Study Questions

Chapter One: The Selection of a Research Approach

1. Relate the bases of research assumptions—designs, methods, and problem—to identify and define 3 research approaches. pp. 3–4
2. By reflecting on the plan or proposal to conduct research, discuss the three components that reflect the philosophical components the researcher brings to a study. pp. 5–6, Figure 1.1
3. When examining the researcher’s worldview (or paradigm), compare the four “isms” generally discussed in the research literature. pp. 6–11
4. For your own understanding, make a simple chart that distinguishes among the four worldviews (scientific, interpretivist, criticalist, pluralist) discussed by Creswell. pp. 7–11, Table 1.1
5. Report the major strategies of inquiry (three) researchers can use when they want to conduct a study. pp. 11–16
6. Reflect on the examples of the three types of research designs and explain why the researcher might choose survey-experimental research, narrative-phenomenological research, or convergent-explanatory-exploratory-transformative research. pp. 12–16
7. Examine Table 1.4, p. 18, and determine for yourself differences among the three types of approaches to research. pp. 17–18
8. Observe and discuss scenarios presented on p. 19 to distinguish (a) the testing of a theory, (b) the meaning of a phenomenon, (c) how individuals relate to oppression, and (d) the collection of diverse types of data. p. 19
9. Discover the criteria that affect or influence the researcher when choosing among research designs—this adds three new elements to the design. p. 20
10. Discuss how researchers determine the issue or concern that needs to be addressed, how they are influenced by life experiences, and how they understand the appropriate audience for the research. pp. 20–21