Research Method	Brief Description
Action research	Participatory - problem identification, solution, solution review
Case Study research	Observation of a specific group to determine how and why a situation exists within that group
Causal-comparative research	Identify causal relationship among variables that can't be controlled
Content analysis	Analyze text and make inferences
Correlational research	Collect data and determine level of correlation between variables
Critical Incident technique	Identification of determining incident of a critical event
Delphi research	Analysis of expert knowledge to forecast future events
Descriptive research	Study of "as is" phenomena
Ethnographic	Observation of a specific cultural group to identify patterns and trends
Evaluation research	Study the effectiveness of an intervention or program
Experimental research	Study the effect of manipulating a variable or variables
Grounded Theory	Produce a theory that explains a process based on observation
Hermeneutic research	Study the meaning of subjects/texts by concentrating on the historical meaning of the experience and its developmental and cumulative effects on the individual and society
Historical research	Historical data collection and analysis of person or organization
Meta-analysis research	Seek patterns in data collected by many existing studies and formulate principals
Narrative research	Study of a single person's experiences
Needs assessment	Systematic process of determine the needs of a defined demographic population
Phenomenology	Make sense of lived experiences of participants regarding a specified phenomenon
Quasi-experimental	Manipulation of variables in populations without benefit of random assignment or control group.
Repertory grid analysis	Interview process to determine how a person interprets the meaning of an experience
Trend Analysis research	Formulate a forecast based on regression analysis of data
True Experimental research	Structured research with isolated variables and controls