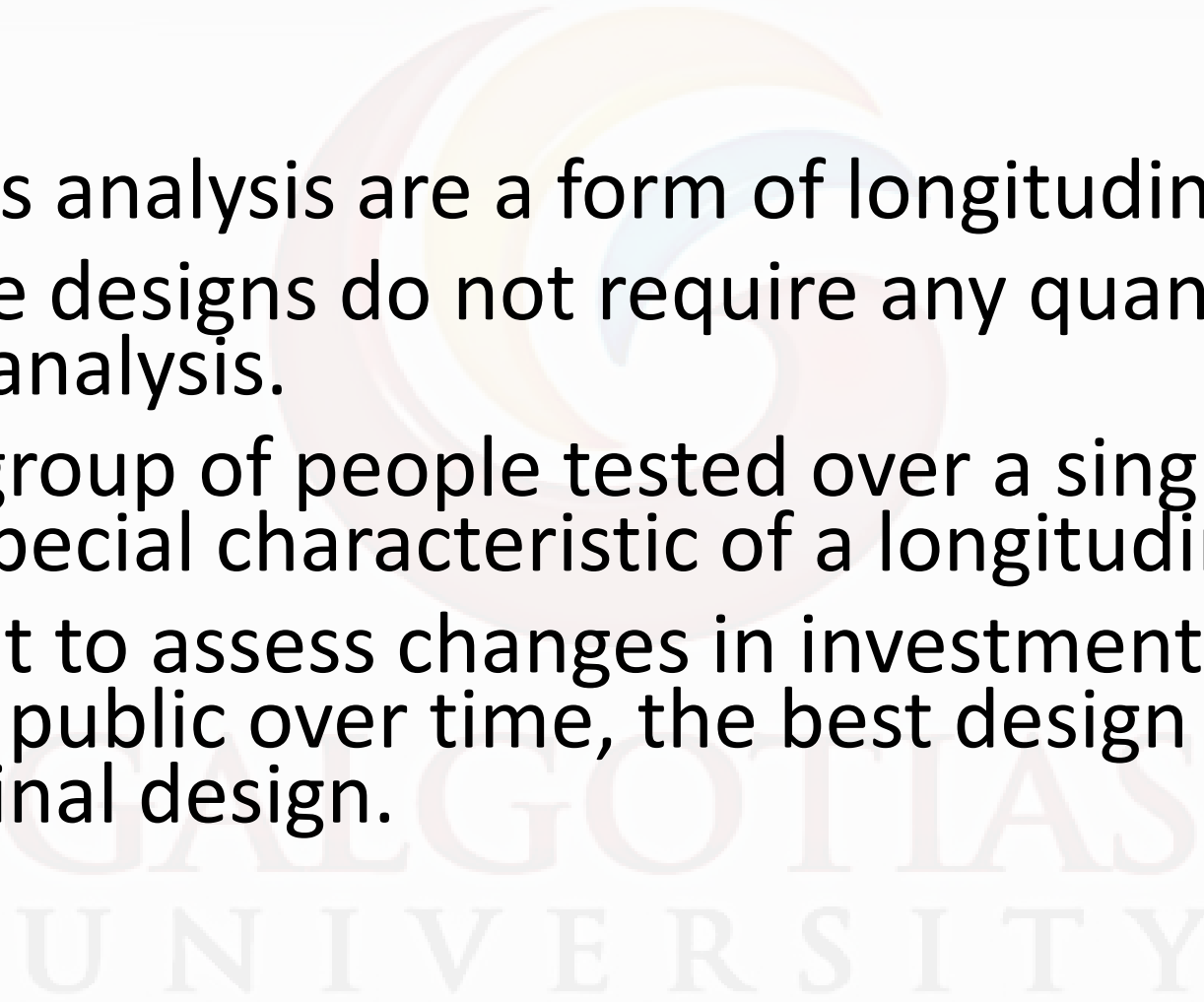
Descriptive research designs

- ***Longitudinal studies***: three criteria
 1. The study involves selection of a representative group as a panel.
 2. There are repeated measurement of the researched variable on this panel over fixed intervals of time.
 3. Once selected the panel composition ***needs to stay constant over the study period.***

1. Research designs are blue print of the research study to be conducted.
2. Research design formulation follows the problem definition and data collection stage.
3. RD is dynamic process and permits modification and realignment during the course of the study.
4. Most loosely structured research designs are called pre-experimental designs.
5. Exploratory RD can help define variables and constructs under study.

1. The case study method is generally focused on a single unit of analysis.
2. The moderator in a focus group discussion is always a participant.
3. TRPs of a soap operas on TV are generally based on cross-sectional designs.
4. The unit of analysis in the above design would be the advertiser who advertise during the programme.
5. married couples are the unit of analysis in a cohort analysis.

1. Time series analysis are a form of longitudinal design.
2. Descriptive designs do not require any quantitative statistical analysis.
3. Different group of people tested over a single stretch of time is a special characteristic of a longitudinal design.
4. If one want to assess changes in investment behaviour of general public over time, the best design available is a longitudinal design.



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